

Quick Wins fund

Guidance document

Thank you for your interest in this fund. The aim of the quick wins fund is to enable churches to improve energy efficiency and progress towards net zero carbon by tackling the ‘low-hanging’ fruit. It is part of a series of [net zero carbon funding streams](#) made available by the national church.

Eligible Churches

1. Churches will have completed the Energy Footprint Tool in 2023
2. Churches will have completed an energy audit or received some professional advice
3. Churches will not be in receipt of the national funded energy audit and associated grant (you will have been contacted if this is your church)

This fund is likely to be oversubscribed and the funds must be spent by 01 September 2025, so if you are ready to proceed with your quick win then please apply as soon as possible. You will need to claim your fund (with proof of an invoice) within six months of a successful application, and should you be unsuccessful in this round, we will roll your application over to a second round.

Grant amount

Churches are able to apply for up to £3,000, and there will be more than one round between now and the end of 2025.

Round 3 opens on 4 November 2024 and closes on 17 January 2025 at 5pm.

Successful applications will be notified by 31st January 2025.

For all proposals, please notify the Church Buildings Team prior to submitting your application with details of the work you wish to carry out, so that they can provide advice and explain whether any permissions are needed.

Eligible Net Zero Carbon Solutions

The building itself:

- A1. Repair to the roof and rainwater goods (e.g. gutters, downpipes)
- A2. Fix any broken windowpanes* and make sure opening windows shut tightly
- A3. Insulate around heating pipes
- A4. Draught-proof the gaps* or put up a door-curtain*.

- A5. Rugs/floor-coverings (with breathable backings) and cushions on/around the pews/chairs.
- A6. Where there is an uninsulated, easy-to access roof void, insulating the loft*.
- A7. Installing a glazed door within your porch or a draught-lobby*.
- A8. Creating one or more smaller (separately heatable) spaces for smaller events.
- A9. Fabric wall-hangings or panels, with an air gap behind.

Heating and lighting:

- B1. Matching heating settings better to usage *.
- B2. Replace lightbulbs with LEDs, where simple replacement is possible.
- B3. Replace floodlights with new LED units.
- B4. Install a HIVE- or NEST-type heating controller, to better control heating.
- B5. If current appliances fail, replace with A+++ appliances.
- B6. Learn how the building heats/cools and the link to comfort, by using data loggers.
- B7. Improve heating zones and controls.
- B8. Install TRVs on radiators in meeting rooms & offices.
- B9a. Under-pew electric heaters *.
- B9b. Infra-red radiant panel heaters*.
- B10. Magnetic sediment “sludge” filter to extend the life of the system.
- B11. Thermal and/or motion sensors on lighting.
- B12. Install energy-saving device such as Savawatt on fridges or other commercial appliances.
- B13. 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:

- T1. Heated chair cushions *
- T2. Boiler hire
- T3. 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

E1. Upgrades to the electrical system, to enable a church or church hall to move away from oil or gas heating, or to substantially reduce their use of existing oil or gas heating.

Other

O1. Heated chair cushions, which either replace or significantly reduce the use of oil and gas fired space heating*.

O2. Solar PV, where a church can demonstrate it has completed all other measures to transition to net zero carbon, and so this is the next step

* 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.

Ineligible costs

VAT (for unlisted churches and work to listed churches which falls outside the eligibility of the Listed Places of Worship (LPW) grant scheme). It will be assumed that PCCs will apply to the LPW grant scheme wherever possible.

Retrospective funding is also ineligible – any project already underway or committed will not be funded.