

Policy on Legacies

The single most important step a PCC can take in order to encourage gifts in Wills is to make a legacy policy and communicate it the congregation. Most people will only leave gifts in their Wills if they think the church will use them for worthwhile projects. Having a policy reassures potential donors that legacy gifts are taken seriously by the church and will be used to make a real difference.

This can then be communicated in sensitive ways as part of our overall Stewardship plan, along with the encouragement for church members to make a will.

Suggested policy:

We welcome gifts in Wills and our policy is to use them to fund significant development projects in the parish, such as buildings, equipment or staff. As circumstances change over the years, it may not be possible to fulfil specific donor requests, so church members are encouraged to leave gifts in their wills for the general purposes of the parish.

The PCC will discuss with executors the most appropriate use of the gift in the light of current projects and the donor's known areas of interest.