**Church Improvement Fund (CIF) Net Zero grants: Net Zero Quick Win (NZQW) Guidance**

**Support for PCCs to move towards Net Zero by 2030**

**Background**

The Diocesan [Church Improvements Fund](https://www.coventry.anglican.org/church-improvements-fund.php) provides limited funding to PCCs wishing to improve the facilities of their church buildings. The aim is to future-proof mission by making church buildings fit for 21st century mission and ministry. The fund contains a branch, the *Church Improvement Fund – Net Zero (CIF-NZ)*, especially for projects that demonstrate a reduction in the church’s carbon footprint. Diocesan Synod have allocated £200k to the CIF-NZ for 2024. Of this, 10% (£20k) has been ring-fenced for a Net Zero Quick Win fund. This guidance outlines the types of works covered by the Quick Win fund, who is eligible and how to apply. Projects with a maximum cost of £3,000 are eligible. Parishes can apply for a Net Zero Quick Win grant of up to 50% of the total project cost, to a maximum of £1,500.

For larger projects parishes can apply for up to £25,000, 50% of the total project cost, by completing an expression of interest for a full CIF-NZ application.

**Eligibility**

Funding is available to PCCs for Churches & church buildings only, successful grants can only be paid into a PCC bank account. Parish Share must have been paid for the previous two years. Before an application is made, the church must be registered with A Rocha’s Eco Church scheme and be actively working towards an Eco Church award or have already obtained an award.  In addition, the PCC must have submitted their most recent return for the Energy Footprint Tool before the application is submitted. A Faculty may be required for some works, proof of faculty or proof that it is not required will be needed before the funds are released. You do not have to wait for faculty in order to submit the application, however, the grant offer is valid for one year and so you should start the faculty process as soon as possible. You can only receive one quick win grant per year. Any PCC which is successfully funded with a quick win grant will still be eligible to apply for larger CIF-NZ funding.

**The Application Process**

Completed applications should be emailed to Jo Hands, Governance and Grants Officer: [Jo.Hands@Coventry.Anglican.org](mailto:Jo.Hands@Coventry.Anglican.org) You will receive a receipt and reference number which must be quoted on all communications regarding the grant. The application will then pass through internal checks before being assessed via email, as required. This means there is no deadline for applications but there are limited funds so applications early in the year are encourged. If the application is successful you will be contacted by Jo Hands. An impact report will be required once the works are complete.

**What are we looking for?**

Grants will be awarded for applications that will lower the carbon footprint of a church’s buildings that are low cost, simple and give rapid results. Because funds are limited, costs and benefits will be carefully assessed and prioritised against the CofE [*Practical Path to Net Zero Carbon for Churches*](https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/the-practical-path-to-net-zero-carbon-numbered-Jan2020.pdf).

Measures could include:

* Pipe insulation, draught-proofing
* Insulating curtains
* Heated cushions
* Rugs
* Replacing old lighting with LEDs
* Replacing hot water tanks with under-sink boilers
* Thermostatic radiator valves or digital controls
* Motion sensors and timing systems

Before preparing an application, you are advised to:

1. View relevant Church of England Net Zero webinar recordings at: <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/webinars-getting-net-zero-carbon#na>
2. Review the Church of England’s Practical Pathway to Net Zero Checklist: <https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/PP2NZC_SelfGuidedChecklist_print_version.pdf>
3. Read the Net Zero Carbon Resource Document – available from Net Zero Carbon Project Officer
4. Have a conversation with our Net Zero Carbon Project Officer, Colin Angus: [Colin.Angus@Coventry.Anglican.org](mailto:Colin.Angus@Coventry.Anglican.org) and/or your Deanery Environmental Representative (DER)

**Church Improvement Fund (CIF) Net Zero Quick Win** **Application Form**

**Support for PCCs to move towards Net Zero by 2030**

**Diocese of Coventry - Church Improvement Fund - Net Zero Quick Win**

Name of church/ parish:

Parish number:

Project name:

Full church address:

Name of main contact:

Role of main contact:

Main contact email:

Main contact phone number: Date:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Q1 | Is your church registered with the Eco Church Scheme? | Yes / No |
| Q2 | Has your church been awarded a bronze, silver or gold Eco Church award? If so, which? |  |
| Q3 | Which Eco Church award is your church working towards? |  |
| Q4 | Do you know your church’s energy usage? | Yes / No |
| Q5 | Has your church submitted Energy Footprint Tool Data for the most recent entry? (See: <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/policy-and-thinking/our-views/environment-and-climate-change/about-our-environment/energy-footprint-tool>) | Yes / No |
| Q6 | Do you know approximately how many hours per week the building is in use? | Yes / No |
| Q7 | Have you had an energy audit from Green Journey or another company? | Yes / No |
| Q8 | What is the proposed project? | |
| Q9 | What is the total project cost?  *Please provide a breakdown of costs in Q15* | £  *(max £3,000)* |
| Q10 | How many quotations have been obtained for the work? (3 are recommended)  *Please list all* | |
| Q11 | Do the works need a Faculty and/or Listed Building consent? See: <https://facultyonline.churchofengland.org/home> | Yes / No |
| Q12 | If yes, have these permissions been applied for?  *Please provide the reference if so* | Yes / No  Reference: |
| Q13 | Has the project been endorsed by your church PCC? | Yes / No |
| Q14 | How will these improvements reduce carbon emissions? *Please include an estimate of the energy saving* | |

Q15 Budget *Please complete this table*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Cost from this grant** | **Cost from another source** | **Please state the other source** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| *Please add rows as needed* |  |  |  |
| **Total** £  *This should be the same as Q9 (Max £3,000)* | £  *(Max £1,500, 50% of total)* | £ |  |

Q16 Church finances: *please provide the following information for the last full accounting year:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Which accounting year does this relate to? |  |
| Expenditure: £ | Income: £ |
| Unrestricted reserves: £ | Restricted reserves: £ |

***I certify that the Parish Share has been paid in full for the previous two years and agree that future Parish Share will be paid in full***.

Signature: Date:

(Either Incumbent, Churchwarden or PCC Treasurer)

**Name Signature**

Project Leader:

Incumbent:

Thank you please email this form to [Jo.Hands@Coventry.Anglican.org](mailto:Jo.Hands@Coventry.Anglican.org)