

## Methodist Ministers' Children's Fund

The Children's Fund provides allowances for the maintenance and education of the children of ministers, probationers and theological students in connection with the Irish Methodist Conference. During the past year the Children's Fund has provided Allowances and/or Grants for 68 Manse families, a total of 139 children.

Income for the Fund comes from the Comprehensive Assessment and interest from investments. The Fund is administered under the direction of the Stipends and Allowances Board. Demands on the Fund are increasing due to an increase in the number of children.

We wish to thank the churches for their continued support through the Comprehensive Assessment.

### Recommended Allowances from 1st July 2004

#### A. Maintenance Allowances

	<i>Northern Ireland</i>	<i>Republic of Ireland</i>
Maintenance Allowance for each child under 11 on 1st July 2004	£640 stg	€1500
Maintenance Allowance 11 or over on 1st July 2004	£1,120 stg	€2100
Maintenance Allowance (for each boarder 11 or over on 1st July 2004)	£730 stg	€1250
Initial Outfit Allowance (for each boarder 11 or over on 1st July 2004)	£400 stg	€700

#### B. Educational Allowances

(1) Educational allowances from 1st July 2004 shall not exceed £700 or €1100.

(2) A grant of €1 40 towards the cost of books for any child not receiving free books in the Republic of Ireland.

#### C. Extended benefits to the children of ministers who are attending University or similar Institutions (all grants are paid in sterling).

##### (a) Travel Grant

Travel Grant to University outside of Ireland to be increased to £450 stg from 1st July 2004.

##### (b) Subsistence Grant

(i) A subsistence grant towards living expenses will be paid of £400 stg per academic year from 1st July 2004.

(ii) No grant shall be paid if the student receives any Education and Library Board Grant, University Scholarship, State or Local Authority Grant any other grant.

### AGENDA

- 1 The Conference receives the report.
- 2 The Conference approves the revised maintenance allowances.

3. The Conference approves the educational allowance.
4. The Conference approves the payment of the Extended Benefit Grant comprising Travel and Subsistence Allowances, where applicable.
5. The Conference directs that the paragraphs in the Minutes of Conference be reprinted with the necessary changes.
6. The Conference re-appoints Rev. Andrew N. Boucher as Secretary and Ministerial Treasurer.
7. The Conference re-appoints Mr. Neil E. Morris as Lay Treasurer.