

New grant pot to assist churches in setting up a Parish Nursing Service

'Health is more than the absence of illness. It is the presence of care.'

[Parish Nursing Ministries UK](#), 2025 Impact Report

Guidance Notes

This grant pot is available to assist a church or parish in the Diocese of Sheffield with the set-up costs to provide a parish nursing service – a service that integrates spiritual, physical, psychological, emotional and social health to individuals and the local community, regardless of faith position, and to the congregation as required.

How much can you apply for?

Churches can receive a grant to cover the costs relating to the recruitment of a Parish Nurse and the set-up costs required in the first year, or in some cases two years, to run a Parish Nurse service.

The Parish Nurse post can be between 7 hours and 28 hours per week and the set-up costs will cover a laptop, phone, groups training equipment, and support from Parish Nursing Ministries UK.

The church will have to plan for continuation funding for the service. Therefore, when applying do consider how many hours per week you may be able to afford on an ongoing basis once the grant has ended. The majority of parish nurses are part-time and may only work 1 to 2 days per week. (See below for example costs for a 2 day a week post).

Amount and duration of funding will be awarded dependent on the needs of the applying church, for example, we may award funding for a longer period to an application from a low-income community parish.

We expect to be able to subsidise the setting up of 4 to 6 new parish nursing services with this fund. However, depending on the volume of applications to the pot and the number of nurse hours per application, if you are successful, we may not be able to fund the maximum hours that have applied for.

Applications to this fund can be made between 15 May and 11 September 2026; but please note that we can currently only allocate funding to the end of 2028.

Some background

A Parish Nursing Service is an innovative service, provided in partnership with Parish Nursing Ministries UK ([Home | Parish Nursing Ministries UK](#)), which aims to improve and maintain the wholistic health and wellbeing of local people.

The parish nurse role includes:

- General health education
- Personal health screening, health support and referral
- Advocating for individuals and health more widely
- Acting as a health navigator and resource
- Providing spiritual care
- Supporting and training volunteers
- Liaising with other local services
- Supporting the wider health, safety and risk management of the church/organisation and congregation.

Current registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) is essential and support for revalidation can be provided.

A week in the life of a parish nurse will be designed by the needs of the parish and the number of hours worked. A working week may include:

- Attending the receiving church's Sunday service to worship together; share updates with the congregation about their work; and to fellowship with people over refreshments at the end of the service.
- Visiting and being a part of local community groups to start to form relationships and identify need, e.g., Social Cafes, Memory Cafes, Men's Talk clubs
- Attending the local Foodbank to help identify local health needs. As trust and relationships are built up over time, those who attend Foodbank may prove a rich source of people who need further support which the Parish Nurse could provide; both through 1-2-1 interventions as well as group activities and support.
- Attending the church run kids club on a termly basis; potentially focusing on their Family Days where they invite the children's wider families to attend, to be able to offer signposting for e.g. parental advice on what signs to look out for, for certain health conditions etc.
- Starting a new group or activity depending on the needs identified through relationships formed through our current activities.

To find out more about Parish Nursing ministry and how the Parish Nursing Grant Pot can help you, come along to one of our 45 minutes online info sessions at 1pm on Wednesday 22 April or 7.30pm on Thursday 23 April.

Sheffield Diocese Grants Procedure

Grant requirements

- The grant receiving church must commit to yearly Mission Action Planning as a requirement for receiving grant funding. This will include submitting a completed MAP document (or your local equivalent) to the Diocese of Sheffield every other year with an update once a year.
- The grant receiving church accounts must be in order and Statistics for Mission returned within the deadline of 31 January each year.
- The grant receiving church will be the employer.

Suggested timetable for applying and recruiting

The Parish Nurse must complete a four-day Parish Nursing Ministries UK Introduction course to be validated in the role. This course runs in September 2026 and March 2027. Below are two timelines to enable a nurse to be recruited in time to start either of these courses. The interview dates are timetabled to include a 2 – 3 month notice period.

Timeline 1

Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sep-26	Oct-26
Grant Pot info session	Attend PNMUK intro session (7 May 10am/7pm)	Interview by end June or early July			PN attends <i>Preparation for Practice</i> PNMUK training (7,8,14,28 Sept)	PN in post (or earlier, depending on notice period).
	Complete Application					
	Funding agreed					
	Working with PNMUK on the vision and JD for the role					
	Job advert for PN position					

Timeline 2

April or July 2026	Sep-26	Oct- Nov 26	Dec-26	Jan-27	Feb-27	Mar-27	Apr-27
Grant Pot info session	Attend PNMUK intro session (3 Sept 10am/7pm)	Working with PNMUK on the vision and JD for the role	Job advert for PN position	Interview early Jan		PN attends <i>Preparation for Practice</i> PNMUK training	PN in post (or earlier, depending on notice period).
	Complete Application						
	Funding agreed						

Application guidance

All applications must give a clear explanation of what is proposed and provide detailed costs and budgets. The project must:

- be relevant to the work of the Church in the Diocese, in particular the Diocesan Vision and Strategy
- be linked to your Mission Action Plan
- ensure questions have been answered in such a way as to convince the grant-making group that you have a fair chance of delivering your project competently
- establish a plausible route by which your proposal could result in the growth of the church
- answer all questions on the form in such a way as to give a clear and full picture of your intentions
- indicate how the project will continue in the future.

Project Costs and Sources of Funding guidance

At this stage of the grant application process the budgeted expenditure costs for setting up your parish nursing service are all fixed, and are already included in the budget table. The amounts shown in each budget line are a guide and a limit - if your application is successful, you will receive money on an actual costs basis. These fixed costs will help you see how much maximum continuation funding needs to be found and the application form asks for a breakdown of how you intend to cover these costs in subsequent years. An example budget for a 14 hours per week Parish Nurse post is given in Appendix 1.

An explanation of the fixed expenditure costs

Parish Nurse salary

You will need to include the number of hours you require for the parish nurse position in the budget. To do this please use the following figures:

The Parish Nurse salary is fixed at £20.65 per hour. This rate is decided by the Diocese of Sheffield in consultation with PNMUK. Table 1 below outlines probable and minimum other amounts for standard employment costs (including employer pension contributions, and employer National Insurance) and a probable cost of living uplift each year. This cost-of-living increase is determined by the Diocese of Sheffield.

Table 2 uses these total salary cost figures to show examples of salary amounts for different hours per week.

Table 1: Hourly rate and minimum employment on-costs for three years

	Hourly rate Current	Hourly rate Year 2 3% uplift	Hourly rate Year 3 3% uplift
Parish Nurse salary cost	20.65		
Employer pension (@ min. 3%)	0.48		
Employer NI	2.54		
Payroll admin fee	0.06		
Total Salary Cost	£23.73	£24.44	£25.18

Table 2: Examples using Parish Nurse salary and employment on-costs @ £23.73/hr:

Parish Nurse total annual salary cost*	1 day/ week (7 hrs)	2 days/week (14 hrs)	3 days/week (21 hrs)	4 days/week (28 hrs)
Year 1	£7,973	£15,947	£23,920	£31,893
Year 2	£8,212	£16,424	£24,636	£32,847
Year 3	£8,460	£16,921	£25,381	£33,842

* For this project, hours worked will be calculated as: 1 day = 7 hours, 1 mth = 4 weeks, 1 year = 12 mths

Recruitment and setting up equipment costs

These costs will be budgeted in Year 1 only. Recruitment costs will cover job description formation support and interview time from Parish Nursing Ministries UK and job advertisements. The setting up equipment costs will include a laptop, mobile phone, and groups training equipment. Examples include blood pressure monitoring equipment, scales, body part models for training and explanations. The type of training equipment will however be site and role specific depending on the needs of the community.

Delivery costs

Delivery costs will cover:

- Public and Employers Liability Insurance and Professional Indemnity Insurance¹
- Additional room hire (expenses cannot be claimed for room use in own church buildings)
- Reasonable travel expenses: to visit groups and individuals in places other than the church building
- Reasonable travel to clinical supervisor sessions
- Activity costs: reasonable equipment not covered in set up, additional refreshments costs (over and above normal church refreshments)
- Photocopying / printing of fliers and posters.

CPD Training costs

To include PNMUK Initial Training, PNMUK ongoing training and PNMUK annual accreditation.

¹ Ecclesiastical Insurance are aware of Parish Nursing and are supportive of it. Do contact them and discuss the insurance you need.

Appendix 1: Example budget for a 14 hours per week Parish Nurse post

Project Costs and Sources of Funding				
How many hours per week will the Parish Nurse work: 14				
We would like to share the Parish Nurse between parishes? Yes / No				
We confirm that we are willing and able to employ the Parish Nurse directly Yes / No (The Diocese can help with fulfilling employment requirements)				
Use the table below to outline an overview budget for the Parish Nursing Service:				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	
Calendar Year	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	
Expenditure	£	£	£	
<i>Parish Nurse salary, with employer on costs</i>	15,947	16,424	16,921	
<i>Recruitment and Equipment set up costs</i>	5,500			
<i>Delivery costs</i>	500	2,750	2,750	
<i>CPD training costs</i>	500	300	300	
Total project cost	£22,447	£19,474	£19,971	
Income	£	£	£	
<i>How much do you already have committed from other sources? *</i>				
<i>How much is the church contributing to the project?</i>				
<i>Probable additional funding? *</i>				
<i>How much are you seeking from the Parish Nursing Grant Pot? (max £38,393 for Year 1)</i>		-	-	
Total Funding				

* Please list these sources and probable additional funding with their amounts in Q3 of the application form.