

Application Guidelines For a NZC Quick Wins Grant

The national church are funding grants to help parishes to fund simple steps to reduce their carbon emissions in line with the Practical Path to Net Zero. These grants will be distributed during 2024 and 2025 in a number of tranches.

Funding of up to £10,000 will be awarded for eligible stand-alone works and there are a number of criteria which must be met.

If you would like to apply for a NZC Quick Wins Grant, in the first instance please complete the [expression of interest form](#) and the Net Zero Carbon Officer (tabraham@stalbans.anglican.org) will then contact you to discuss your project.

1. ELIGIBILITY GUIDE

Churches and church halls where activities are taking place in a building owned by part of the Church of England are eligible. Buildings rented or leased from others, cathedrals, schools, housing and other building types are ineligible.

2. CROSS-FUNDING OF PROJECTS WITH OTHER BUILDING FOR MISSION OR NET ZERO CARBON GRANT STREAMS

Cross-funding of projects which meet the requirements of both the Building for Mission Minor Repairs and Improvements Fund and Quick Wins Fund is eligible.

Cross-funding the same project with other NZC grants is generally not eligible;

- For example, a NZC Demonstrator Church is not eligible to use Quick Wins grant funding towards the funds raised for their 50% contribution to stage 2 capital costs.
- The exception to this is the £3k grant offered following a fully subsidised energy audit. This £3k grant is intended as a contribution to support a church in undertaking the initial steps recommended by the audit. A church is therefore eligible to supplement this £3k grant with an additional Quick Wins grant.

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A church which has previously received a grant from the NZC Programme (for example a Give To Go Green match-funding grant) is eligible to subsequently receive a Quick Wins grant for a separate NZC project, where this project was not previously funded, or for NZC works which are the next step in a larger project to support the transition to net zero carbon. It is at the diocese's discretion to determine how best to distribute funds in an equitable manner.

3. LIST OF ELIGIBLE WORKS

a. Eligible Net Zero 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.
- B1. Where there is an uninsulated, easy-to access roof void, insulating the loft*.
- B2. Installing a glazed door within your porch or a draught-lobby*.
- B3. Creating one or more smaller (separately heatable) spaces for smaller events.
- B4. Fabric wall-hangings or panels, with an air gap behind.

Heating and lighting:

- A7. Matching heating settings better to usage *.
- A10. Replace lightbulbs with LEDs, where simple replacement is possible.
- A11. Replace floodlights with new LED units.
- A12. Install a HIVE- or NEST-type heating controller, to better control heating.
- A13. If current appliances fail, replace with A+++ appliances.
- B5. Learn how the building heats/cools and the link to comfort, by using data loggers.
- B6. Improve heating zones and controls.
- B7. Install TRVs on radiators in meeting rooms & offices.

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B8a. Under-pew electric heaters *.

B8b. Infra-red radiant panel heaters*.

B9. Magnetic sediment "sludge" filter to extend the life of the system.

B10. Thermal and/or motion sensors on lighting.

B11. Install energy-saving device such as Savawatt on fridges or other commercial appliances.

B12. Installing a smart meter, to better measure energy use.

b. 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.

c. 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.

d. 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

OX. Works not listed above but which have been confirmed as being eligible, under the change control process below. These works will be added to the central list.

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* 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.

4. SIZE OF GRANTS

Grants of up to £10,000 can be made, plus VAT for unlisted churches and work to listed churches which falls outside of the eligibility of the Listed Places of Worship (LPW) grant scheme (<https://listed-places-of-worship-grant.dcms.gov.uk/>). It is assumed that PCCs will apply to the LPW grant scheme wherever possible.

The objective of the NZC Quick Wins Grant is to address need and reduce carbon. This will be reflected in the way that projects and applications are prioritised (as set out above) with those with the potential to deliver the best value carbon savings prioritised. In addition, the level of grant awarded will usually be based on a parish's national IMD 'deprivation rank' as shown in the Church of England Parish Map - [Church of England parish map - Overview \(arcgis.com\)](https://www.parishmap.org.uk/).

The scale for grant rates will be as follows:

- Deprivation rank 6,236 to 12,307 – grant @ 50%
- Deprivation rank 5,012 to 6,235 – grant @ 60%
- Deprivation rank 3,812 to 5,011 – grant @ 70%
- Deprivation rank 2,558 to 3,811 – grant @ 80%
- Deprivation rank 1,232 to 2,557 – grant @ 90%
- Deprivation rank 1 to 1,231 – grant @ 90% (or more if exceptionally justified)

It is acknowledged that the deprivation profile of the households in the parish might not match the scale of need faced by the church. If the Diocese considers that there is a case for a different rate than those shown above, then it may depart from these limits.

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5. APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process for a NZC Quick Wins Grant is as follows:

- 1) Complete the [Expression of Interest form](#).
- 2) The Net Zero Carbon Officer contacts you to discuss your project/needs.
- 3) Complete and submit the Application Form, when advised by the Net Zero Carbon Officer that your project meets the criteria.
- 4) Include applicable supporting documentation, for example:
 - a. Quotes for works
 - b. Predicted impact on energy consumption (if known)
 - c. Relevant Faculty application information (if required)
- 5) Complete the [online form](#) for Grant Application Details
- 6) Applications will be reviewed by the Net Zero Carbon Officer, with recommendations made to the relevant Archdeacon, the Chair of the Parish Grants Committee and the DAC Secretary. Applications may be approved, declined or referred to the next Parish Grants Committee meeting for further consideration.

6. APPLICATION DEADLINES

Applications are now being received on a rolling basis to provide assistance to eligible parishes as quickly as possible.