

BUDGET 2011 – CHURCHES WELCOME PROPOSAL ON GIFT AID DECLARATIONS

The Bishop of Exeter, Chairman of the Churches' Legislation Advisory Service (CLAS), welcomed the Budget proposal to relieve charities and community amateur sports clubs from the need to obtain gift aid declarations for small donations of £10 or less up to an annual maximum of £5,000.

Said Bishop Langrish:

“The Government’s announcement that from April 2013 charities will no longer have to provide gift aid declarations for small donations of £10 or less is very good news for churches. Being able to make Gift Aid claims on loose collections will be valuable in itself – but perhaps even more valuable is the time that it will save hard-pressed church treasurers. The present system, with Gift Aid envelopes and the associated record-keeping, is incredibly time-consuming and we will be delighted to see an end to it as soon as possible.”