Update on the Net Zero Carbon programme

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Net zero carbon routemap | The Church of England
Headline figures

- The church of England’s carbon footprint in 2021 is estimated at 411,000 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (CO₂e)
- This is slightly lower than our estimated carbon footprint in 2020, which was 415,000 tonnes
- Almost half of the estimated emissions from buildings come from schools, with a further third of emissions coming from church buildings and halls
- We cannot say whether any of the apparent increases or decreases from 2020’s estimate are a result of any material change or simply a better estimate from a more complete sample

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Type</th>
<th>Number of Buildings</th>
<th>Total Estimated Net CO₂e (2020)</th>
<th>Total Estimated Net CO₂e (2021)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Churches</td>
<td>15,500</td>
<td>118,000</td>
<td>110,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church Halls</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>19,000</td>
<td>16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>195,000</td>
<td>196,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>9,500</td>
<td>69,000</td>
<td>72,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCIs</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>2,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedrals</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>9,500</td>
<td>8,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEs</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Peculiars</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diocesan Offices</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>1,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other diocesan property</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work-related travel</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>Not collected</td>
<td>1,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>32,234</td>
<td>415,000</td>
<td>411,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Where our emissions come from:

- Schools (48%)
- Churches (27%)
- Church Halls (4%)
- Housing (18%)
- Cathedrals (2%)
- NCIs (1%)
- TEIs (<1%)
- Other property (<1%)
- Work-related travel (<1%)
Church Commissioners’ triennium funding £190m to Net Zero programme over 9 yrs

• One-off investment in the transition towards a lower carbon approach
• Demonstrating leadership in the way the Church responds to the Climate Emergency in what is a critical decade
• Routemap to Net Zero 2030 goal identifies immediate priority investment areas
• Sharing learning, leveraging additional funding, partnership working, and responding to technological developments will all be key
• Net Zero goal is also supported by Buildings for mission funding, which gives enhanced support on buildings management for parishes and worshipping communities
As well as the main Routemap, there are tailored summaries for each main group:

- **Cathedrals**: Milestones for cathedrals to achieve net zero carbon by 2030. [Learn more](#)
- **Churches**: Milestones for churches to achieve net zero carbon by 2030. [Learn more](#)
- **Dioceses**: Milestones for dioceses to achieve net zero carbon by 2030. [Learn more](#)
- **Schools**: Milestones for schools to achieve net zero carbon by 2030. [Learn more](#)
- **Theological education institutions**: Milestones for theological education institutions to achieve net zero carbon by 2030. [Learn more](#)
The NZC triennium funding is c.£190m over 9 years, with £30m in 2023-2025. These are the priorities:

1. People
   - Capacity building
   - Hearts & minds

2. Preparation / learning
   - Net Zero Carbon Action plans
   - Demonstrator projects (stage 1 preparation, stage 2 capital works)
   - Innovation / pilots
   - Procurement

3. Quick wins
   - Small energy-saving grants
   - Electrical grid connection
   - Stop-gap heating solutions
   - Switching campaign
   - Create and share resources

Evaluation
- Continue those elements which are still needed
- Capital programmes (packages of grant & lending)
- Scale-up successful approaches

Evaluation
- 2029/2030
  - Continue those elements still needed
  - Capital programmes (packages of grant & lending)
  - Develop measures for next phase of emissions, after 2030
  - Develop approach to offsetting

2031
- Measure, evaluate, review and report

4. Fundraising and investment models
5. Strategic partnerships
6. Programme management

C.415,000 tCO2e pa of carbon emissions to be reduced to net zero over 8 years.
To achieve this will require the £190m to be used as leverage to source far more funding from other routes.
We are developing a set of funding streams. In this triennium, we are working thematically. This could evolve for the next triennium:

**Feb:** initial proposals for **CHURCHES**

**April:** initial proposals for **CATHEDRALS**

**July:**

**INVESTMENT DECISIONS**

**SCHOOLS**

**HOUSING**
Cathedral Milestones

From 2022

All cathedrals to **begin to develop a Net Zero Carbon Action Plan**, which include, as a minimum:

- low-carbon heating options to replace fossil-fuel heating at end-of-life, such as heat pumps or far infra-red heating panels
- a Heating Resilience Plan which should consider how to manage heat should the existing system fail
Cathedral Milestones

By End 2023

- All cathedrals registered for Eco Church and achieve Bronze.

- Once complete, read the sustainability review and consider how recommendations can be implemented.

- All cathedrals to complete the Energy Toolkit, available at eft.parishreturns.info
By End 2024

Switch to 100% green electricity tariff at contract renewal, or

switch to a green gas tariff at the point of contract renewal,

By End 2025

• No new oil boilers installed

• review opportunities to install electric charging for coaches.
## Cathedral Milestones

### By End 2027
- Complete work on the **Net Zero Carbon Action Plan**

### By End 2030
- Complete all actions in your **Net Zero Carbon Action Plan**.
What We’re doing to support you:

• Working with the Bishoprics & Cathedrals Team to scope the net zero options for each Cathedral and progress some **Demonstrator Cathedrals projects**

• Providing information and support through the **Net Zero Carbon Resource Hub**

• Establishing a **Quick Wins Fund** and a **Pilot and Innovation Fund** to develop best practice

• Developing a **Communications & Engagement Strategy** to share best practice

• Planning a **Net Zero Carbon Conference** to share learning

• **Talk to us about your ideas;** what would really make a difference?
“We choose to go to the moon. We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard, because that goal will serve to organise and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one which we intend to win……”

President John F Kennedy,
12th September 1962
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