

## STATEMENTS OF NEEDS

This is a document which will support your faculty application. The process of drawing it up will also help you to think widely about the options available.

Its purpose is two-fold -

- i) to identify the need
- ii) to explain why this need has to be met in this way.

Firstly, therefore, you should outline what it is that you hope to achieve and you should be as specific as possible. For example, if you were planning a Sound and Loop system you might mention such things as -

- ✚ evolving patterns of worship and a growing number of young people mean that you now have a worship group which requires amplification
- ✚ you have several members of the congregation with hearing impairment and the loop will mean that they can fully participate - the Disability Discrimination Act also requires you to take whatever steps are reasonable to improve access (in this case adequate sound enhancement) for all
- ✚ the new children's choir (though sounding very sweet) really needs amplification

Another example might be adapting a room for use as a crèche and a Mums and Toddlers group -- say why. For example, there has been a recent development of starter homes and there is no other provision locally.

Be honest with your Statement - make sure that you have considered all the possible alternatives and detail what they were and why they have been discounted. Also, if any objections have been received - eg to the removal of pews - explain what they are, how deeply and widely felt and how you intend to meet (and hopefully overcome) such objections.

You should, in this document, acknowledge what is contained in the Statement of Significance, particularly the portion which focuses on the area of the church which will be most directly affected by any proposed works.

If your Statement of Needs can be backed up with photographs, please include these - "a picture paints a thousand words"!

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In a sense the Statement of Significance deals with primarily, though not exclusively, the history and conservation aspects - and the Statement of Needs is concerned primarily, though not exclusively with your meeting the needs of worship and mission. This is a delicate balance - and one of which the DAC and the Chancellor are profoundly aware.

A good PROCESS of

- ✚ identification of the significance of your church
- ✚ identification of the needs for effective worship and mission
- ✚ a wide-ranging consideration of alternatives (think radically!)
- ✚ an honest acknowledgement of potential problems or hurdles
- ✚ a comprehensive and detailed application

will make for a smooth passage and a satisfactory outcome.

**PLEASE REMEMBER -**

- ✚ involve your Inspecting Architect
- ✚ consult informally with the DAC (via the Secretary) at an early stage.