



GrantFinder

Church grants

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Bishop Radford Trust - Foundation Grants

Fund ID:	S44668
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	09/07/2025

Grants are available for UK registered charities to support the work of the Christian church in the UK and internationally.

Fund Information

Funding body:	Bishop Radford Trust
Maximum value:	£ 2,000
Application deadline:	None specified

Background

The Bishop Radford Trust is a Christian grant maker which supports Christian charities and churches in the UK and internationally. It awards funds to a wide range of needs and has given out more than 600 grants amounting to over £8.5 million since it was founded in 2006. Last year it awarded 65 grants totalling more than £576,000.

Objectives of Fund

The funding is intended to support UK registered charities whose work supports Christian ministry and benefits their local community in the UK or who are working internationally on larger projects that support the Christian ministry.

This includes grants for churches who are involved with effective prison work either in prison or with support beyond the gates.

Value Notes

A total of £50,000 is awarded each quarter in Foundation grants. About 20 to 25 grants are awarded each quarter.

One-off grants of up to £2,000 are available.

Match Funding Restrictions

Although match funding is not required, the Trust will look more favourably on applicants who have raised 50% or more of the project funds from other sources.

Who Can Apply

UK registered Christian charities with a UK bank account can apply.

This includes:

- Church/cathedrals
- Hospices, nursing homes, rehab, shelters.
- Christian education charities
- Youth centres and youth work charities.
- Social enterprises.

The Trustees consider the following factors in the decision process:

- For work within the UK, they tend to give to smaller charities where the contribution makes a significant difference.
- For work based overseas, they tend to give through larger, more established Christian UK registered charities, or through charities where they have a personal connection.
- Preference is given to projects where the apparent need is great and the potential scale of the impact is substantial.
- Projects which spark interest and passion are favoured.

Location

UK

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Building/capital projects – this includes renovation & restoration works, boilers, stained glass etc.
- Non-UK registered charities
- Charities that do not have a Christian ethos and Christian ministry in their charitable objectives.
- Activities that have already taken place (retrospective costs).
- Pilot schemes, except where the charity has been previously funded by the Trust or is known to the Trustees.
- Charities that have not yet filed at least one set of accounts with the Charity Commission.
- Advocacy work/campaigning and lobbying related work (not usually supported).

Eligible Expenditure

The funding is intended to support Christian charities and churches that are serving their local community via the provision of a one-off core grant. Projects which spark interest and passion are favoured.

The Trust 'sometimes support pilot tests, but prefers to focus on projects that have a track record'.

Examples of previously funded projects in the UK include:

- A Christian charity helping local people in need by supplying second-hand furniture, household effects and community care.
- A charity working with local churches to arrange for local prisoners to receive a bag of simple gifts and to offer a copy of the Gospel.
- A charity helping local churches to engage with their local community through sport by using a mobile bus to reach vulnerable young people who would not normally enter a church building.

How To Apply

Applications may be submitted throughout the year. However, once the Trust reaches the maximum capacity for the quarter, the Trust will close the grant application process on the website. Applications will then reopen after the Trustees' quarterly meetings.

Guidelines, FAQs, and the online eligibility quiz are available from the Bishop Radford Trust's website.

There is a two-stage application process:

- Groups will first need to take the online eligibility quiz to determine if they are eligible to apply. Those who are eligible will then be directed to the short online application form.
- Successful applicants will go through a review process and will be considered at the next quarterly Trustee meeting which are held in January, April, July and October.

If after reading the FAQs page, applicants still have questions and want to contact the Trust, it is advised they use the 'contact us' page on the Trust's website.

The Bishop Radford Trust has a CRM and grants reporting and management system to help allocate their funding wisely across themes, regions, and also with consideration to deprivation level.

Useful links

The Bishop Radford Trust
<https://bishopradsfordtrust.org.uk/>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Mr D Marks

Bishop Radford Trust
Devonshire House
1 Devonshire Street
London
W1W 5DR
E-Mail: enquiries@bishopradsfordtrust.org.uk

Congregational and General Charitable Trust Grants

Fund ID:	S50727
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	23/01/2026

Grants are available to support the provisions and repair of church buildings, particularly those of the United Reformed and Congregational denominations.

Fund Information

Funding body:	Congregational and General Charitable Trust
Maximum value:	£ 25,000
Application deadline:	16/04/2026

Background

The Congregational and General Charitable Trust was established in 1956 as the charitable arm of the Congregational and General Insurance Company. In 1987 it was re-formed as a separate entity, but still linked to the company. In 2016 the trust became independent of the insurance company.

The Trust's objectives are:

- To make grants for the overall care, upkeep and extension of churches
- To make grants towards the capital costs of church community projects
- To promote the Christian religion and, in particular, the United Reformed and Congregational denominations, and other churches of the Protestant tradition.

Objectives of Fund

Grants are available to support capital works on church buildings or towards the capital costs of church community projects in the UK.

Value Notes

Grants of between £1,000 and £25,000 are available. The level of grant awarded is at the Trustees discretion and will depend on the denomination of the church and type of work being undertaken. The maximum percentage project cost is 25% to the nearest £100.

The trust does not consider applications for help with projects costing over £1 million, nor does it consider funding for a small part of larger projects such as this.

Depending on applications it receives, the trust intends to distribute up to £290,000 a quarter.

Who Can Apply

Applications are accepted from all churches of the Protestant tradition in the UK, but particularly those of the United Reformed and Congregational denominations.

Applicants will need to provide their latest church annual report and full accounts including balance sheet, notes to the accounts and any overview/directors' report.

Location

UK

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Running costs of the church.
- Organ and church bells restoration.
- Conservation/restoration of works of art.
- Graveyard maintenance.
- Manse works.
- Solar panels or other environmental projects which are not part of any other development work.
- Retrospective applications for projects.
- Organisations based outside the UK, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.
- Projects in excess of £1 million.
- Part projects where the total cost exceeds the above threshold

Eligible Expenditure

Funding is normally for church capital projects involving building work: repairs, improvements or extensions.

Applications will also be considered from church community projects for funding towards capital costs (but not for ongoing work).

The trust encourages churches to take professional advice (eg from architects, quantity surveyors, site management) in preparing for and undertaking building projects. These costs can be included in the total project costs when applying for a grant.

How To Apply

The next deadline for applications is 16 April 2026 (**10am**) for consideration at the meeting on 2 June 2026.

An application form and guidance are available on the Trust's website. Applications should be submitted by email to admin@candgtrust.org.uk

Useful links

Congregational and General Charitable Trust Grants
<https://www.candgtrust.org.uk/guidance>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Trust Administrator

Congregational and General Charitable Trust
 PO Box 1111
 Lincoln
 LN5 0WJ
 E-Mail: enquiries@candgtrust.org.uk

Calls and deadlines

Information on future calls is indicative only and may be subject to change.

Second 2026 Deadline

Application start date:	-
Application end date:	16/04/2026
Frequency:	Quarterly

Church of England – Boiler Replacement Hardship Grant Fund

Fund ID:	S53459
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	06/02/2026

Grants are available for Church of England parishes to support the installation of a low-carbon heating system to replace a gas boiler.

Fund Information

Funding body:	Church of England
Maximum value:	£ 45,000
Application deadline:	None specified

Background

The Boiler Replacement Hardship Grant Fund is provided and administered by the Church of England.

The fund is from the Church of England's NetZero by 2030 programme, which aims to equip, resource, and support all parts of the church to tackle climate change by reducing carbon emissions from the energy used in its buildings, schools, and work-related transport.

Objectives of Fund

This fund aims to support churches/church halls with limited budgets with the costs of replacing a gas boiler with an alternative low carbon heating system.

Value Notes

Grants of up to £45,000 are available.

The level of grant available for each church will vary according to the indices of multiple deprivation by ecclesiastical parish.

Who Can Apply

Churches in all dioceses (excluding the Channel Islands) can apply.

To apply, churches must meet the following criteria:

- Churches and church halls where activities are taking place in a building owned by part of the Church of England.
- The church/church hall's existing oil or gas boiler is at the end of its life or has failed.
- There is an urgent need to replace the gas/oil boiler which cannot be postponed to allow for fundraising activities.
- Where a church/church hall has completed a recent Energy Footprint Tool (EFT), a copy of the latest EFT should be provided.
- The church/church hall has received professional advice on the low-carbon solution being proposed. This solution must have been verified and be supported by an energy audit, action plan, or specific bespoke technical design/advice.
- The low-carbon heating project should be able to start by the end of December 2025.
- The heating solution is not reliant on a wider re-ordering, or other projects that are not yet in train.

Parishes must be able to demonstrate that they cannot afford the cost of the appropriate low-carbon heating system.

Location

England.

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Church of England congregations meeting in rented or leased accommodation owned by others.
 - Cathedrals, schools, housing, and other parish or diocesan building types.
 - The costs of associated works that would be undertaken regardless of the type of heating system installed, such as electrical works or fabric improvements to address building repairs, improve insulation, or remove draughts.
 - Ongoing costs associated with the new heating system.
-

Eligible Expenditure

Funding can be used to cover the difference in cost between a low-carbon heating solution when compared to a replacement oil/gas heating system, covering the cost of:

- Equipment.
- Electrical work and connections.
- Modification of secondary side heating systems to support low-grade heating technologies.

Where solar panels are included, the cost of solar panels, battery storage, and installation can be funded.

How To Apply

Applications can be submitted at any time.

Guidance notes and an online application form are available from the Church of England Diocese of Manchester website.

Useful links

Church of England Diocese of Manchester - Boiler Replacement Hardship Grant Fund
<https://www.manchester.anglican.org/faithlife/ecodiocese/netzerocarbon/#Eco%20Boilers>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Enquiries

Church of England

E-Mail: robchilton@manchester.anglican.org

Benefact Trust – Methodist Grants

Fund ID:	S48162
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	23/05/2025

Grants are available for Methodist churches, circuits and districts, and some key Methodist heritage sites across the UK and Ireland to support building development projects that focus on church growth, community engagement, and improving accessibility.

Fund Information

Funding body:	Methodist Insurance PLC
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Maximum value:	£ 100,000
Application deadline:	None specified

Background

The Methodist Grants scheme is administered by the Benefact Trust (formally Allchurches Trust). Funding is provided primarily through donations from Methodist Insurance PLC.

The Benefact Trust is a Christian charity dedicated to supporting:

- Christian charities and churches in the UK and Ireland.
- The repair, restoration, protection and improvement of church buildings, cathedrals, and other places of Christian worship.
- Projects based in disadvantaged areas.
- Churches and Christian charities that are making a positive impact on their communities.
- The preservation of sustainable heritage skills.

Objectives of Fund

This fund aims to enhance the mission and ministry of the Methodist Church in the UK and Ireland by supporting Methodist organisations to run building development projects and repair and maintenance projects that are essential for ongoing mission and ministry, with a focus on:

- Church growth (both numerically and spiritually).
- Community engagement.
- Improving accessibility.
- Environmental benefits

Value Notes

Funding is at the discretion of the Trust.

Match Funding Restrictions

Applicants are required to have raised at least 30% of the project cost before applying.

Who Can Apply

Methodist Districts and Circuits, individual Methodist churches which are part of the Methodist Connexion and organisations associated with the Methodist Church in Britain or the Methodist Church in Ireland can apply.

Location

The United Kingdom and Ireland.

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Essential repairs or routine building maintenance.
- Salaries and other revenue costs.
- Non-Christian charities.
- Projects overseas.
- Charities with political associations.
- Projects that benefit only a small part of a community.
- Multiple applications from the same organisation within 24 months.

Eligible Expenditure

Funding will support repair and maintenance projects that are essential for the ongoing mission and ministry of an organisation This includes:

- Significant redevelopment projects on buildings that have been identified as key to the future mission objectives of a Circuit or District.
- Work which includes the provision of disabled access and facilities.
- Schemes that bring significant community benefits beyond those to the immediate congregation, and which are supported by evidence from community consultation.
- Initiatives that demonstrate a clear environmental benefit.

How To Apply

There is no fixed deadline. Applications are considered on a rolling basis.

The Trust aims to respond to applications within three to six months.

Guidance notes and an online application form are available from the Benefact Trust website.

Useful links

Benefact Trust - Methodist Grants

<https://www.benefacttrust.co.uk/grants/methodist-grants/>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Enquiries

Benefact Trust

Benefact House

2000 Pioneer Avenue

Gloucester Business Park

Brockworth

Gloucester

GL3 4AW

Tel: 01452 873189

E-Mail: info@benefacttrust.co.uk

National Churches Trust - Large Grants Programme UPDATED

Fund ID:	S44009
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	11/03/2026

Grants are available to support the conservation and sustainable use of church buildings in the UK, focusing on larger and more complex projects with priority given to urgent structural repairs or the introduction of kitchens and accessible toilets.

Fund Information

Funding body:	The National Churches Trust
Maximum value:	£ 50,000
Application deadline:	07/07/2026

Background

The National Churches Trust is the national charity dedicated to supporting and promoting places of worship of historic, architectural and community value used by Christian denominations throughout the UK through advice, support and funding.

The Trust relies on voluntary donations, as well as the help of its Friends and a number of trusts and foundations, to support its work.

The National Churches Trust supports church and chapel buildings open for worship throughout the UK. It funds urgent repairs and modernisation, provides expert advice on church maintenance and on how churches can continue to serve local communities and promote church heritage and tourism.

Objectives of Fund

The Large Grants programme (formerly Cornerstone Grants) supports structural repairs and maintenance issues costing more than £100,000 or the installation of kitchen and toilets costing over £30,000.

Value Notes

Grants of between £10,000 and £50,000 are available. The current average is about £15,000.

Grants of between £40,000 and £50,000 are extremely limited and reserved for cases which demonstrate a very high case for investment.

The Trust has a very limited amount of funding available and can only offer grants to a small proportion of applicants. The current success rate is roughly 1 in 4 applicants.

Priority for funding is for urgent structural repairs (costed at more than £80,000 including VAT), but the Trust will consider projects for the installation of kitchens and accessible toilets (costed at more than £30,000 including VAT).

Match Funding Restrictions

Match funding of at least 50% is required.

Who Can Apply

Places of worship of any Christian denomination and age can apply.

Applications will be considered from listed and unlisted Christian places of worship across the UK.

Applications from the Trust's priority areas are encouraged: North East England, Northern Ireland and Wales, though this is not to the exclusion of churches in other areas.

To be eligible, applicants must demonstrate that:

- The building must be a Christian place of worship (but not a cathedral) located within the UK, and originally built as a place of worship no less than 30 years ago.
- Works must be to the main church building. If applying for new facilities, the proposed works must be to the place of worship, or an extension thereof. The National Churches Trust will not fund new build or stand-alone structures. Exceptions may only be made upon request if the place of worship is Grade I / A listed, and the decision is endorsed by one of the UK Home Countries Heritage Bodies.
- Applicants must be the owners or have the right to carry out the work. If the church is not part of a main denomination, or registered with Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, they must be a registered charity. Any place of worship whose annual income exceeds £100,000 must be registered with the Charity Commission.
- Buildings must be open for regular public worship for a minimum of 6 services per year. Buildings that have been closed to the public must have plans to reopen for regular worship and public access, and a congregation waiting to use the building on completion.
- Buildings must be open to the public for at least 100 days per year in addition to worship within a year of project completion. Applicants should tell the Trust if they will need to have special arrangements, such as keyholder details on display, in order to meet this requirement.
- Projects must be led, overseen and supervised by a suitably qualified professional, usually a professionally qualified architect (listed on the Register of Architects) or a chartered building surveyor (MRICS or FRICS). Where the building is listed, the professional must have conservation accreditation from one of the following conservation accreditation schemes at the stated level:
 - The Register of Architects Accredited in Building Conservation (AABC). Architects should be listed at category 'A'.
 - Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). Architects should be listed as 'Specialist Conservation Architect'.
 - The Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland (RIAS). Architects should be listed as 'Advanced'.
 - Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS).
 - Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists (CIAT). Listed at 'Accredited Conservationist' level.
- Work must not have started before the online application is submitted.
- All necessary permissions (from the governing body i.e. Faculty signed off by the Chancellor, and if required, the local planning authority consent) must be approved, valid and in place at the point of application.

Location

United Kingdom

Restrictions

Funding is not available for the following:

- Works required due to negligence
- Repairs to, or scheduled maintenance of boilers, clocks, organs, wall paintings, bells, monuments, fittings and fixtures and solar panels
- Reordering, lighting, electricity, and AV
- Works to boundary walls, paths, churchyards, churchyard monuments or car parks
- Stained glass restoration (unless urgent repairs to window structure, or the building is no longer watertight)
- Construction of new places of worship or church halls
- Works to converted buildings, church halls, or privately-owned churches - such as chapels within hospitals, hospices, schools, prisons and similar institutions.

Eligible Expenditure

The funding is for urgent and essential structural repair projects (costed at more than £80,000) to buildings that were originally built as churches, or the installation of kitchen and toilets (costed at more than £30,000).

The Fund will prioritise:

- Work to architecturally and historically significant buildings
- Applications from regions identified as priority areas: Northern Ireland, Wales and the North East of England
- Urgent structural repair projects (as identified in a recent QIR or building survey as required within two years), with a focus on buildings that are at risk
- Installation of kitchens and toilets where a strong need can be demonstrated
- Places of worship that can demonstrate a suitable maintenance system is in place to protect the investment
- Places of worship with regular opening hours
- Places of worship that can demonstrate strong community engagement and sound plans for economic viability.

How To Apply

There is a two-stage application process.

- Stage 1 is a simple form to check the project is suitable for this programme. The next deadline is 7 July 2026 (midnight).
- Stage 2 applications are by invitation only to those applicants who were successful at Stage 1.

Guidance notes and the online application form are available on the Trust's website.

Contact The National Churches Trust for further information.

Useful links

National Churches Trust

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/>

National Churches Trust - Large Grants

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/get-support/grants/cornerstone>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Church Support Administrator

The National Churches Trust

7 Tufton Street

London

SW1P 3QB

Tel: 020 7222 0605

E-Mail: grants@nationalchurchestrust.org

Calls and deadlines

Information on future calls is indicative only and may be subject to change.

Second 2026 Deadline for Stage 1 Applications

Application start date:	-
Application end date:	07/07/2026
Frequency:	Periodic

National Churches Trust - Medium Grants Programme

Fund ID:	S44106
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	17/12/2025

Grants are available for listed and unlisted Christian places of worship of any denomination in the UK to support project development and medium size repairs.

Fund Information

Funding body:	The National Churches Trust
Maximum value:	£ 10,000
Application deadline:	14/04/2026

Background

The National Churches Trust is the national charity dedicated to supporting and promoting places of worship of historic, architectural and community value used by Christian denominations throughout the UK through advice, support and funding.

The Trust supports church and chapel buildings open for worship throughout the UK. It funds urgent repairs and modernisation, provides expert advice on church maintenance and on how churches can continue to serve local communities and promote church heritage and tourism.

Objectives of Fund

The Medium Grants programme (formerly Gateway Grants) will support churches preparing for a major project, and in developing their project to the point at which they can approach a major grant funder. Some funding will be awarded to local church trusts for strategic or capacity building projects.

As of 3 March 2025, the Small Grants programme has been merged into the Medium Grants programme.

Value Notes

Grants of up to £10,000 are available to cover project costs up to £80,000 (including VAT and fees).

Match Funding Restrictions

Match funding of at least 50% is required. Applicants should have already raised 50% of the total project cost.

Who Can Apply

Places of worship of any Christian denomination and age can apply.

Applications will be considered from listed and unlisted Christian places of worship across the UK.

Applications from the Trust's priority areas are encouraged: North East England, Northern Ireland and Wales, though this is not to the exclusion of churches in other areas.

To be eligible, applicants must demonstrate that:

- The building is a Christian place of worship (but not a cathedral) within the UK, and open for at least six services of public worship each year.
- They own the building or have the right to carry out the work. If the church is not part of a major denomination, then the denomination must be registered with Churches Together in Britain and Ireland or have charitable status.
- The place of worship was built as a place of worship originally and is more than 30 years old.
- The works must be to the main church building either directly part of the building or attached to it.
- The building is open to the public for a minimum of 100 days a year beyond worship use.
- Have already raised at least 50% of the total project cost.
- The project has not yet started.
- The project is being led by a qualified professional, with conservation accreditation from a recognised institution if it is a listed building.
- Have two quotes in place for each element of the work in the application.
- Have any necessary permissions in place.

Location

England, Wales, Northern Ireland, Scotland, the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands

Restrictions

Funding is not available for the following:

- Buildings that have been converted into places of worship, such as shops, offices or houses.
- Chapels within hospitals, hospices, schools or prisons or other such institutions.
- Projects that have started before the application was submitted.
- Construction of new places of worship or separate structures.
- Works to cathedral buildings.
- Works to buildings that were not originally constructed as a place of worship.
- Works to an existing building that is separate from the existing place of worship (even if it is on the same site, a church hall, or owned by the church).
- Works required due to negligence.
- Repairs to, or scheduled maintenance of boilers, clocks, organs, wall paintings, bells, monuments, fittings and fixtures and solar panels.
- Reordering, lighting, electricity, and AV.
- Works to boundary walls, paths, churchyards, churchyard monuments or car parks.
- Stained glass restoration (unless urgent repairs to window structure, or the building is no longer watertight).
- Construction of new places of worship or church halls.

Eligible Expenditure

Grants can be used either for:

- Project development - developing a church building project such as feasibility studies, options appraisals, investigative work and development work up to RIBA Planning Stage 1.
- Urgent and essential maintenance and repair projects costing between £20,000 and £80,000 including VAT.

Grants of up to £10,000 will also be awarded to local church trusts to fund projects that support organisational development, increase their capacity to churches in their area, or that deliver new ways of supporting churches in their area.

How To Apply

The Grants Committee meets three times a year (usually in March, July and November).

The next deadline for application is 14 April 2026.

Guidance notes and the online application form can be found on the Trust's website.

Contact The National Churches Trust for further information.

Useful links

National Churches Trust - Grants

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/our-grants>

National Churches Trust - Medium Grants

<https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/get-support/grants/medium-grants>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Church Support Administrator

The National Churches Trust

7 Tufton Street

London

SW1P 3QB

Tel: 020 7222 0605

E-Mail: grants@nationalchurchestrust.org

Calls and deadlines

Information on future calls is indicative only and may be subject to change.

First 2026 Deadline

Application start date:	-
Application end date:	14/04/2026
Frequency:	Periodic

Stewardship Loans for Churches and Christian Charities

Fund ID:	S48237
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	15/04/2025

Secured loans for building projects is available to churches and other Christian charities in the UK.

Fund Information

Funding body:	Stewardship Services
Maximum value:	£ 4,000,000
Application deadline:	None specified

Background

Stewardship is a charity lender. It is a registered charity which was set up more than 100 years ago by a small group of Christians in the UK to provide financial support and gifts to Christian ministries in the UK and overseas.

Stewardship's 'vision is "For the world to encounter Jesus through the generosity of His Church".

To this end, Stewardship gives each year more than £100 million to over 4,200 churches, 2,500 Christian workers and 6,000 charities.

It currently provides loan funding of around £28 million to 115 churches and Christian charities in the UK.

Objectives of Fund

The funding aims to help churches and Christian charities achieve their vision by supporting building projects, such as buying a new building, converting or refurbishing their building.

Value Notes

Loans of between £40,000 and £4 million are currently available, however, more can be loaned if need be. The loan should not exceed 65% of the value of the property to be secured.

The maximum loan period is 15 years. Repayment is by a regular monthly repayment of capital and interest.

The rate of interest is variable.

There are no facility fees, no hidden costs.

The loan must be secured by a first charge on any property owned by the church or charity including some residential property (for example a church manse) provided the property is (or will be) owned by the church or charity rather than the occupier.

A full list of application and completion fees can be found on the Stewardship website.

Who Can Apply

Applications will be considered from churches and charities that are in line with Stewardship's statement of faith.

Location

UK

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Individuals
- Businesses.

Eligible Expenditure

The loans can be used to help churches and charities with their building projects.

This can include, but is not limited to:

- Building a new church.
- Buying a building that is currently being rented.
- Buying land to build a church.
- Putting up a new church roof.
- Converting or refurbishing a current building.

Applicants are encouraged to contact the Stewardship team to discuss their financial needs.

How To Apply

Full details, including the online loan application form, can be found on the Stewardship website.

Contact Stewardship for further information.

Useful links

Stewardship - Loans for Churches and Christian Charities

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/loans#:~:text=Stewardship%20only%20provides%20secured%20loans%20to%20Churches%20and,businesses.%20Stewardship%20is%20regulated%20by%20the%20Charity%20Commission.>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Church and Charity Loans Team

Stewardship Services

Unit A

1 Lamb's Passage

London

EC1Y 8AB

Tel: 020 8502 8565

E-Mail: lending@stewardship.org.uk

Benefact Trust – Building Improvement Grants

Fund ID:	S49986
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	30/04/2025

Grants are available for Christian charities, churches, cathedrals, and denominational bodies across the UK to support the conservation, preservation, or aesthetic enhancement of Christian churches and charity buildings.

Fund Information

Funding body:	Benefact Trust
Maximum value:	Discretionary
Application deadline:	None specified

Background

The Building Improvement Grants Fund is provided and administered by the Benefact Trust.

Objectives of Fund

This fund aims to provide essential support to protect and enhance Christian church and charity buildings, ensuring their continued use and viability, and the safeguarding of their heritage.

Value Notes

There is no minimum or maximum award specified. Funding will be awarded at the discretion of the trustees.

Match Funding Restrictions

Applicants are expected to have secured at least 30% of their total project costs before applying.

Who Can Apply

This programme is open to churches, cathedrals, denominational bodies, and Christian charities.

Organisations that have previously received funding under the General Grants Programme will have to wait two years before making an application.

Location

United Kingdom and Ireland.

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Educational institutions such as schools or theological institutions.
- Regular maintenance works.
- Work that is normally covered by insurance.
- Retrospective costs.
- Revenue costs.

Eligible Expenditure

Funding can be used to support direct capital costs relating to the following types of work:

- Essential repairs to ensure the viability of a building.
- Works or equipment to improve accessibility.

- Energy efficiency measures.
- Conservation or restoration of historic features.
- Aesthetic enhancements to indoor or outdoor spaces.

How To Apply

Applications can be submitted at any time.

The average decision time for smaller grants (up to £10,000) is two months. Larger grants (over £10,000) are considered at grants committee and board meetings and can take between four and six months.

Guidance notes and an online application form are available from the Benefact Trust website.

Useful links

Benefact Trust - Building Improvement Grants

<https://www.benefacttrust.co.uk/grants/building-improvement-grants/>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Iain Hearn

Benefact Trust

Benefact House

2000 Pioneer Avenue

Gloucester Business Park

Brockworth

Gloucester

GL3 4AW

Tel: 01452 873189

E-Mail: info@benefacttrust.co.uk

[ChurchCare - Grants for Churchyard Structures](#)

Fund ID:	S39903
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	07/01/2026

Grants are available for Anglican parish churches in England for the conservation of churchyard structures.

Fund Information

Funding body:	Pilgrim Trust
Maximum value:	£ 10,000
Application deadline:	06/05/2026

Background

ChurchCare is the Church of England's Cathedral and Church Buildings Division. It works in partnership with various grant-giving bodies to provide funding for the conservation of historic church interiors and churchyard structures. Funding for this scheme is provided in partnership with the Pilgrim Trust and the Radcliffe Trust.

Objectives of Fund

Funding is available for the conservation of structures in churchyards that are under the responsibility of the Parochial Church Council (PCC).

Value Notes

Grants of up to £10,000 are available.

In the last round, there were six applications of which five grants were awarded.

Who Can Apply

Anglican parish churches in England are eligible to apply.

Location

England

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Structures in closed churchyards that are the responsibility of the local authority.
- Works of a cosmetic nature only (eg cleaning).
- Soft landscaping.
- Speculative work.
- Routine maintenance.

Eligible Expenditure

Funding is available for the conservation of churchyard structures such as tombs, external monuments, grave markers, churchyard walls, railings and gates.

To be eligible, the churchyard must be under the responsibility of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and the structure must be listed separately from the church building.

How To Apply

There are two application rounds per year (usually in the Spring and Autumn).

- The first deadline for 2026 applications is 5 May 2026, for decisions on 19 June 2026.
 - The second deadline for 2026 applications has yet to be published.
-

An application form is available to complete online and must be submitted with the relevant supporting documentation.

Applicants may discuss the eligibility of their project with ChurchCare either by phoning or by sending a message via the ChurchCare contact page.

Application forms are available to complete online and the required supporting documentation must be uploaded.

Contact ChurchCare for further information.

Useful links

ChurchCare - Grants for Churchyard Structures

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/churchcare/our-conservation-grants/grants-historic-church-interiors-and-churchyard-structures>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Enquiries

ChurchCare
Cathedral and Church Buildings Department
Church House
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3AZ
Tel: 020 7898 1872

Calls and deadlines

Information on future calls is indicative only and may be subject to change.

First 2026 Deadline

Application start date:	-
Application end date:	06/05/2026
Frequency:	Biannual

ChurchCare - Grants for Clocks

Fund ID:	S39859
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Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	30/05/2025

Grants for the conservation of turret clocks in Anglican parish churches in England.

Fund Information

Funding body:	ChurchCare
Maximum value:	£ 10,000
Application deadline:	16/03/2026

Background

ChurchCare is the Church of England's Cathedral and Church Buildings Division. It works in partnership with various grant-giving bodies to provide funding for the conservation of historic church interiors and churchyard structures.

The Grants for Clocks are offered in partnership with the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Pilgrim Trust, and the Anglican Parish Churches Fund.

Objectives of Fund

Funding is available for the conservation of turret clocks.

Value Notes

Grants of up to £10,000 are available.

In the last round, there were 15 applications of which 11 grants were awarded, one was deferred, and three were rejected.

Who Can Apply

Anglican parish churches in England are eligible to apply.

Location

England

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- The conservation of dials where no other work is involved, unless of high significance.
- The installation of auto-winding or pendulum regulators where no other work is involved, unless replacing an old system that is potentially damaging to the movement.
- Speculative work.
- Routine maintenance.

- Retrospective funding.

Note: This grants programme is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF). Receipt of a direct grant from the NLHF would make the applicant church ineligible for additional funding through this grants programme.

Eligible Expenditure

Funding is available for the conservation of mechanical clocks, including early electro-mechanical clocks with artistic, historic, archaeological or architectural significance.

The project must involve overhaul and repair of the movement and/or dial motionwork. Projects should follow the Turret Clock Forum's Code of Practice.

How To Apply

There is one application round per year. The 2026 deadline for applications is 16 March 2026 for a decision on 1 May 2026.

Guidance notes and online application forms are available from the ChurchCare website.

Applicants may discuss the eligibility of their project with ChurchCare either by phoning, by email or by sending a message via the ChurchCare contact page.

Useful links

ChurchCare

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/churchcare>

ChurchCare - Grants for Clocks

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/churchcare/our-conservation-grants/grants-historic-church-interiors-and-churchyard-structures>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Conservation Grants Administrator

ChurchCare
Cathedral and Church Buildings Department
Church House
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3AZ
Tel: 020 7898 1872
E-Mail: conservationgrants@churchofengland.org

Calls and deadlines

Information on future calls is indicative only and may be subject to change.

2026 Deadline

Application start date:	-
Application end date:	16/03/2026
Frequency:	Annual

ChurchCare - Grants for Textiles

Fund ID:	S39885
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	10/02/2026

Grants are available for Anglican parish churches in England for the conservation of textiles.

Fund Information

Funding body:	National Lottery Heritage Fund (Heritage Fund)
Maximum value:	£ 10,000
Application deadline:	05/05/2026

Background

ChurchCare is the Church of England's Cathedral and Church Buildings Division. It works in partnership with various grant-giving bodies to provide funding for the conservation of historic church interiors and churchyard structures. These grants are offered in partnership with the National Lottery Heritage Fund, and the Radcliffe Trust.

Objectives of Fund

Funding is available for the conservation of textiles of historical, artistic, architectural, archaeological significance.

Value Notes

Grants of up to £10,000 are available.

Who Can Apply

Anglican parish churches in England are eligible to apply.

Location

England

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Works of a cosmetic nature only (eg cleaning).
- Routine maintenance.

Eligible Expenditure

Grants can be used to support the professional conservation of historic textiles of artistic, historical or architectural significance, including associated specialist treatments and any necessary conservation reports. Conservation work must be undertaken by conservators accredited by ICON, the Institute of Conservation.

How To Apply

There are two application rounds per year.

The next application deadlines are:

- **5 May 2026**
- **26 October 2026**

Guidance notes and the online application form are available from the ChurchCare website.

Applicants may discuss the eligibility of their project with ChurchCare by phoning, by email or by sending a message via the ChurchCare contact page.

Useful links

ChurchCare - Grants for Textiles

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/churchcare/our-conservation-grants/grants-historic-church-interiors-and-churchyard-structures>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Churchcare Grant Enquiries

ChurchCare
Cathedral and Church Buildings Department
Church House
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3AZ
Tel: 020 7898 1872
E-Mail: conservationgrants@churchofengland.org

Calls and deadlines

Information on future calls is indicative only and may be subject to change.

Second 2026 Deadline

Application start date:	-
Application end date:	26/10/2026
Frequency:	Biannual

First 2026 Deadline

Application start date:	-
Application end date:	05/05/2026
Frequency:	Biannual

ChurchCare - Grants for Woodwork and Wooden Objects

Fund ID:	S39904
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	07/01/2026

Grants are available for Anglican parish churches in England for the conservation of woodwork and wooden objects.

Fund Information

Funding body:	Pilgrim Trust
Maximum value:	£ 10,000
Application deadline:	05/05/2026

Background

ChurchCare is the Church of England's Cathedral and Church Buildings Division. It works in partnership with various grant-giving bodies to provide funding for the conservation of historic church interiors and churchyard structures. These grants are offered in partnership with the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Pilgrim Trust, and the Radcliffe Trust.

Objectives of Fund

Funding is available for the conservation of woodwork and wooden objects that are of artistic or historical significance.

Value Notes

Grant of up to £10,000 are available.

In the last round, there were five applications of which three grants were awarded, one was deferred, and one was rejected.

Who Can Apply

Anglican parish churches in England are eligible to apply.

Location

England

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Works of a cosmetic nature only (eg cleaning).

-
- Speculative work.
 - Routine maintenance.

Eligible Expenditure

Funding is available for the conservation of woodwork and wooden objects - such as reredoses, screens, wooden crosses, pulpits and pews - that are of artistic, historical, archaeological or architectural significance.

Applications should address the relationship of the woodwork with the building fabric (eg are there moisture-ingress issues with the building fabric that are affecting the wood and need to be addressed before conservation?).

How To Apply

The next deadline for applications is 5 May 2026 for a decision on 19 June 2026.

Guidance notes and online application forms are available from the ChurchCare website.

Applicants may discuss the eligibility of their project with ChurchCare either by phoning, by email or by sending a message via the ChurchCare contact page.

Useful links

ChurchCare - Grants for Wooden Objects

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/churchcare/our-conservation-grants/grants-historic-church-interiors-and-churchyard-structures>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Churchcare Grant Enquiries

ChurchCare
Cathedral and Church Buildings Department
Church House
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3AZ
Tel: 020 7898 1872
E-Mail: conservationgrants@churchofengland.org

Calls and deadlines

Information on future calls is indicative only and may be subject to change.

First 2026 Deadline

Application start date:	-
Application end date:	05/05/2026
Frequency:	Biannual

ChurchCare - Grants for Metalwork

Fund ID:	S39916
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	26/11/2025

Grants are available for Anglican parish churches in England for the conservation of monumental brasses and decorative metalwork.

Fund Information

Funding body:	Pilgrim Trust
Maximum value:	£ 10,000
Application deadline:	05/05/2026

Background

ChurchCare is the Church of England's Cathedral and Church Buildings Division. It works in partnership with various grant-giving bodies to provide funding for the conservation of historic church interiors and churchyard structures. Funding for this scheme is provided in partnership with The National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF), the Pilgrim Trust, and the Radcliffe Trust.

Objectives of Fund

Funding is available for the conservation of monumental brasses and decorative metalwork that is of artistic or historical interest.

Value Notes

Grants of up to £10,000 are available.

Who Can Apply

Anglican parish churches in England are eligible to apply.

Location

England

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Works of a cosmetic nature only (eg cleaning).
- Speculative work.
- Routine maintenance.

This grants programme is funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund. Receipt of a direct grant from the NLHF would make the applicant church ineligible for additional funding through ChurchCare grants programme.

Eligible Expenditure

Funding is available for the conservation of:

- Decorative metalwork of historic, artistic, or archaeological significance.
- Monumental brasses of historic, artistic or archaeological significance.
- The re-mounting of monumental brasses according to ChurchCare guidelines (when the original slab is missing).

Eligible projects include the conservation of metal screens, internal railings, plaques and memorials.

Applications should address the relationship of the metalwork with the building fabric (eg moisture ingress causing corrosion of the metalwork).

Conservation work must be undertaken by conservators accredited by ICON, the Institute of Conservation (or conservators on the pathway to accreditation).

How To Apply

The next deadline for applications is 5 May 2026 with decisions by 19 June 2026.

Guidance notes and online application forms are available from the ChurchCare website.

Applicants may discuss the eligibility of their project with ChurchCare either by phoning, by email or by sending a message via the ChurchCare contact page.

Useful links

ChurchCare - Grants for Monumental Brasses and Decorative Metalwork

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/churchcare/our-conservation-grants/grants-historic-church-interiors-and-churchyard-structures>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Enquiries

ChurchCare
Cathedral and Church Buildings Department
Church House
Great Smith Street

London
SW1P 3AZ
Tel: 020 7898 1872
E-Mail: conservationgrants@churchofengland.org

Calls and deadlines

Information on future calls is indicative only and may be subject to change.

First 2026 Deadline

Application start date:	-
Application end date:	05/05/2026
Frequency:	Biannual

ChurchCare - Grants for Bells UPDATED

Fund ID:	S39858
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	18/02/2026

Grants are available for Anglican parish churches in England to fund the conservation of bells and bell frames.

Fund Information

Funding body:	ChurchCare
Maximum value:	£ 10,000
Application deadline:	22/06/2026

Background

ChurchCare is the Church of England's Cathedral and Church Buildings Division. It works in partnership with various grant-giving bodies to provide funding for the conservation of historic church interiors and churchyard structures.

The grants are offered in partnership with the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Anglican Parish Churches Fund.

Objectives of Fund

The funding is for the conservation of bells and bell frames of artistic, historic, archaeological or architectural significance in Anglican parish churches across England.

They may be:

- Listed by the Church Buildings Council
- Cast before 1800
- Significant bells and bell frames of a later date.

Value Notes

Grants of up to £10,000 are available.

In the last round, there were eight applications of which five grants were awarded and three were rejected.

Who Can Apply

Anglican parish churches in England are eligible to apply.

Location

England

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Projects involving the tuning of significant bells.
- Maintenance (eg replacing ropes).
- Bells or bell frames of low significance.

Eligible Expenditure

Projects must:

- Include conservation treatment of the bells themselves, such as removal of cast in crown-staples, turning, welding cracked bells.
- Follow the Church Buildings Council's code of practice.

How To Apply

There is one application round per year.

The next deadline for applications is 22 June 2026 with a decision on 7 August 2026.

Grants are awarded around 12 weeks after the application deadline.

An online application form can be found on the ChurchCare website.

Applicants may discuss the eligibility of their project with ChurchCare either by phoning or by sending a message via the ChurchCare contact page.

Useful links

ChurchCare - Grants for Bells

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/churchcare/our-conservation-grants/grants-historic-church-interiors-and-churchyard-structures#na>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Enquiries

ChurchCare
Cathedral and Church Buildings Department
Church House
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3AZ
Tel: 0207 898 1872

Calls and deadlines

Information on future calls is indicative only and may be subject to change.

Second 2026 Deadline

Application start date:	-
Application end date:	22/06/2026
Frequency:	Annual

ChurchCare - Grants for Paintings and Wall Paintings

Fund ID:	S39882
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	10/02/2026

Grants are available for Anglican parish churches in England for the conservation of paintings and wall paintings.

Fund Information

Funding body:	National Lottery Heritage Fund (Heritage Fund)
Maximum value:	£ 10,000
Application deadline:	01/06/2026

Background

ChurchCare is the Church of England's Cathedral and Church Buildings Division. It works in partnership with various grant-giving bodies to provide funding for the conservation of historic church interiors and churchyard structures. Funding for this scheme is provided in partnership with The National Lottery Heritage Fund, and the Radcliffe Trust.

Objectives of Fund

Funding is available for the conservation of wall paintings and paintings that are of artistic and historical significance and in need of urgent repair, in Anglican parish churches in England.

Value Notes

Grants of up to £10,000 are available.

In the last round, there were nine applications and nine grants were awarded.

Who Can Apply

Anglican parish churches in England are eligible to apply.

Location

England

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Works of a cosmetic nature only (eg cleaning).
- The uncovering of wall paintings.
- Speculative work.
- Routine maintenance.

Eligible Expenditure

Funding is available for the conservation of wall paintings and paintings of artistic, historical or archaeological significance.

How To Apply

Applications must be submitted by the deadline of 1 June 2026.

Guidance notes and the online application form are available from the ChurchCare website.

Applicants may discuss the eligibility of their project with ChurchCare either by phoning or by sending a message via the ChurchCare contact page.

Useful links

ChurchCare - Grants for Paintings and Wall Paintings

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/churchcare/our-conservation-grants/grants-historic-church-interiors-and-churchyard-structures>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Conservation Grants Administrator

ChurchCare
Cathedral and Church Buildings Department
Church House
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3AZ
Tel: 020 7898 1872
E-Mail: conservationgrants@churchofengland.org

Calls and deadlines

Information on future calls is indicative only and may be subject to change.

Second 2026 Deadline

Application start date:	-
Application end date:	01/06/2026
Frequency:	Biannual

ChurchCare - Grants for Conservation Reports

Fund ID:	S39856
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	01/07/2025

Grants are available for conservation reports and specialist investigations for objects of artistic, historical or archaeological significance in Anglican parish churches in England.

Fund Information

Funding body:	ChurchCare
Maximum value:	£ 5,000
Application deadline:	None specified

Background

Funding is provided by ChurchCare, which is the Church of England's national resource to support parish churches and cathedrals to care for their buildings, in partnership with the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Pilgrim Trust, and the Gunnis Fund.

Objectives of Fund

The Fund aims to assist with the commissioning of conservation reports on historic interiors in Anglican parish churches in England.

Conservation reports are an essential first step in projects involving the repair and conservation of artworks and historic furnishings in churches. They are also a key document to support faculty and grant applications.

Value Notes

Grants of up to £5,000 are available.

Last year, 47 out of 52 applications were successful. The average grant was £826, with grants ranging from £200 to £3,000.

Who Can Apply

Anglican parish churches in England are eligible to apply.

Location

England

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Reports for objects where there is no perceived need of conservation.
- Routine maintenance reports.
- Retrospective costs.

Eligible Expenditure

Grants are available to assist with the commissioning of conservation reports, including environmental surveys and other technical investigations, such as paint analysis, for objects that are of historical, artistic, architectural, or archaeological significance.

There is a strong preference for the use of conservators accredited by **ICON**, the Institute of Conservation.

For conservation reports on Books and manuscripts, Monumental brasses and decorative metalwork, Monuments, Paintings and wall paintings, Stained glass, Textiles and Wooden objects, the conservator must be accredited by ICON, the Institute of Conservation.

How To Apply

Applications may be submitted at any time throughout the year. There are no deadlines.

Grants are awarded around two weeks after application.

Applicants should email the following information to John Webster, the Conservation Grants Administrator:

- Images of the object.
- Statements of significance and needs (include the object's significance).
- Any advice from the applicant's DAC and any other advice received.
- A written estimate on the cost of the report/survey.

Useful links

ChurchCare - Grants for Conservation Reports

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/churchcare/our-conservation-grants/grants-conservation-reports>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

John Webster

ChurchCare
Cathedral and Church Buildings Department
Church House
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3AZ
Tel: 020 7898 1872
E-Mail: john.webster@churchofengland.org

Benefact Trust – Community Impact Grants

Fund ID:	S49862
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	09/04/2025

Grants are available for churches, cathedrals, denominational bodies, Christian charities, schools, and theological institutions across the UK to deliver projects and activities that have a positive impact on communities.

Fund Information

Funding body:	Benefact Trust
Maximum value:	Discretionary
Application deadline:	None specified

Background

The Community Impact Grants Programme is provided and administered by Benefact Trust.

Objectives of Fund

This fund aims to support Christian organisations to deliver projects that will make a positive and transformative impact on lives and communities and contribute to the following objectives:

- Growing congregations and Christian communities.
- Addressing social challenges facing communities.
- Enabling wider community use of church buildings.
- Empowering Christian education.

Value Notes

Funding is awarded at the discretion of the trustees.

Multi-year grants of up to three years are available.

Match Funding Restrictions

Groups are expected to have secured at least 30% of their total project costs before applying.

Who Can Apply

Churches, cathedrals, denominational bodies, Christian charities, schools, and theological educational institutions with a clear Christian ethos can apply.

Location

United Kingdom and Ireland

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Existing salary costs, clergy posts, posts in schools or other educational institutions, and staff costs do not directly meet the programme's objectives.

-
- Training for individuals that does not have a clear community benefit aligned with one of the programme objectives.
 - Ongoing 'business as usual' costs.
 - Indirect costs, such as overheads and staff costs not directly related to project delivery.
 - Retrospective costs.
 - Significant volunteer expenses that represent a disproportionate amount of the overall project budget.
 - Significant marketing and promotion costs that represent a disproportionate amount of the overall project budget.
 - Most repair work.
 - Tablets and phones to be given or loaned to users of new services being provided.
 - Phones for staff or volunteers.

Eligible Expenditure

Funding is available under the following programme areas:

- Growing congregations and Christian communities – Projects that focus on growing church congregations and communities across all ages, including:
 - Outreach and wider engagement focused on mission, growth, and faith development.
 - Projects aiming to engage more young people with faith and the church community.
 - Delivery of training programmes focused on faith development.
 - Church planting projects.
 - Construction of new chapels for hospices or other charities.
- Addressing social challenges facing communities – Projects focusing on the following types of issues:
 - Food poverty.
 - Debt/financial issues.
 - Mental health and wellbeing.
 - Children and families.
 - Young people.
 - NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training).
 - Older people's needs.
 - Homelessness.
 - Refugees & asylum seekers.
 - Offenders / Ex-offenders.
 - Addiction/substance misuse.
 - People with disabilities.
 - Modern Slavery/human trafficking.
 - Inclusion.
- Enabling wider community use of church buildings – Projects that result in a clear increase in the use of church buildings by the wider community beyond the immediate congregation, such as:
 - Redevelopment, expansion, or improvement projects resulting in new or improved facilities for wider community use.
 - Work that includes the provision of disabled access, facilities, or equipment.
 - Other activities or resources to support a sustainable transition to increased community use.
- Schools and educational institutions - For schools and theological educational institutions with a clear Christian ethos, the following types of projects will be considered:
 - New spaces or facilities to improve collective worship or spiritual reflection among students (eg chapels, outdoor worship spaces, prayer gardens, etc).
 - Repairs/refurbishment of a chapel or other worship space used by students for worship or spiritual reflection.

Funding can be used to cover direct capital and/or revenue costs.

Funding can be used for new projects or to expand preexisting work.

How To Apply

Applications can be submitted at any time.

The average decision time for small grants (up to £10,000) is two months. Larger grants (over £10,000) take between four and six months and are considered at grants committee and board meetings held throughout the year.

Guidance notes and an online application form are available from the Benefact Trust website.

Useful links

Benefact Trust - Community Impact Grants
<https://www.benefacttrust.co.uk/grants/community-impact-grants/>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Enquiries

Benefact Trust
 Benefact House
 2000 Pioneer Avenue
 Gloucester Business Park
 Brockworth
 Gloucester
 GL3 4AW
 Tel: 01452 873189
 E-Mail: info@benefacttrust.co.uk

Biffa Award Main Grants Scheme – Community Buildings

Fund ID:	S3534
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	25/07/2025

Grants are available for not-for-profit organisations to provide and improve community buildings that are located within the vicinity of a Biffa Operation or Biffa Landfill site in order to 'act as mechanisms' for community involvement.

Fund Information

Funding body:	The Wildlife Trusts
Maximum value:	£ 75,000
Application deadline:	None specified

Background

Biffa Award is part of the Landfill Communities Fund, a Government tax credit scheme that enables landfill operators to contribute money to organisations for a wide range of community and environmental projects in the vicinity of landfill sites. The Biffa Award is managed by the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts, which administers several different funds covering broad environmental themes on behalf of organisations such as Biffa Group Limited, European Union, The People's Postcode Lottery, National Lottery Community Fund and Network Rail.

Biffa Award provides and administers the Main Grants programme across England and Northern Ireland.

The Main Grants Scheme is aimed at community and cultural groups and organisations, situated in the vicinity of landfill sites, that are in need of funding to improve the quality of life in their community or to conserve wildlife.

There are four themes - Community Buildings, Cultural Facilities, Recreation, and Nature Recovery (previously named Rebuilding Biodiversity) - each is reported on separately.

Objectives of Fund

The Biffa Award Community Buildings theme aims to improve buildings at the heart of their communities, such as village halls, community centres and church halls, which are within five miles of a significant Biffa Operation or within 10 miles if an active Biffa Landfill site with the aim of encouraging and enhancing community involvement.

Value Notes

Grants of between £10,000 and £75,000 are available.

Total project costs or its phases must not exceed £200,000 including VAT.

Standalone elements of a wider project costing less than £200,000 are also excluded

Match Funding Restrictions

Third Party Contributor

Under Landfill Communities Fund regulations, only 90% of a grant can be paid by the landfill operator using landfill tax credits. Applicants are required to find a third-party contributor, who is not part of their organisation, for the remaining 10% of the total grant that is being requested.

It is expected that 75% of any additional funding needed to deliver the project will have been secured before an Expression of Interest is submitted.

Who Can Apply

Applications will be accepted from not-for-profit organisations in England and Northern Ireland.

To be eligible, organisations must:

- Be fully constituted, charitable or not-for-profit with no share capital.
- Be applying for a project site located within five miles of a significant Biffa operation or 10 miles of an active Biffa Landfill site.
- Be applying for a project site located within 10 miles of a licensed landfill site.
- Have a project site open for a minimum of 104 days of full public access to the project per year.
- Own the project site or have signed a lease agreement with the landowner of more than 10 years.

- Be eligible for enrolment and registration with the scheme's regulator ENTRUST.

Applications for projects in places of worship must show that they serve the wider community, similar to a village hall or community centre attracting significant wider weekly group use. Priority is given to projects that demonstrate a wider community benefit and need. It is expected that buildings will be used by many groups regularly each week, benefiting people of different ages and demographics.

Applications for projects in a sporting clubhouse should apply under the Recreation theme.

Applicants should check their project location's eligibility using Biffa Awards Postcode Checker, which can be found on the Awards website.

Location

Areas of England and Northern Ireland that are located near a Biffa landfill site or a significant Biffa Group Limited operation.

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Local authorities, councils, hospices, hospitals, day-care centres, activity centres, rehabilitation units, residential care facilities, allotments, nurseries, food banks and schools/colleges.
- Projects on the grounds of any of the organisations listed above.
- Church fabric repairs or repairs to church windows, church spires, steeples, bell towers or any areas not publicly available as a community space.
- Enhancement of town or village centres, for example signage, seating, dog waste bins and seasonal bulbs.
- Core costs of an organisation, office equipment and furniture or elements that directly benefit staff.
- Car parks.
- Offices.
- New supplies including gas and electricity.
- Elements to meet Disability Discrimination Act requirements.
- Changing Places facilities.
- Portable items that will not be permanently kept at the address listed as your project location.
- Changing rooms, flood lighting, tennis courts, cricket nets or pitch resurfacing.
- Items of personal kit or equipment including kit, gloves or balls.
- Fencing (unless part of a Rebuilding Biodiversity project).
- Events, excursions and workshops.
- Websites, publications, publicity or marketing materials.
- Storage facilities or containers.
- Feasibility studies, research, tender costs, building consents, planning applications or preliminaries.
- Recruitment costs.
- Energy-saving or green technology-based projects which have a derived income, such as solar panels.
- Work that has already taken place.

Organisations cannot reapply for funding for the same site of a previous Biffa Award grant within one year of receiving their final payment.

Eligible Expenditure

These grants can be used for site-based improvement work (not for running costs) on community buildings such as village halls, community centres and church halls located near Biffa Landfill sites and Biffa Group Ltd operations.

Applicants will have to show evidence of wider community use, involvement and consultation. The facility must offer a minimum of 104 days of published and full public access each year

Eligible costs include:

- Renovations of community rooms.
- Refurbishments of toilet facilities and kitchens.
- Extensions.
- Window and door replacement.
- Central heating systems.
- Roof replacement.

Priority will be given to projects that demonstrate a wide community benefit, with the building being used by multiple user groups, benefiting people of different ages and demographics; and are most in need of funding to continue to serve their communities, providing safe and secure spaces for people to gather and socialise.

Applications will be accepted for projects in churches, but only where the applicant can demonstrate that the work will directly benefit the wider community. Biffa Award is unable to fund fabric repairs on churches.

The project site needs to be owned by the applicant or there must be a fully signed lease of at least 10 years remaining in place between the applicant and the landowner (for Community Buildings, Cultural Facilities and Recreation projects).

Applications should outline how the applicant intends to ensure the project is sustainable following completion. It is essential that they outline how they will maintain, publicise and develop the project following completion of the improvements.

How To Apply

There is a two stage application process.

- The first stage is to submit an Expression of Interest which are accepted on a rolling basis. There are no deadlines for Expressions of Interest. Notification of decisions are usually within five days.
- The second stage is to submit a full application. This is by invitation only to those organisations with a successful Expression of Interest. This must be completed within six weeks of the invitation being made. Full applications are considered for times a year (in February, May, July and November). Applications will go to the next available meeting so there are no restrictions on when to apply. Groups may wait for up to six months to hear the outcome of their application.

Guidance notes, FAQs and the online form are available from the Biffa Award website.

Biffa Award will only accept a maximum of two full applications per financial year from any one organisation and only one application per organisation will be considered at any Board meeting.

Contact Biffa Award Team for further information.

Useful links

Biffa Award - Community Buildings
<https://www.biffa-award.org/community-buildings/>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Biffa Award Team

The Wildlife Trusts
The Kiln, Waterside
Mather Road
Newark
Nottinghamshire
NG24 1WT
Tel: 01636 670000
E-Mail: biffa-award@wildlifetrusts.org

Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme

Fund ID:	S37530
Status:	Open for Applications
Last updated:	26/11/2025

Grants are available towards the VAT incurred during repairs and maintenance of listed buildings that are used principally as public places of worship, or which are listed places of worship owned by specified organisations that look after redundant places of worship.

Fund Information

Funding body:	Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)
Maximum value:	Discretionary
Application deadline:	31/03/2026

Background

The Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme is provided by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and managed by East Midlands Business (EMB Limited).

It was established in 2001 and was originally intended to bridge the two-year gap leading up to the 2003 review of the European Commission's 6th VAT Directive, when the Government made proposals to the Commission for a lowered rate of VAT (5%) for repairs and maintenance to listed buildings that are used as places of worship.

Objectives of Fund

The scheme makes grants towards the VAT incurred in maintenance and repairs to listed buildings that are primarily used for public worship, or which are listed places of worship owned by, or under the authority of, a number of specified organisations that look after redundant places of worship.

The scheme applies to listed places of worship of all religions and faith groups throughout the UK.

Value Notes

The scheme has been confirmed until the end of March 2026 with a budget of £23 million. The scheme will close on 31 March 2026, or once the £23 million budget has been reached, whichever is earlier.

As of mid December 2025, the funding remaining is £6.83 million.

From 1 April 2025, there will be a cap of £25,000 that an organisation can claim during the year. This can still be spread across multiple claims.

The minimum value of invoices (excluding VAT) for any one claim to the scheme is £1,000. An application may comprise a number of smaller invoices, but each claim must apply to works that are eligible under the scheme and together generate combined invoice values of no less than £1,000 excluding VAT.

In addition, to allow places of worship undertaking smaller works to benefit from the scheme, each listed place of worship will also be allowed to submit one claim with a value of between £500 and £1,000 (excluding the VAT paid) in any 12 month period.

Claimants are expected to ensure that that all other eligible VAT reliefs are sought before seeking a grant under the scheme.

Match Funding Restrictions

If the works covered by the grant scheme have been the subject of a previous grant award for the costs of building works, including VAT, from English Heritage, Historic Scotland, Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments, Department of the Environment Northern Ireland, Heritage Lottery Fund or other Lottery distributor, places of worship will be required to pay the relevant proportion of the grant received from the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme back to the statutory agencies named above (unless the original grant was adjusted to take account of the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme).

Applicants may apply for a Listed Places of Worship grant and a grant from another statutory agency for the same work provided the grant from the other statutory body takes the Listed Places of Worship grant into account. Application information will be shared with the other statutory grant-giving bodies to ensure that public money is not, in effect, being paid twice.

Who Can Apply

The scheme applies to listed buildings that are mainly used as a place of public worship.

To be eligible, the place of worship must be listed with the relevant statutory listing agency (Historic England, CADW, Historic Scotland or Northern Ireland Environment Agency). The listing must be in force when the works are undertaken.

In addition, the building must meet one of the following criteria:

- Be used as a place of worship at least six times a year.
- Belong to a monastery, nunnery or other similar establishment.
- Be owned or vested in certain specific organisations which look after redundant churches. These are the Historic Chapels Trust, the Friends of Friendless Churches, the Scottish Redundant Churches Trust, the Churches Conservation Trust and the Welsh Religious Buildings Trust.

The scheme covers only formally constituted religious organisations. Applicants will be asked to certify that the religious organisation the place of worship serves:

- Has charitable status, or is recognised as a charity by HMRC.
- Is covered by a parochial church council or equivalent.

If neither of these applies, applicants will be asked to provide a copy of their constitution.

The DCMS will also consider applications from other religious or charitable groups caring for redundant places of worship. These groups will need to demonstrate that their principal or primary purpose is to conserve, repair and maintain redundant listed places of worship which are not in private ownership.

Location

United Kingdom

Restrictions

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Repairs to unlisted buildings.
- Claims for work carried out on buildings that were not listed at the time, regardless of whether they are then listed in the future.
- Ancillary listed buildings/stand-alone or separate structures unless they fulfil all the same conditions as the principal building.
- Private chapels and chapels at schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, prisons and almshouses, unless all of the following apply:
 - The building is available to the general public for at least six religious services a year, and that availability is publicised and is not by invitation only.
 - The building's sole or main purpose is as a place of public religious worship.
 - The costs of works are the responsibility of a local congregation or recognised faith group.
- A building used or available for use by a minister of religion wholly or mainly as a residence from which to perform the duties of his/her office.
- Areas of the building used for accommodation, unless they are being used as a temporary basis for the homeless or similar social/welfare purpose.

Ineligible costs

Internal:

- Audio-visual systems or components of systems
- Free-standing or fixed/detachable altars
- Free-standing or fixed/detachable fonts
- Free-standing or fixed/detachable monuments
- Detachable floor coverings – carpets, vinyl, removable tiles
- Decorative soft furnishings
- Items that constitute a moveable piece of furniture
- Areas of the building used for accommodation

External:

- Pavings
 - Tree removal (lopping where necessary to preserve the fabric of the building is eligible)
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- Ancillary buildings and structures such as boundary walls, gravestones and graveyard monuments, retaining walls, gates, gardens, lychgates or car parks
 - Railings (internal railings that are part of the fabric of the building are eligible)

General:

- Storage of items
- Materials alone
- General cleaning
- Local authority charges
- Maintenance plans
- Notice boards
- Shelving
- Cupboards (cupboards are only eligible where they are specially-supplied as part of a fitted kitchen or form an integrated kitchen facility which will remain permanently in position).
- Removable kitchen elements such as white goods, dishwashers, kettles and urns.
- Showers and baths, except where installed to support facilities for homeless/social and welfare purposes.
- Carpets, removable tiles, decorative soft furnishings
- Fixtures, fittings or decoration for commercial tenants

Professional fees:

- Accountancy services
- Costs associated with undertaking Quinquennial
- Inspections
- Local authority fees
- Diocesan faculty charges
- Solicitors and lawyers' fees
- Fundraising fees

Eligible Expenditure

Only works carried out to repair, maintain or alter the fabric of an existing listed building are eligible. To claim under the scheme, eligible works must be carried out by a VAT registered contractor.

Eligible works include the following:

Building

- Roofs
- Vestries
- Chancels
- Towers
- Crypts
- Undercrofts
- Parapet
- Purlin
- Re-plastering
- Re-pointing
- Stone works
- Timber (where related to the fabric)
- Rainwater Goods
- Guttering
- Windows

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- Window re-glazing
 - Window Grilles / Bars
 - Transepts
 - Pinnacles
 - Rhones
 - Gables
 - Drainage (rainwater, foul water, French drain, trench arch, or soak-away - all within the boundary walls)
 - Floors and floor coverings (only where permanent and within the fabric of the building. This includes timber, stone, ceramic, marble or solid floor)
 - Bell frames
 - Weathercocks
 - Spires
 - Lightning conductors
 - Flagpoles (only if on place of worship)
 - Crosses (only if on place of worship)

Internal

- Doors
- Altars and communion tables (if built into, or permanently incorporated into the fabric)
- Monuments (if built into, or permanently incorporated into the fabric)
- Fonts (if built into, or permanently incorporated into the fabric)
- Wall paintings / Murals
- Kitchens (this includes installation or repair of fitted kitchens and related electrical and plumbing work. Fixed items such as water boilers and wall-mounted water heaters are eligible. Cupboards are only eligible where they are specially-supplied as part of a fitted kitchen and are either fixed to the fabric of the building or form an integrated kitchen facility (excluding any electrical appliances/equipment)
- Permanently routed heating systems
- Turret clocks (from 1 October 2013)
- Bells, and bell ropes (from 1 October 2013)
- Bell frames
- Organs that are permanently fixed to the structure (from 1 October 2013)

General

- Damp treatment
 - Pest control – provided the pest has, or is likely to cause damage to the fabric of the building. If the invoice does not specify the type of pest, this must be included within the application.
 - Works to repair damage to the fabric of the building caused by bats and mitigation measures to reduce or prevent damage caused by bats is also eligible.
 - Repair of damage caused to the fabric as a result of pests or metal thefts (including replacement of stolen metals) are eligible where these expenses are not met by an insurance provider.
 - Asbestos removal
 - Locks and hinges
 - Stairs
 - Pews (kneelers, cushions and hassocks are only eligible where permanently attached to the pew)
 - Cleaning (if as a result of eligible repair, maintenance or alteration works)
 - Preliminaries (for eligible works only)
 - Professional fees directly relating to eligible works (from 1 October 2013)
 - Electrics
 - Plumbing (including toilets, hand basins and sinks and kitchen facilities)
 - Decoration such as carvings or stonework (where part of the fabric of the building)
 - Investigative works/surveys (only where carried out by a VAT registered contractor)
 - Security and forensic systems to prevent crime (burglar alarms, roof alarms, CCTV equipment, forensic marking, physical marking, special fixing, security lighting)
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- Handrails (although some may be eligible for zero-rating if installed as part of other eligible works to the building for disabled people).

Professional Fees

- Architects
- Architectural technologists
- Surveyors
- Conservation advisors
- Structural engineers
- Bat inspectors
- Archaeologists for work necessary for eligible building
- Projects (current or planned)
- Planning supervisors
- Health and safety advisors
- Maintenance plans
- Accredited conservationists

These lists are not exhaustive. If uncertain, please consult the scheme's website for clarification.

Note: although much of the terminology predominantly corresponds to features of Church of England places of worship (which account for the majority of claims on the scheme) the scheme is open to listed places of worship of all denominations and religions and aims to provide equivalent treatment to listed places of worship used by other denominations and religions.

How To Apply

This is a rolling programme. Applications can be made at any time.

The 2025/26 Scheme will close on 31 March 2026, or once the £23 million budget has been reached, whichever is earlier.

New Q&A guidance is available to provide more information on changes to the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme from 1 April 2025.

Applications are only accepted in arrears for works already completed.

The online application form and additional guidance are available from the website.

Contact the Listed Places of Worship Grants Team before submitting an application

Useful links

Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme
<http://www.lpwscheme.org.uk/>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

Listed Places of Worship Grants Team
East Midlands Business (EMB Group)
5 Merus Court

Meridian Business Park
Leicester
LE19 1RJ
Tel: 0800 500 3009
E-Mail: grants@lpwscheme.org.uk

Calls and deadlines

Information on future calls is indicative only and may be subject to change.

Deadline for Applications

Application start date:	-
Application end date:	31/03/2026
Frequency:	Key Deadline
