

Net Zero Quick Wins Grants Eligibility Guide

Aims

The Quick Wins Grant Fund aims to support churches and church halls in delivering small scale Net Zero Carbon works by providing parishes with restricted funds to help support local net zero projects.

This Fund sits in alongside the Minor Repairs and Improvements (MR&I) Fund, and cross-funding can be considered for projects that meet the criteria for both funding streams.

Eligible Buildings

Consecrated Church of England buildings for worship including shared buildings and ecumenical partnerships in the Diocese, and their associated church halls.

The 'building' in this sense also includes below ground services, foundations and the immediate curtilage of the church or church hall.

Ineligible Buildings

- Other buildings or structures in the churchyard or curtilage of eligible buildings which are not in ecclesiastical use.
- Cathedrals
- Churches and chapels which are the responsibility of private owners or institutions.
- Non-Anglican Places of worship.
- Closed and closing churches.

Eligible work – If necessary the work must be registered on the Online Faculty System, whether it is List A, List B or Full Faculty

Eligibility criteria have been determined nationally and only projects from the agreed list can be supported. This covers the following areas:

- Works selected from the [Practical Path to Net Zero](#) for Churches,
- Improving electrical connections, to enable electric heating, and
- Temporary heating solutions

The full list of eligible activities is provided in Appendix 1.

Ineligible Work

- Routine maintenance, as described in the Church Building Council's [Calendar of Care](#) for routine maintenance.
- Routine cleaning.
- Conservation reports.
- Routine servicing of building services installations.
- Any work covered by insurance.

Additional information

Normally, grants will be less than £1,000 per church. However, in exceptional circumstances where there is a compelling reason for supporting a particular project, the maximum level of grant will be £5,000.

The church's reserves levels and financial accounts will be a major factor when considering each application. Churches that would struggle to financially cover these works will be prioritised.

Applications will also be assessed for their potential to reduce carbon emissions.

The aim is to have maximum impact on comfort levels, energy use and carbon emissions, and so the Net Zero Programme Manager or a Church Building Officer must be involved with the application process, otherwise it will not be accepted. Relevant documentation will be required such as drawings, photos and quotations.

Appendix 1: Eligible works

Eligible net zero solutions

- Insulate around heating pipes
- Draught-proof the gaps* or put up a door-curtain
- Rugs/floor-coverings (with breathable backings) and cushions on/around the pews/chairs
- Where there is an uninsulated, easy-to access roof void, insulating the loft*
- Installing a glazed door within your porch or draught-lobby*
- Fabric wall-hangings or panels, with an air gap behind

Heating and lighting

- Matching heating settings better to usage*
- Install a HIVE or NEST-type heating controller, to better control heating
- Learn how the building heats/cools and link to comfort, by using data loggers
- Improve heating zones and controls
- Install TRVs on radiators in meeting rooms & offices
- Under-pew electric heaters*
- Infra-red radiant panel heaters*
- Heated chair cushions*
- Replace lightbulbs with LEDs, where simple replacement is possible
- Replace floodlights with new LED units
- Thermal and/or motion sensors on lighting.
- Install energy-saving device such as Savawatt on fridges or other commercial appliances
- Installing a smart meter, to better measure energy use

Temporary heating solutions which enable a church or church hall to avoid undertaking a like-for-like oil- or gas-heating replacement when their heating breaks down:

- Heated chair cushions*
- Boiler hire
- Electric heater hire or purchase

It is expected these temporary solutions will last for not more than one year, whilst the church makes plans, seeks advice, applies for faculty, and fundraises. At the end of the temporary period, once the church has installed their permanent heating solution, the diocese has the right to

ask for items which have been purchased to become the property of the diocese, in order that they can be lent to other churches.

Electrical upgrades to enable direct electric heating, heat pumps or solar panels

- Upgrades to the electrical system, to enable a church or hall move away from oil or gas heating, or to substantially reduce their use of existing oil or gas heating

** If interiors are of historic, architectural or artistic interest, professional & DAC advice must be sought before these steps are taken. If they could disturb bats, advice must be sought.*