MU Diocese of Peterborough
Membership Direct Debits - Frequently Asked Questions

What are Direct Debits?

In brief, Direct Debit is the simplest and most convenient way for an individual to pay regular and occasional bills. They are increasingly the payment option of choice for a wide range of transactions.

A Direct Debit is essentially an instruction from an individual to their bank or building society. It authorises the organisation they want to pay to directly collect varying amounts from the individual's account, but only if they have been given advanced notice of the amounts and dates of collection.

Once they have agreed those terms, the money is deducted automatically and additional future payments can be scheduled. If the organisation they are paying wants to change an amount or date of collection, they have to tell the individual about it first.

Do I have to pay my subscriptions in this way?

No, whilst we would encourage you to choose to pay in this fashion, all members are free to pay by cash or cheque to their Treasurers in exactly the way they always have done. The choice is yours.

Why am I being encouraged to pay my subscriptions this way?

Three primary reasons.

Firstly, the diocese and Central Charity believe encouraging members to pay in this way has the potential to significantly reduce the administration burden falling on Branch Leaders and Treasurers, particularly in locations where banking is challenging.

Secondly, evidence from operations to-date suggests this has the potential to significantly improve rates of member retention, meaning it could serve to strengthen the movement in the longer term and assist us with addressing the administrative challenges that have resulted from the pandemic.

Finally, to encourage members to participate, the Central Charity is offering to cover all set up costs associated with members signing up for the first cycle in which a diocese participates, meaning there is a potentially significant cost saving available to a diocese participating for the first time should members sign up to pay by Direct Debit in this cycle as opposed to sign ups in future years.

How do I participate?

You will need to complete a Direct Debit mandate. This can be done by completing a physical form available from the Diocesan Secretary Jean Rose. Please email Jean at jeanerose@btinternet.com. Mandates are also available from the Diocesan Treasurer or downloading one from the Mothers' Union Peterborough website.
The physical forms are now undated so they can be used at any time.

Where should I send my completed Mandate form?

The completed mandate should be handed to your branch leader and sent to Jean Rose or send directly to: Jean Rose, 2 Manchester Road, Wollaston, Wellingborough, Northants. NN29 7SR

When do I need to have completed my mandate form by, in order to participate?

Mandate forms must have been completed and returned as soon as you can.

How will I be contacted ?

Members will need to have an email account or access to an email account as most communication is via email.

When will the Subscription be collected from my bank account?

If you complete and return a mandate form, the subscription will be collected from your account on 31 January in any year or if you join during the year at the next collection date, and annually thereafter. There will be written notification of changes to subscriptions each year. This is sent by email.

How can I cancel my Direct Debit once it is set up?

You can cancel the Direct Debit at any time by either contacting your bank or by emailing finance@mothersunion.org. Please also let Jean know by phone 01933 663778 or email jeanerose@btinternet.com

Will rolling subscriptions (i.e. 12 month subscriptions beginning on dates other than 01 January) be possible?

At the current time the answer is no but this is also something we are keen to explore further.

Can Branch and Deanery subs be collected at the same time?

This is not currently possible. Levies to the branch or deanery will have to be paid directly by the members to their Branch Treasurer.

What will appear on my Bank Statement?

The collection will clearly show as a collection by Mothers' Union for Subscriptions

What is Go Cardless?

Go Cardless are a well-established facilitator of Direct Debit collections by small organisations and we will make use of their technology to perform the direct debit collection. Their system is secure and reliable.

Can I make additional donations to the diocese alongside the subscription collection?

At the current time the answer is no, please send any extra donations directly to the Diocesan Treasurer.