

🌿 APPENDIX 3 🌿

Putting together an MOU between the Parent Church and the Church Plant

An MOU is a memorandum of understanding – a (non-binding legal) document that clearly records the details of an agreement between two (or more) parties.

When establishing the ongoing relational parameters between a parent church and church plant, it's important to have clarity over expectations for the ongoing relationship. Note that the Senior Pastor of the parent church may end up moving on and so it's unwise to rely on pre-existing relational capital.

- What exactly will the support entail? (Be specific – pastoral supervision, training, finance, admin help etc)
- Who will receive the support? (the planter? Other leaders?)
- How often will they receive the support? (Weekly? Monthly? Annually?)
- How long will the support last? (1 year, 3 years, 5 years etc)

For example

It has been agreed that

- Senior Pastor Pete, will meet monthly for lunch with Planter Paul for an initial three years. During those monthly meetings, as well as supporting and praying for him, Senior Pastor Pete will give feedback on one of Paul's sermons from that month, as well as discussing together the next chapter from the ministry book that the two have been reading. Pete will also help with any ministry or pastoral questions that Paul is struggling with.
- Every two months the parent church will commit to collecting prayer points and pray on a Sunday morning for the plant, as well as feeding back some of the joys and challenges so far to the main congregation.
- For the first three years the plant will be able to share administrative support - up to three hours per week - in the parent church office. This will include use of the printer and office supplies.
- For the first five years the parent church agrees to help fund the church plant a total of €40,000: €12,000 in year 1, €10,000 in year 2, €8,000 in year 3, €6,000 in year 4 and €4000 in year 5. If the plant is struggling financially there will be a conversation at the end of year 3, over the possibility of more support.

Signatures:

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