

Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2024

No 27, 2024

Long Title

An ordinance to determine the costs for parochial units in 2025, 2026 and 2027 and to authorise the application of such charges and for incidental purposes.

Preamble

A. Under clause 4 of the *Cost Recoveries Framework Ordinance 2008* (the “Framework Ordinance”), a parochial unit is to pay a cost recoveries charge each year in respect of ministry costs and parochial network costs specified or determined in accordance with an ordinance referred to in clause 5 of the Framework Ordinance.

B. By clause 5 of the Framework Ordinance, the Standing Committee is to prepare for the second ordinary session of the 53rd Synod a proposed ordinance for adoption by the Synod which specifies the cost recoveries charge to be paid by each parochial unit in 2025, 2026 and 2027, or the method or methods by which such charge may be determined by the Standing Committee, and authorises the Standing Committee to apply such cost recoveries charges paid by parochial units in a financial year toward ministry costs and parochial network costs.

The Synod of the Diocese of Sydney Ordains as follows.

1. Name

This Ordinance is the Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2024.

2. Definitions

In this Ordinance –

“year” means a period of 12 calendar months commencing on 1 January.

“ministry costs” means the costs, expenses, charges or contributions for the year referred to or contemplated under clause 2(2)(a) of the Framework Ordinance.

“parochial network costs” means –

- (a) the costs, expenses, charges or contributions for the year referred to or contemplated under clause 2(2)(b) of the Framework Ordinance, and
- (b) the cost of the parish risk management program, and
- (c) the parish related costs for the year of the Office of the Director of Safe Ministry, and
- (d) the cost of the Safe Ministry Training program, and
- (e) the parish contribution to the cost of Diocesan archives, and
- (f) the cost recovery charge from Sydney Diocesan Services for managing the Parochial Cost Recoveries Fund 951, and
- (g) the cost of the Property Trust’s management fee for property related services to parishes with property.

“parochial unit” means a parish, provisional parish, recognised church or provisional recognised church in the Diocese of Sydney.

“parochial unit with property” means a parochial unit for which real property is held on trust or which has the use of real property held as part of the fund constituted under the *Ministry Infrastructure Development Fund Ordinance 2022*, except if the only real property held by a Parochial unit is strata or stratum title property.

3. Cost recoveries charge

(1) In 2025, 2026 and 2027 each parochial unit is to pay a cost recoveries charge calculated according to the formula in the Schedule.

(2) The cost recoveries charge paid by a parochial unit under subclause (1) is to be applied to the payment of the ministry costs and parochial network costs incurred, or to be incurred, in the year for which that charge is paid.

(3) The Standing Committee is to report to the third ordinary session of the 53rd Synod about –

- (a) the ministry costs and parochial network costs payable in 2026 and an estimate of the amounts payable, and

Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2024

- (b) the cost recoveries charge estimated to be payable by each parochial unit in 2026 and details of how that charge is calculated.
- (4) The Standing Committee is to report to the first ordinary session of the 54th Synod about –
 - (a) the ministry costs and parochial network costs payable in 2027 and an estimate of the amounts payable, and
 - (b) the cost recoveries charge estimated to be payable by each parochial unit in 2027 and details of how that charge is calculated.

Schedule: Cost Recoveries Charge

1. The cost recoveries charge payable by a parochial unit for a year is –
 - (a) in the case of St Andrew’s Cathedral, the minister and assistant minister charge for that year, and
 - (b) in the case of any other parochial unit, the sum of –
 - (i) the minister and assistant minister charge for that year, and
 - (ii) the variable charge for that year,

but if –

- (c) the contributions, costs and charges for a minister or assistant minister are paid by another parochial unit or body, or do not apply to the minister or assistant minister, a pro rata rebate of the appropriate portion of the minister or assistant minister charge is granted for that part or parts of the year for which that minister or assistant minister is licensed, and
- (d) if a minister or assistant minister is licensed to the parochial unit only for part or parts of the year, an appropriate portion of the minister and assistant minister charge is payable for such part or parts.

2. In this Schedule –

“assistant minister” means an assistant minister or a senior assistant minister within the meaning of the *Assistant Ministers Ordinance 2017* licensed to the parochial unit.

“complying superannuation fund” has the meaning given to that term in sections 42 and 42A of the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993*.

“minister” means –

- (a) the person licensed to the parochial unit as rector, and
- (b) in the absence or incapacity of a person referred to in paragraph (a) or during any vacancy in office of the rector of the parochial unit, the person appointed under rule 9.7 in Schedule 1 or Schedule 2 of the *Parish Administration Ordinance 2008* for the time being to exercise all or any of the functions of the rector.

“minister and assistant minister charge” means, for each minister and assistant minister licensed to the parochial unit, the sum of the following costs and charges –

- (a) the costs of the contribution or contributions to a complying superannuation fund nominated by the minister or assistant minister at the rate or in the amount determined by the Standing Committee from time to time, and
- (b) the costs of the contribution required to the Sydney Long Service Leave Fund in order to enable that Fund to make the payment or payments required to be made under the *Long Service Leave Canon 2010* in 2025, 2026 and 2027, and
- (c) the costs of Clergy Care, including the costs of effecting stipend continuance insurance and funding the Clergy Assistance Program, and
- (d) the costs of the contribution or contributions to fund the Sydney Diocesan Sickness and Accident Fund.

“variable charge” in 2025, 2026 and 2027 means the determined percentage of the Net Operating Receipts of the parochial unit for 2023, 2024 and 2025 respectively under the Framework Ordinance.

Parochial Cost Recoveries Ordinance 2024

“determined percentage” means the ratio, expressed as a percentage, determined by the Standing Committee in accordance with the following formula –

$$PC / TR$$

where –

PC is the total estimated amount of all parochial network costs payable in 2025, 2026 and 2027 and

TR is the total of the Net Operating Receipts of all parochial units, except for St Andrew’s Cathedral, for 2023, 2024 and 2025,

provided that –

- (a) in the case of a parochial unit with property, the determined percentage is adjusted upwards to the extent necessary to meet any shortfall in the recovery of the estimated amount of all parochial network costs associated with property payable in a year due to the reduction in the determined percentage for parochial units without property under paragraph (b), and
- (b) in the case of a parochial unit without property, the determined percentage is 50% of the determined percentage calculated under paragraph (a).

I Certify that the Ordinance as printed is in accordance with the Ordinance as reported.

R TONG
Chair of Committee

I Certify that this Ordinance was passed by the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney on 23 September 2024.

B BOUNDS
Secretary of Synod

I Assent to this Ordinance.

KANISHKA RAFFEL
Archbishop of Sydney

25/09/2024