

# Guidance note

## Sources of Funding for Conservation Projects

# ChurchCare



16,000 buildings. One resource



**This guide note is in four sections:**

- **Information sources**
- **Our grants**
- **The major grant givers**
- **Grants for the conservation of the contents of your church including bells and organs)**

### INFORMATION SOURCES

There are a number of funding directories which can direct you to trusts and grant making bodies appropriate for your specific project. Some are available free on the internet, others require a subscription fee. Your diocese may have a subscription to one of those and may be able to advise you further.

#### Free resources:

- **Charity Commission**  
The Charity Commission website includes the

Register of Charities that can be browsed and used to highlight trusts by name, object, or area of benefit.  
[www.charitycommission.gov.uk](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk)

- **Funding Central**  
Funding Central is a free website for the voluntary and community sector, including social enterprise, providing access to funding and finance opportunities, plus tools and resources supporting organisations to develop sustainable income strategies appropriate to their needs.  
[www.fundingcentral.org.uk](http://www.fundingcentral.org.uk)

- **Funds for Historic Buildings**  
There is a comprehensive free guide to funding for historic buildings, including churches, on the Funds for Historic Buildings website. As well as a searchable directory of funding sources, it contains information on making funding

applications, other resources and information on regeneration funding.  
[www.ffhb.org.uk](http://www.ffhb.org.uk)

- **Heritage Funding Directory**  
The Heritage Alliance's Heritage Funding Directory is a comprehensive guide to sources of financial support and resources for projects connected with the UK's heritage.  
[www.theheritagealliance.org.uk](http://www.theheritagealliance.org.uk)

#### Paid-for/subscription Resources:

- **Directory of Grant-Making Trusts**  
The major source for identifying suitable trusts is the Directory of Grant-Making Trusts, published by: *The Directory of Social Change, 24 Stephenson Way London NW1 2DP*  
T: 08450 77 77 07  
E: [publications@dsc.org.uk](mailto:publications@dsc.org.uk)  
[www.dsc.org.uk](http://www.dsc.org.uk)

This guidance is issued by the Church Buildings Council under section 55(1)(d) of the Dioceses, Mission and Pastoral Measure 2007. As it is statutory guidance, it must be considered with great care. The standards of good practice set out in the guidance should not be departed from unless the departure is justified by reasons that are spelled out clearly, logically and convincingly.





The Directory is also available at main public reference libraries and as a subscription service online. Some dioceses have a copy of the Directory that they are prepared to let parishes borrow. The Directory lists a large number of organisations that may accept applications for grant-aid, states their relevant criteria, and indicates the approximate annual income of each charity. It also contains important advice on how to present your applications.

## • **Directory of Social Change**

Trustfunding, the website database of the Directory of Social Change, contains information on over 4,200 grant making trusts. You need to register and pay a subscription in order to access the database.  
[www.trustfunding.org.uk](http://www.trustfunding.org.uk)

- **Government Funding** is a similar subscription website that provides information on government grants for the voluntary and community sector from a range of government departments.  
[www.governmentfunding.org.uk](http://www.governmentfunding.org.uk)

## **OUR GRANTS**

The Cathedral and Church Buildings Division works in

partnership with various grant-giving bodies to provide funding for church conservation projects. Grants support PCCs and Friends groups in the conservation of listed church buildings and their historic contents.

Grants include:

- surveys/conservation reports
- bells
- books and manuscripts
- clocks
- church plate
- churchyard structures
- fabric repairs
- metalwork
- monuments
- organs
- paintings and wall paintings
- stained glass
- textiles
- historic timberwork

Information on grants, and how to apply, can be found on the ChurchCare website – [www.churchcare.co.uk](http://www.churchcare.co.uk) – or by contacting T: 020 7898 1863.

## **THE MAJOR GRANT GIVERS**

### • **Grants for Places of Worship**

Few parishes can raise enough money to meet the cost of a major repair without help from grant-making bodies. The major

source in England is now the **Grants for Places of Worship funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF)**.

The scheme may make a grant provided:

- The building is listed at Grade I, II\* or II. If you need to check whether your church is listed contact your local authority's planning department, or the Diocesan Office.
- The church is used for public worship on at least six days a year and is open to the public outside the normal hours of worship on at least forty days.

The grant will be used to pay for urgent structural repairs identified in a recent condition survey as being necessary within the next two years. Other urgent repairs to historic fabric at risk of loss can also be considered. New capital works and improvements to heating and electrical systems and to improve energy efficiency can be included provided they are no more than 15% of the total project cost.

The work must cost more than £10,000 and less than £250,000 and can be carried out under one contract.





Grants of £250,000 and more can be considered in exceptional circumstances. Grants are never made retrospectively for work started before a written grant offer has been made and accepted.

Full details of the scheme and an application pack can be obtained from the Heritage Lottery Fund website or by contacting the Heritage Lottery Fund:  
*The Heritage Lottery Fund  
Head Office  
7 Holbein Place  
London SW1W 8NR  
T: 020 7591 6042/6044  
E: enquire@hlf.org.uk  
www.hlf.org.uk*

The Heritage Lottery Fund can also offer grants for conservation of historic furnishings in churches. To receive a grant your project must:

- help people to learn about their own and other people's heritage

Your project must also do either or both of the following:

- conserve the UK's diverse heritage for present and future generations to experience and enjoy;
- help more people, and a wider range of people, to take an active part in and

make decisions about heritage.

The *Sharing Heritage* programme offers grants between £3,000 and £10,000. It is the general small grants programme for all types of heritage projects, particularly designed for voluntary and community groups and first time applicants.

The *Our Heritage* programme offers grants between £10,000 and £100,000, for not-for-profit organisations and private owners of heritage. The purpose of the grant is to fund projects that make a lasting difference to people and their heritage.

The *Heritage Grants* programme offers grants of more than £100,000 for projects which conserve and enhance our diverse heritage, or encourage more people to be involved in their heritage, or both.

The *Young Roots* grant scheme offers grants of between £3,000 and £50,000, for projects led by young people. It aims to involve 11- 25 year-olds in finding out about their heritage, developing skills, building confidence and promoting community involvement.

Information about all these schemes is available from [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk)

- **Big Lottery Fund 'Awards For All' Scheme**  
T: 0845 4 10 20 30  
E: [general.enquiries@awardsforall.org.uk](mailto:general.enquiries@awardsforall.org.uk)  
[www.awardsforall.org.uk](http://www.awardsforall.org.uk)

Awards for All is a Lottery grants scheme funding small, local community-based projects in the UK. Awards for All England offers grants of between £300 and £10,000 for projects that improve communities, and the lives of people within them. It is for voluntary and community groups, schools and health organisations, parish and town councils.

- **The Arts Council**  
The Grants for the Arts scheme, administered by the Arts Council, may be of assistance for churches seeking to improve their cultural facilities e.g. use for concerts, plays etc., and to commission contemporary art and craft work.  
[www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)

It may also assist major organ reconstruction projects for concert use (although for the conservation of historic instruments application should be made to the





Heritage Lottery Fund). It is advisable to discuss any possible application with the Arts Council as early as possible. Contact:

*Arts Council England  
14 Great Peter Street  
London SW1P 3NQ  
T: 0845 300 6200  
E:enquiries@artscouncil.org.uk  
www.artscouncil.org.uk*

- **The Landfill Communities Fund**

(formerly the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme) This tax credit scheme enables operators of landfill sites to voluntarily contribute money towards projects that create significant environmental benefits and improve the lives of communities living near landfill sites. Although some landfill operators offer direct funding, most donate their credits to independent 'distributive environmental bodies' who in turn specialise in funding the projects described above. The regulator of the scheme ENTRUST has a website that explains how the Fund works and also gives a full list of organisations that provide funding across the UK.  
*www.entrust.org.uk*

There are two environmental 'objects'

which are relevant to churches:

- Object D: projects that provide or maintain public amenities or parks within 10 miles of a landfill site
- Object E: projects to restore or repair buildings for religious worship, or of architectural or historical interest within 10 miles of a landfill site.

Some local councils, dioceses and county historic churches trusts have already enrolled in the scheme so you should check with the relevant local authority and with your diocese.

- **The Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme**

The LPW Grant Scheme currently makes grants towards the VAT incurred making repairs and alterations to listed buildings in the UK that are primarily in use for public worship. The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) manages the policy governing the scheme, while administration is carried out by remote contractors.

*T: 0845 601 5945  
www.lpwscheme.org.uk*

- **National Churches Trust**  
The Trust supports a wide variety of projects in places

of worship across the UK.

Their repair grants programme offers grants of £10,000 and above towards the cost of urgent and essential structural repair projects (including repairs to roofs and rainwater goods). You can find more information:  
*www.nationalchurchestrust.org*

## **GRANTS FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE CONTENTS OF YOUR CHURCH**

The Heritage Lottery Fund is able to offer grants for conservation of historic furnishings – see major grant givers, above. A list of examples of HLF funded church projects is available on the ChurchCare website.

Apart from the major grant givers and the Cathedral and Church Buildings Division conservation grants, there are a number of other organisations which can help you fund the conservation of your church's furnishings and fittings as well as churchyard furnishings, memorials and tombs.

- **The Leche Trust**

The Trust offers grants for the preservation of buildings and their contents and the repair and conservation of church furniture (including such items as monuments, but excluding structural





repairs to the fabric). Preference is given to buildings and objects of the Georgian period.

*Secretary: Mrs Louisa Lawson*

*84 Cicada Road  
London SW18 2NZ*

*T: 020 8870 6233*

*E: info@lechetrust.org*

*www.lechetrust.org*

- **The William and Jane Morris Fund**

Preference is given to limited programmes of work connected with conservation of decorative features, e.g. stained glass, sculpture, furniture, textiles, monuments and tombs. Grants are allocated annually, and application forms must be submitted by 31st August for consideration in the following November or by 31st March for consideration in the following May.

*c/o The General Secretary*

*Society of Antiquaries*

*Burlington House*

*Piccadilly*

*London W1J 0BE*

*T: 020 7479 7080*

*E: admin@sal.org.uk*

*www.sal.org.uk/grants/williamandjanemorris*

- **The Sharpe Trust**

The Trust administers grants for the maintenance, repair, and restoration of church bells in England and Wales.

*c/o The Grant Secretary*

*Mr A Strickland*

*71 North Home Road*

*Cirencester*

*GL7 1DS*

*T: 01285 885734*

*E: Alan.strickland4@btinternet.com*

*www.sharpetrustees.org.uk*

- **The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers**

The CCCBR administers two funds for bell restoration, the Central Council's Bell Restoration Fund and the Fred E Dukes International Bell Fund (for bell restorations outside the British Isles).

When funds are available, applications for the Bell Restoration Fund are invited by notices in *The Ringing World* and on the CCCBR website, generally in December or January.

*c/o The Hon Secretary*

*Mrs Mary Bone*

*11 Bullfields*

*Sawbridgeworth*

*CM21 9DB*

*T: 01279 726159*

*E: secretary@cccbr.org.uk*

*www.cccbr.org.uk*

- **The British Institute of Organ Studies (BIOS)**

BIOS has produced a leaflet 'Grants for Funding Work on Historic Pipe Organs'. This gives details of charities that have made grants towards

the conservation of historic organs. It also gives useful information about the preparation of organ appeals and how to research the history of your instrument. This guide is available at *www.bios.org.uk*

- **The O N Organ Fund**

The fund offers grants for the provision and restoration of pipe organs in the British Isles. Grant applications are welcomed before the closing dates of 31 March and 30 September.

*The Secretary*

*Dr Alan Thurlow*

*8 Old Bakery Gardens*

*Chichester*

*West Sussex*

*PO19 8AJ*

*E: alanjthurlow@btinternet.com*

*www.onorganfund.org.uk*

- **The Pilling Trust**

The Trust is particularly interested in churches that maintain an active choral tradition. They will consider new organs and electronic instruments.

*Waterworths*

*Central Buildings*

*Richmond Terrace*

*Blackburn*

*Lancashire BB1 7AP*

*T: 01254 51123*

- **Heritage Lottery Fund**

The Heritage Lottery Fund can offer grant aid for schemes for organs that





show wider community benefits ([www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk)), and, for organs used heavily for public performance. The Arts Council can also consider applications

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