

Grant Information for Churches in Durham Diocese – Updated April 2025

Below are the organisations that have recently provided grants to churches within the diocese.

Grant Funder	Amount of Grant	Time to Apply	Application details	Decision Period	Purpose of grants	Further details
Cookson Trust	Generally £1000	One Hours	One online page to complete simply name, description of project and bank details.	Generally will receive an email within one month	Catherine Cookson Trust makes donations to worthy causes in the UK, especially in North East England where Dame Catherine grew up.	https://tinyurl.com/npw63cpr
Anchor Foundation	Up to £12k	Two Hours	One online page to complete details on project.	Currently unknown	Supporting Christian Charities concerned with social inclusion, particularly through ministries of healing and the arts	https://tinyurl.com/28385pmp
Diocesan Minor Repairs & Improvement Fund	Up to £6k	Two Hours	One page application form.	Rolling application programme	To cover development and maintenance work to church buildings	https://tinyurl.com/ycm8jkfp
Diocesan Quick Wins Fund	Up to £6k	Two Hours	One page application form.	Rolling application programme	To cover development and maintenance work to church buildings which will help reduce the carbon output of the church.	https://tinyurl.com/ycm8jkfp
Sir John Priestman Trust	Up to £10k	Three Hours	Send a letter with the project details and that it is acting as a request for funds.	Quarterly Meeting Jan, Apr, etc.	The Trust takes an interest in the maintenance of Church of England buildings, including the repair and renovation of organs.	Letter to 47 John Street, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear SR1 1QU Phone: 01915674857 Email: georgejohnston@mckenzie-bell.co.uk
Beatrice Laing	Around £10k but can be more	Three Hours	Letter needed on project with a detailed budget breakdown. Annual report and audited accounts. A SAE (no bigger than C5).	3 month response rate after initial application	The Beatrice Laing Trust was established in 1952 by Sir John Laing for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the advancement of the evangelical Christian faith, at home and abroad the relief of poverty 	Letter to The Laing Family Trusts 33 Bunns Lane Mill Hill LONDON NW7 2DX
Northumbria Historic Churches trust	Up to £10k	Half a day	Online portal requiring multiple areas from project description, impact, cost break down. Requires QI, safeguarding docs, photos of church, accounts, statement from the PCC.	Panel sits Feb, June, Nov	To help churches of historic interest with the cost of repairs	https://tinyurl.com/yet7je9k

Benefact trust	Generally £3k but up to, £42k for over £1M	One week	Online portal New application being launched at end of May. Current system closes at 5pm on 19th May 2025.	Rolling programme, panel sit quarterly	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	https://tinyurl.com/bdhbr3mn
Heritage Fund (smaller grants)	£10k to £250k	One to two weeks	Online portal 8000 words needed to answer multiple sections, requires QI, safeguarding docs, photos of Church inside and out, Audited accounts, statement from the PCC and proof of ownership.	Rolling programme with 8 week turnaround	Our funding programme for all types of heritage projects in the UK, including applications for our strategic initiatives.	https://tinyurl.com/yc8zr92u
Joseph Rank	Generally give up to £30k	One week	Letter required describing the project, faculty required. Recommended to make a video putting out an appeal to community for funds and highlight this in the letter.	Quarterly programme often over subscribed. Apply when it opens.	The Trust funds grants for capital expenditure <u>or</u> three-year grants for running (core) costs. Ensure you have other sources of funding or can match any funding the Trust might provide	https://tinyurl.com/yzeuj9s4
Garfield Weston	Around £30k	Two weeks	Online application portal and a pre application enquiry form.	Rolling programme	Support a wide range of charities that make a positive difference, working in different sectors in the UK.	https://tinyurl.com/4arrxuv8
Heritage Fund (large grants)	Over £250k	Three weeks	All the above from small grants, potentially a project enquiry form, meetings and zoom calls.	Quarterly if not over subscribed.	Our funding programme for all types of heritage projects in the UK, including applications for our strategic initiatives.	https://tinyurl.com/yc8zr92u
Clothworkers	Can give £100k +	One week	Eligibility quiz and online application portal.	Decision within six months	We award grants to UK registered charities. They would not fund work on church buildings but may fund community projects.	https://tinyurl.com/r862dnrf

A larger number of other grants are available and you can find details on the following websites.

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

[List of grant funders for churches](#) | [Church Fundraising](#) | [Ecclesiastical Funder Search](#) | [Finding funding](#) | [Landfill Communities Fund - ENTRUST](#)
[Charity Grants Tracking](#) | [Giving is Great](#)
[360Giving GrantNav](#)

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](#)