

Red Box Results 2019

Initial Analysis



Introduction

Overall Red Box income in 2019 was down by £25k from 2018, a drop of 0.87%. The biggest drop was in the Northern dioceses. Southern dioceses were actually up slightly, by £5k. However, the largest drop was from the Diocese of Westminster (£19,864, a drop of 9.97%).

Increased income

Northampton Diocese had the largest increase (up £7.5k, 10.47%). It is their highest total in the last eight years. It comes following 18 months of targeted work in the diocese. At the end of 2018 we worked with Northampton looking at the complementarity of Missio with CAFOD, and had a joint event with CAFOD, priests and volunteers. Fr Wayne Coughlin became Diocesan Director in 2016. In 2018 and 2019 he worked to increase the presence in the diocese, supported by Missio staff, in both schools and parishes, particularly for the Extraordinary Month of Mission. This seems to have borne fruit.

Plymouth Diocese had a 9.87% increase (also a rise of £7.5k). 2018's amount seems to have been a blip compared to what they usually raise.

Decreased income

Westminster Diocese has increasingly focussed on its own projects, raising money for such as 'Growing in Faith' and 'the Cardinal's Appeal'. It has been very difficult to book Appeals in the diocese, and events for volunteers have failed to attract many people. Although it is important to see how we can reverse this, for the return we may get, there are other dioceses which are likely to have a great return on investment.

Leeds Diocese is also down (by £5k, 6.03%). There has been a steady downward trend. The diocese is continuing to face financial difficulties. However, the new DD there (Fr Jonathan Hart) is working with Claire Coleran. We will hopefully be able to steady the decline.

Salford Diocese includes a one-off donation of £12,500. Without this, it would actually be down £24,022 (10.66%), which would be the largest decrease. Fr Jan Klaver MHM continues to do a great job holding the Red Box work in Salford. However, the diocese was without a DD for several years and the person appointed this year did not properly take up his role and has since resigned. A new DD has been approached. It will also be a target diocese for the new Regional Community Fundraiser based in the North.

Future plans

One of Missio's priorities this year is our increased face-to-face work. This includes work with DDs, priests and Local Secretaries so as to increase awareness, support and fundraising. With the two new Regional Community Fundraisers recruited (taking up posts in March and May 2020), they will work closely with DDs and focus on struggling dioceses. This will hopefully prove particularly fruitful in the North, where there has been less capacity to support parishes in recent years.

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