

Net Zero Action Plan -Phase 2

Step 1: Review of actions that have taken place already from your “Quick Wins” Actions

During phase one of your action plan you identified some “Quick Wins” which need to be reviewed. You may not have done them all as yet but this is your opportunity to review where you are up to.

	Action	Completed Y/N?	Next Steps	Further resources required
1	<i>Clear all the gutters and drain pipes to ensure all walls are kept dry.</i>	<i>Y</i>	<i>Book contractor to carry out an autumn gutter clear. Arrange another work party for November</i>	<i>Add to budget for 2025</i>
2	<i>Change times of the regular church prayer meetings to follow on from a previous activity and reduce heating times.</i>	<i>Y</i>	<i>Consider meeting in homes every other week during winter months.</i>	<i>None</i>
3	<i>Change light fittings to LED lights in the most used areas.</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Quote obtained. Contact Archdeacon for permission.</i>	<i>Add other lights to 2025 budget.</i>

The action plan will be a live document and reviews need to be built into the final action plan. Some of these reviews will be undertaken by the Net Zero Carbon Lead or the NZC Working Group if you have one, but it is important that the action plan is reviewed regularly by the whole PCC. The PCC will need to decide how often this is and the frequency may vary depending on how quickly plans are moving ahead.

If you have a church magazine or newsletter it would be good to have regular articles to keep the whole congregation aware of the Net Zero Carbon Plans for the church.

Step 2: Using the carbon data that you collated as part of Phase 1, identify priority areas for reduction.

This is just the information taken straight from the Energy Footprint Tool. It is useful to look at the different buildings (or parts of buildings) separately and identify specific targets relevant to the building.

	Building 1	Building 2	Building 3
Name <i>e.g. church, hall</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Hall</i>	<i>Annex</i>
Size (sqm)	<i>565</i>	<i>420</i>	<i>95</i>
Energy sources used <i>(gas, electricity, oil)</i>	<i>Gas & Electricity</i>	<i>Gas & Electricity</i>	<i>Electricity</i>
Carbon emitted	<i>5.6 Tonnes CO2e</i>	<i>8.7 Tonnes CO2e</i>	<i>1.2 Tonnes CO2e</i>
Target 1	<i>Reduce the amount of heating used during the winter months by moving midweek meetings into the Annex</i>	<i>Reduce the amount of electricity used to light the building.</i>	<i>Investigate more efficient heating systems.</i>
Target 2	<i>Investigate ways to reduce heat loss when main church doors are open.</i>	<i>Investigate more efficient heating control system, to reduce wated energy.</i>	<i>Investigate sensors for external and entrance lighting.</i>

Step 3: Using the Targets identified in Step 2 along with the Medium and Long Term Priorities identified in Phase 1, agree on priorities and begin to develop action plans for each priority

These are likely to be from phase 1 but your priorities may have changed due to external factors so don't feel that these have to all be from phase one if others are now relevant. Deadlines are important but they also need to be realistic, don't try to get everything done in the next few weeks. Some of your priorities may take several years to develop.

Overleaf are a couple of examples just to help guide you. Some priorities may only have a couple of actions, whereas some will have a lot more.

Some churches will have lots of smaller priorities, whereas some will have a few larger priorities. It is important that the priorities are the right ones to help you get to Net Zero Carbon by 2030.

Priority 1 <i>Zoned heating system</i>				
Details	<i>Divide existing heating system into 3 zones so that the main church, vestry and meeting rooms can be heated separately using the existing boiler. Therefore reducing the amount of gas used and avoid heating empty spaces.</i>			Overall Lead for priority 1
				<i>M. Smith</i>
	Key action	Resources required	Deadline	Who will lead this?
Action 1	<i>Obtain quotes for adding zone valves and necessary pipework.</i>	<i>Time to meet contractors.</i>	<i>14/9/24</i>	<i>F.Bloggs</i>
Action 2	<i>Research different types of SMART thermostats that will allow the zones to work efficiently.</i>	<i>None other than time.</i>	<i>14/9/24</i>	<i>P.Jones</i>
Action 3	<i>Check with DAC Secretary if a faculty will be required for the work.</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>15/8/24</i>	<i>Churchwarden</i>
Action 4	<i>Complete faculty application</i>	<i>Access to the Online Faculty System & Time</i>	<i>30/10/24</i>	<i>Churchwarden</i>
Action 5	<i>Agree on proposal.</i>	<i>PCC agenda item. Sufficient funds in budget.</i>	<i>12/11/24</i>	<i>M.Smith</i>
Notes	<i>If faculty is not required it can be discussed at the October PCC meeting.</i>			

Priority 2 <i>Install Smart Meters</i>				
Details	<i>Install smart meters for both gas and electricity to allow energy usage to be tracked closely and to identify times of peak usage.</i>			Overall Lead for priority 3
				<i>M.Smith</i>
	Key action	Resources required	Deadline	Who will lead this?
Action 1	<i>Contact utility companies to arrange for them to install smart meters.</i>	<i>Time to contact utility companies</i>	<i>30/9/24</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
Action 2	<i>Ask someone to take on the monitoring of energy usage.</i>	<i>Time at staff meeting to discuss who might have the relevant skills.</i>	<i>15/9/24</i>	<i>Vicar</i>
Action 3	<i>Make formal appointment to the role at PCC meeting</i>	<i>Item on PCC agenda</i>	<i>17/9/24</i>	<i>Vicar</i>
Notes	<i>Energy reporting to be included in PCC agenda every quarter.</i>			

Step 4: Review proposed actions with PCC.

It is important that these priorities are led by the PCC and not just a small group. If you are to be successful you will need to have the whole church behind these priorities as everyone needs to understand why changes are being made.

Date of PCC	<i>23/11/2024</i>
Notes from PCC meeting	<i>Either add notes from the PCC discussions or copy the relevant part of the PCC minutes.</i>

Step 5: Looking at your action plans, what are the potential barriers that you will need to overcome?

You will inevitably identify some barriers to achieving your priorities and it is important at this stage to acknowledge that there will be barriers. You will only be able to overcome the barriers if you know that they exist. Some may appear to be out of your control at the moment but often the process of identifying them actually helps you find a solution.

Potential Barriers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Lack of finance to make the changes to the building.</i><i>Lack of knowledge of which interventions might have the best impact on reducing carbon.</i><i>Getting the whole congregation on board with the plans.</i><i>Lack of time to do something "extra".</i>
Resources needed to overcome these barriers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Information from Bethan or Martin on the different options that might be suitable for our church.</i><i>Funding from the Diocese / Church of England to support this.</i><i>Support with grant applications.</i><i>Time!</i>

For any further support please contact

Bethan Still Diocesan Environmental Officer Tel. 07939393208

Martin Howard Buildings For Mission Secretary Tel. 07586090996

Or email netzero@durham.anglican.org

The completed form should be emailed to netzero@durham.anglican.org no later than 31/12/2024.

