

Budget planning 2013-14

Title	2013-4 Budget options	Author	CE
Description	A set of papers to start the debate on our next year's programme and budget.	Status	For discussions
Board	30th June/1st July	Date	25th June

Background

The Board will need to agree a budget and programme of activities for 2013-14.

Decisions will be informed by:

- The proposals in the five-year plan
- Our experience of 2012-13 spending
- The fundraising targets agreed with the Foundation
- The actual amounts raised during the fundraiser plus other predicted income.

Timetable

The timetable for decision making has come into sharp focus over the last week after negotiations with the Foundation.

July 1st Board meeting	Agree five-year plan Discuss budget options and decide on level of growth.
By July 1st	Have signed fundraising agreement with foundation.
By September 1st	The Foundation has decided upon its global fundraising target.
By September 1st	The Foundation and the four fundraising chapters have agreed a local fundraising target.
September 8th / 9th	Agree 2013-4 budget at Board Meeting - general headings not every penny.
By October 1st (probably)	The chapter has submitted its proposed budget and a broad overview as to what the funds will be spent on.
By December 15th	The Funds Dissemination Committee determines a final figure in agreement with Chapters. i.e an amount to be raised for Chapter needs with amounts in excess being at the discretion of the local chapter to donate to the Foundation.

The fundamental question.

The most important question beyond all the detailed numbers and timetables is this:

What do we want to do?

We need to be realistic about what is achievable and what fits with what we want to achieve in line with our charitable objectives.

How do we do this?

To get the thought processes going I have prepared three illustrative budgets. They are drawn from reality but not firm proposals.

- A standstill budget - we do much the same next year as we have done this year.
- A modest growth budget - I added one post for illustration plus a general growth in all areas.
- A major growth budget - I added two more staff and a more generous growth in all areas.

Each has a price tag attached to it. I think this is useful. Chew them over and if you would like to play with them let me know and I will send them to you as spreadsheets.

Doing the maths

One final conundrum we need to think about the following:

1. How much do we keep in reserves?
2. How much do we expect to receive in recurring direct debits - Richard will have figures for you

What next?

An in principle decision on what the spend should be next year.

From this follows fundraising targets, negotiations with the Foundation and a plan for 2013-14.