

Grant Information for Churches in Durham Diocese – Updated March 2023

Below are the organisations that have recently provided grants to churches within the diocese. A fuller list of grant providers can be found at the following link [Charitable-Grants-for-Churches-Jul-2020.pdf \(parishresources.org.uk\)](#)

Name	Purpose of grants	Amounts awarded	Areas covered	Website Links / Contact
Durham Diocese Church Building Fund	To cover development and maintenance work to church buildings	Upto £4000	Diocese	martin.howard@durham.anglican.org
Northumbria Historic Churches Trust	To help churches of historic interest with the cost of repairs	Upto £5000	Diocese	Northumbria Historic Churches Trust
National Churches Trust	Our grants are available to any Christian place of worship in the UK that is open for regular worship. They help keep church buildings in good repair, open for worship and community activities, and allow them to continue to serve people, communities and visitors in all sorts of ways.	Three different grant funds. Foundation <£10k Gateway £10-£100k Cornerstone >£30k	National	National Churches Trust
Sir John Priestman Trust	The Trust takes an interest in the maintenance of Church of England buildings, including the repair and renovation of organs.	Up to £10k has been awarded to churches in the diocese.	Diocese	National Churches Trust 0191 567 4857
The Mercers' Company	We aim to support churches, other faith and community-based organisations that strengthen communities and families. The work seeks to build positive and inclusive relationships between people, increase a sense of belonging and reduce isolation.	£10000 - £100000	County Durham Tees Valley Tyne & Wear	Church & Communities Mercers
Benefact Trust (Formerly Allchurches Trust)	Benefact Trust's General Grants Programme supports projects that demonstrate an impact on people and communities. They have a Building Improvement Fund which includes Solar panels	£1000 - £15000	National	Benefact Trust
Sir James Knott Trust	Fund a range of projects across the NE including work to historic buildings	Up to £30000	Northeast	Sir James Knott Trust
The Wolfson Foundation	The majority of their grants are for capital infrastructure, i.e. buildings (new build and refurbishment) and equipment.	Varies	National	The Wolfson Foundation
County Durham Community Foundation	We provide a range of grants for voluntary and community groups, registered charities, community interest companies, and organisations with charitable aims.	Up to £5000	County Durham	County Durham Community Foundation
Gateshead Council	May offer grants for community projects and energy grants.	N/A	Gateshead	Grants and Financial Assistance - Gateshead Council
Sunderland City Council (Community Fund)	Projects which will ... -create alternative energy sources for use in the local community. -deliver a reduction of energy consumption in the local community. -reduce or reverse negative social and/or environmental impacts in the local community.	Varies	Sunderland	Sunderland Local Community Fund (Empower)
Grantscape – Landfill Communities Fund	GrantScape is a charity which specialises in community benefit fund grant administration and management.	Varies	National	Grantscape

Congregational & General Charitable Trust	They will normally be for capital projects involving building work: repairs, improvements or extensions.	£1000 - £25000 Max 25% of project	National	https://www.candgtrust.org.uk
Garfield Weston Foundation	We support a wide range of charities that make a positive difference, working in different sectors in the UK. These include welfare, youth, community, environment, education, health, arts, heritage and faith.	Max 10% of project <£30000	National	Home - Garfield Weston Foundation
Bernard Sunley Foundation	We are a family grant making foundation which supports charities in England and Wales working to raise the quality of life and provide greater opportunities for the young, the elderly, the disabled and the disadvantaged.	Upto £20,000 Smaller grants of up to £5000 awarded monthly	National	Bernard Sunley Foundation
We are not aware that the following trust has provided any churches in the diocese but may be useful for any community projects				
The Clothworkers Foundation	We award grants to UK registered charities. They would not fund work on church buildings but may fund community projects.	Larger projects £100k+ (up to 10%) Smaller projects £10k (50-100%)		The Clothworkers' Foundation
The Joicey Trust	Grants are made across a wide spectrum for either revenue (including 'core funding') or capital expenditure.	Normally a maximum of 10% of cost	All NE & SR postcodes + DH4/5	The Joicey Trust
For any churches within Heritage Action Zones, additional funding may be available via the manager of the HAZ.				

I have not included information on Cultural Recovery Grants as I do not believe these are still available.

If your church is a listed building you are able to claim the VAT back on maintenance and repairs through the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme. For details on how to claim please visit their website. [Listed Places of Worship \(lpwsceme.org.uk\)](http://www.lpwsceme.org.uk)

If you are looking for funding a project to help you reach Net Zero Carbon the Church of England site below has some useful guidance

[Fundraising for Net Zero Carbon and the Environment | The Church of England](#)

Below are some other sources of general grant information that you may find useful.

<https://www.grantsonline.org.uk/>

[List of grant funders for churches | Church Fundraising | Ecclesiastical](#)

[Funder Search | Finding funding | Landfill Communities Fund - ENTRUST](#)

https://www.fundingforall.org.uk/fund_category/community-buildings-halls/ (Please note the website is based in Kent but many of the grant funders are national. Please check the areas that they serve before exploring further)

If you are in receipt of any other grants, please let me know on martin.howard@durham.anglican.org so that I can update this list regularly.