NZC: Audit To Action

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Creation Care

An opportunity for our:

- Discipleship
- Mission
- Resource stewardship

Psalm 24, v1

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it;

What's Our Commitment?

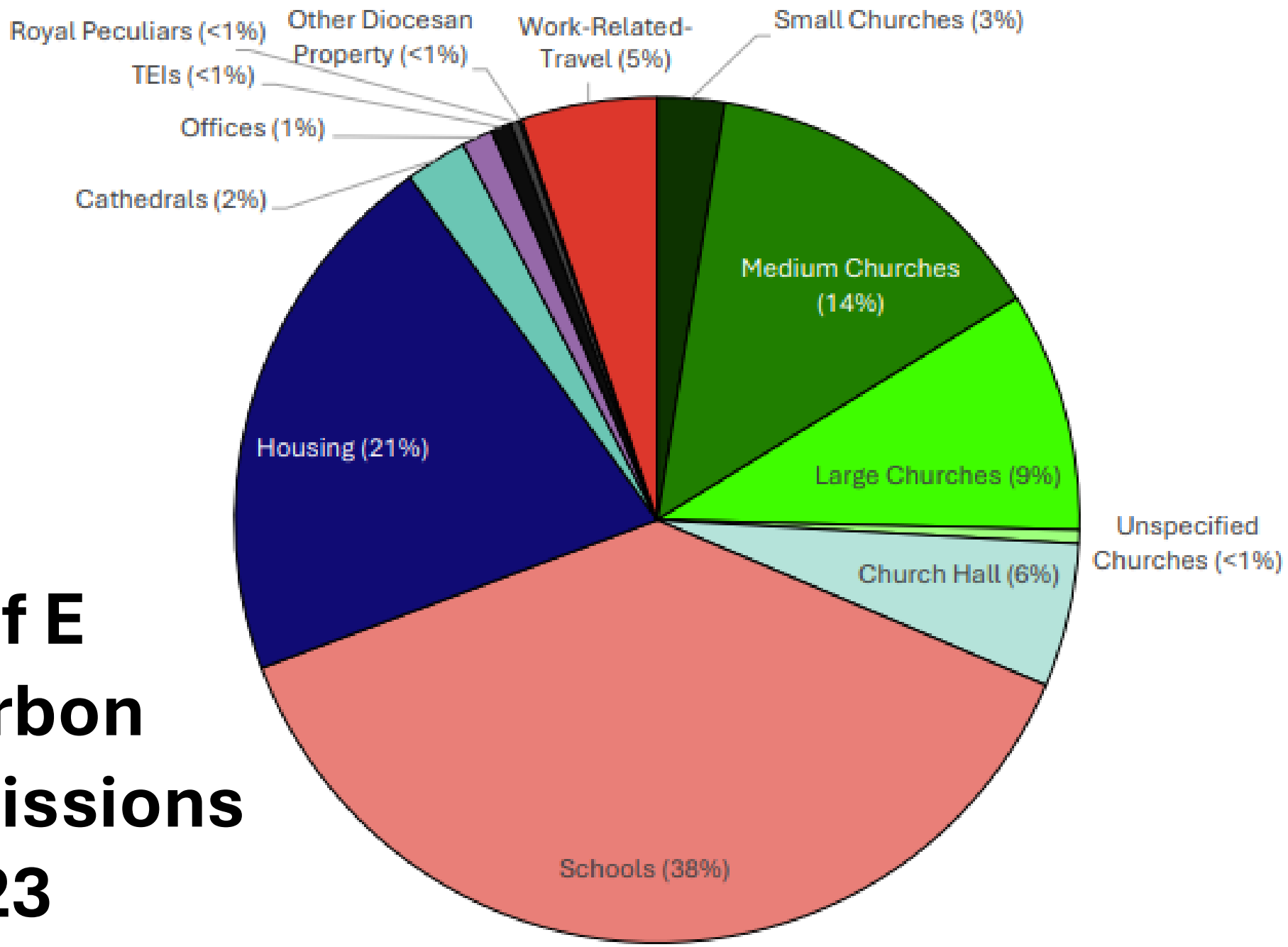
The Church of England nationally and at diocesan level have a target to get to Net Zero by 2030 in our scope 1 and 2 emissions.

This means focusing on reducing or offsetting our emissions from:

- Electricity use
- Building emissions from gas & oil heating
- Reimbursable travel

Net Zero Carbon 2030

C of E Carbon Emissions 2023



What Does Net Zero Mean For Most Parishes?

Reducing emissions from:

Heating
(Gas & Oil, etc.)

Electricity

Travel

To zero, through modifications (e.g. removal of fossil fuel boilers, installation of LED lights) or accredited offsetting by 2030.

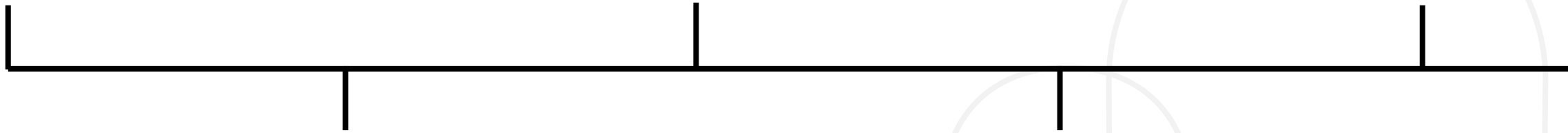
Parish Journey To Net Zero

Where are we now?

Energy Footprint Tool
Energy Audit
Eco Church

Switch to renewable tariff

Address reimbursable travel



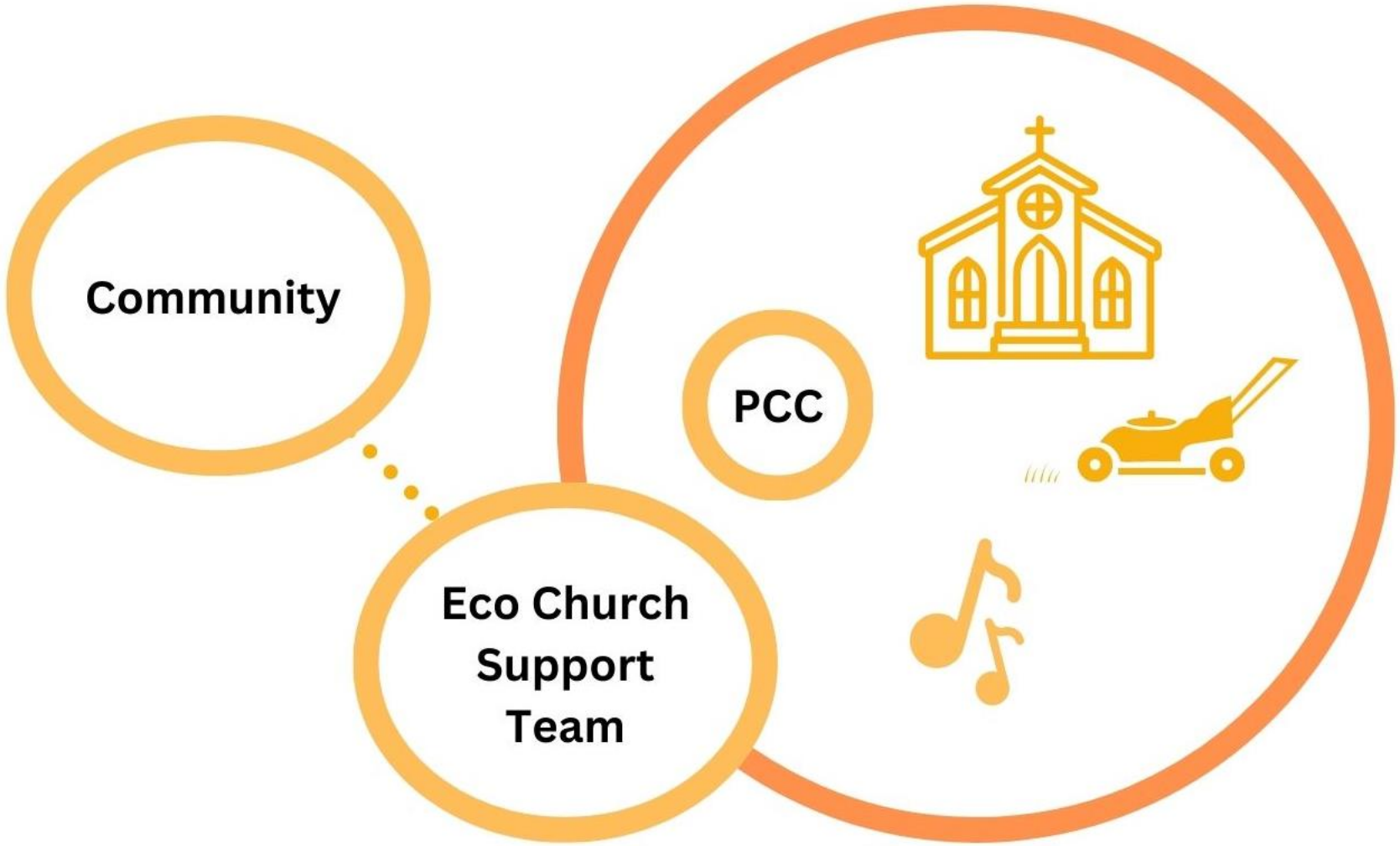
How can we reduce?

Heating Timetables
LED Lighting
Triple Insulated Urns
Insulating Pipes
Monitoring Electrical Use

Switch to low carbon heating source

The Church

The Church = The Eco Church Team



Creating A Plan

What are we already doing?

- LED lighting
- Heating timetable
- Renewable tariff

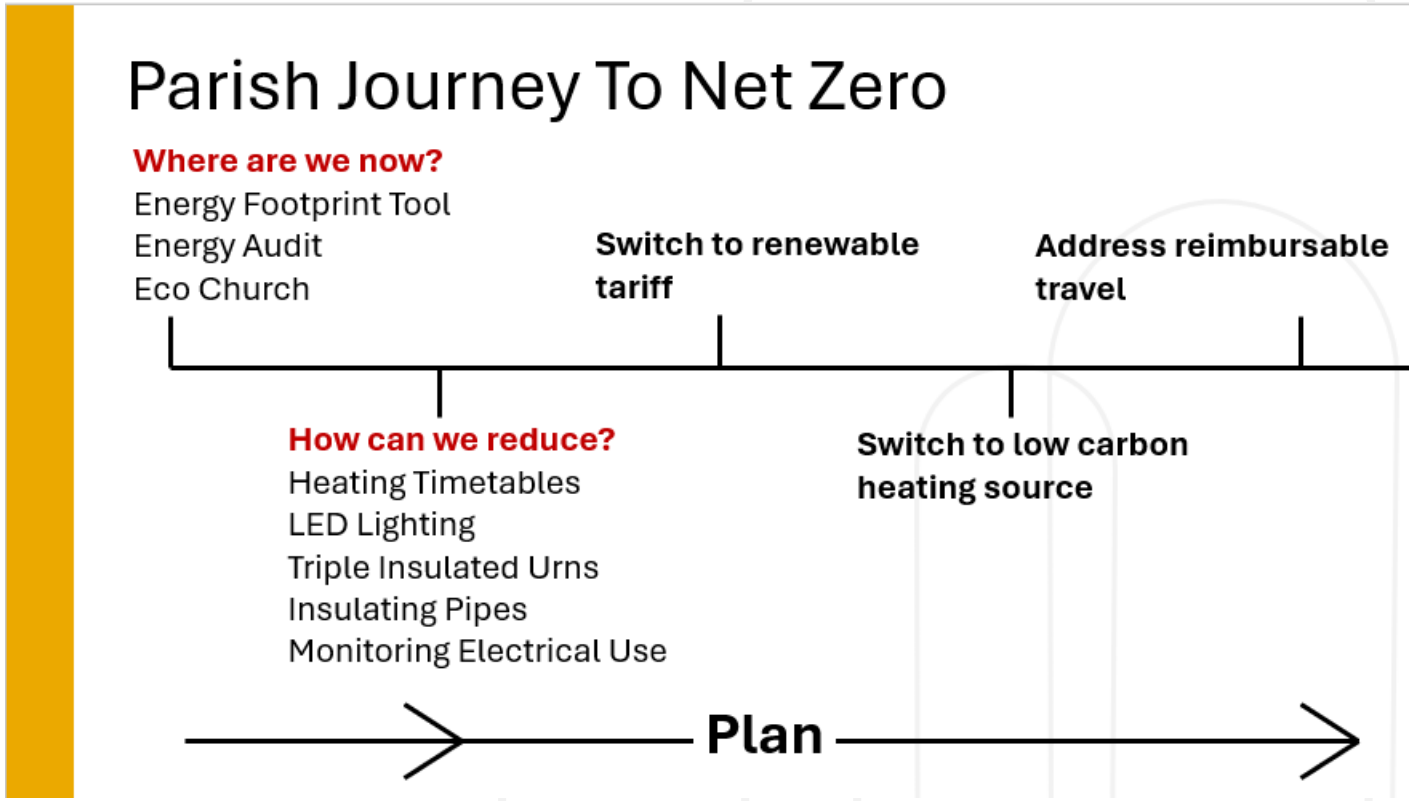
Where do we want to be?

- Net Zero 2030
- Lower energy costs
- Warmer building

How do we get there?

- What do we want to prioritise?

Where are we now?



Parish Returns Online

Energy Footprint Tool

- Required for some grants.
- Provides a Carbon Footprint number to work towards reducing.
- Simpler form this year.
- Gather all energy bills and reimbursable travel details.
- Fill in through parish returns.
- Jan 2026-June 2026.

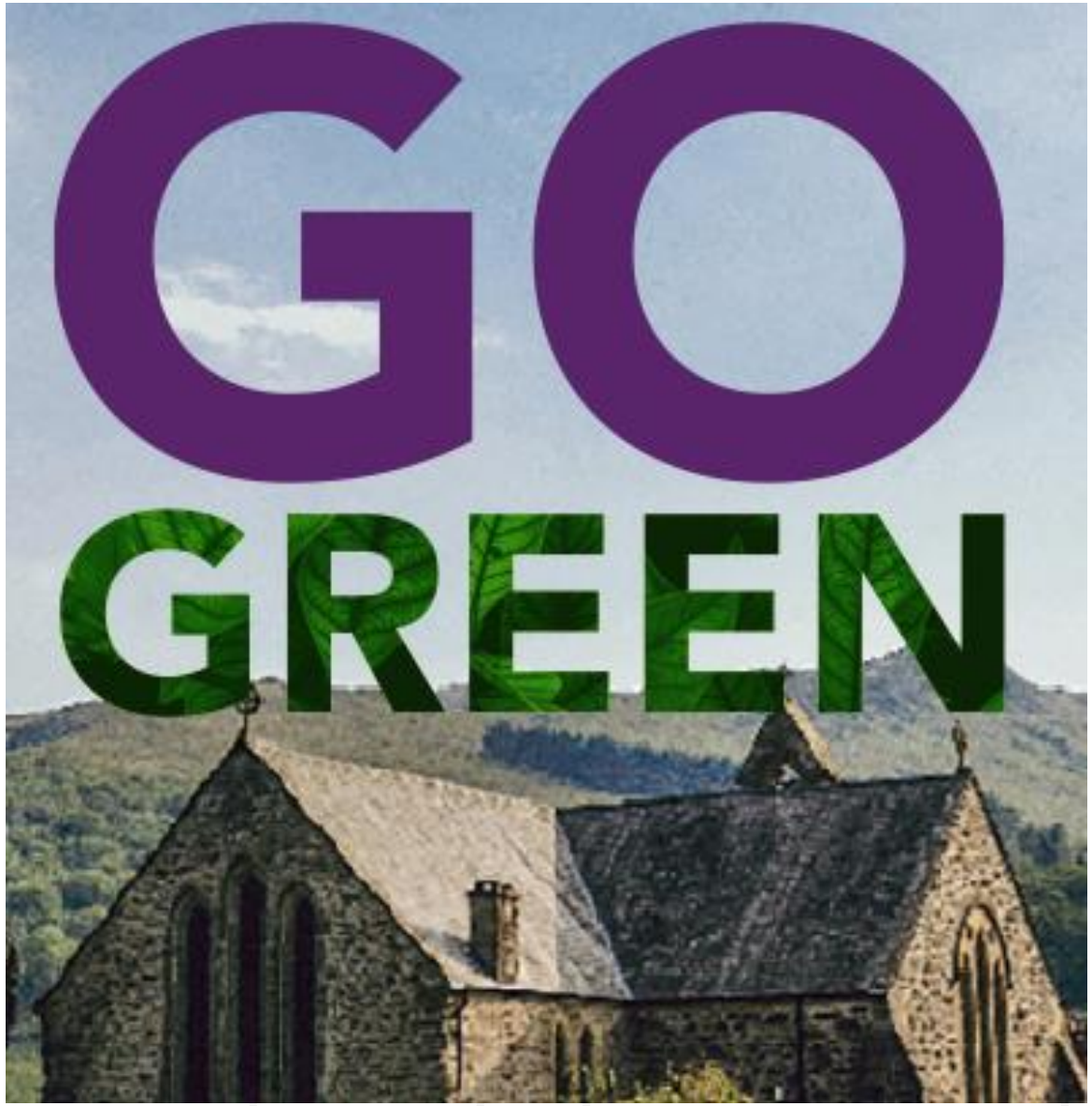
Energy Audits

Looks at your buildings usage and make recommendations on:

- Energy saving measures
- Low carbon heating
- Low carbon energy generation.

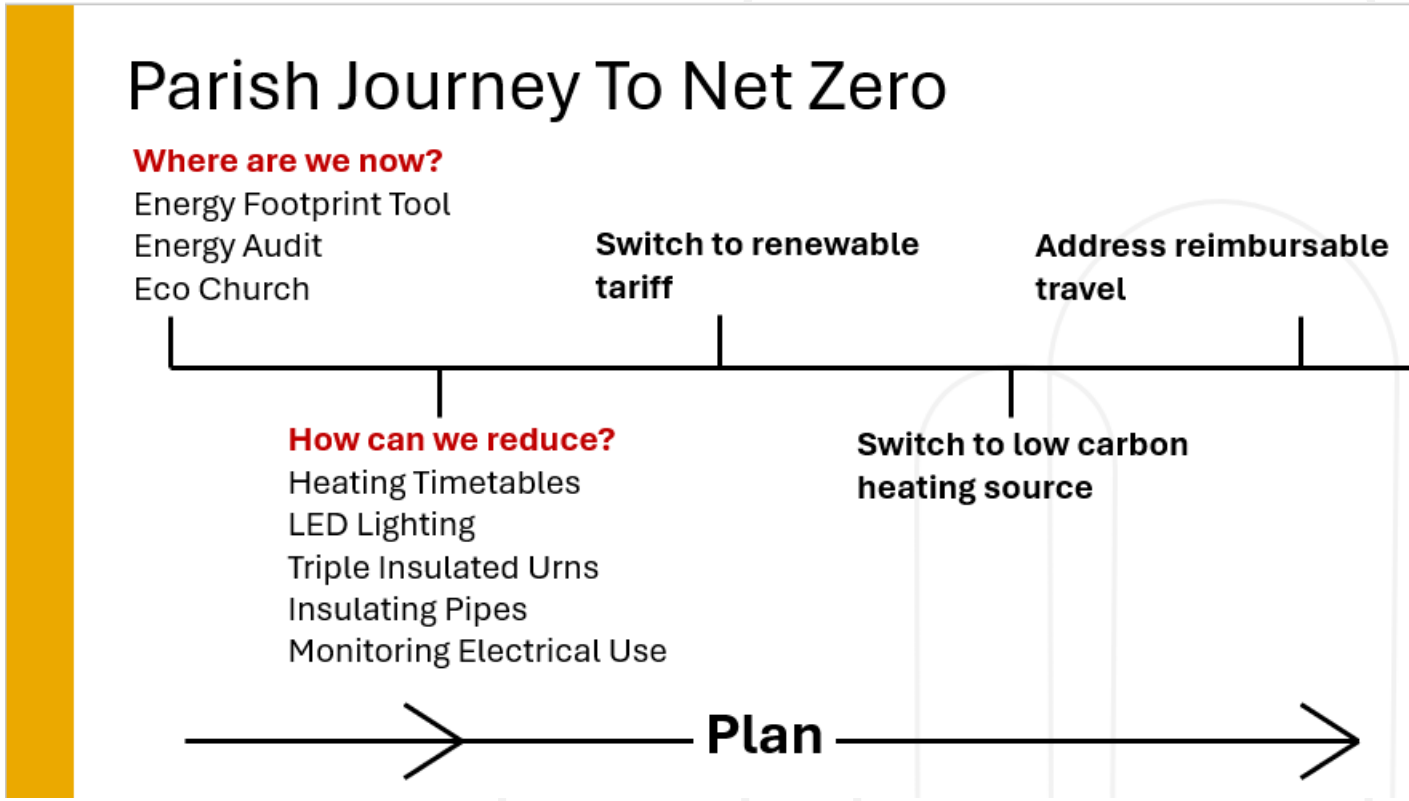
A key **first step** to creating the practical plan needed for grants.

Already Done?
The next step might be an in-depth heating feasibility study.



Energy and decarbonisation actions	Estimated Annual Energy Saving (kWh)	Estimated Annual Cost Saving (£)	Estimated capital cost (£)	Payback (years)	Permission needed	CO2 saving (tonnes of CO2e/yr)
Contact suppliers to arrange for the meters to be changed to smart meters	Helps monitor use and savings	None	Nil	N/A	None	N/A
Switch electricity suppliers to ones which provide 100% renewable supplies	None	None	Nil	N/A	None	-
Consider installing Electric Vehicle charging points	0	N/A	£2,750	0.00	List B	-
Install PIR motion sensors on selected lighting circuits	79	£19	£78	4.00	List B	0.02
Change existing lighting for LED fittings	1,391	£341	£3,718	10.91	Consult DAC	0.31
Install a Solar PV array to roof of building	5,700	£1,397	£16,500	11.82	Faculty	1.28
Replace windows	2,141	£134	£3,740	28.00	Faculty	0.39
Install Battery Storage to PV system	1,900	£466	£22,000	47.26	Faculty	0.43
Inject cavity wall insulation into walls	1,142	£71	£5,280	74.11	Consult DAC	0.21
Add Elec Point of Use Hot water heaters	2,141	£134	£4,400	32.94	Consult DAC	0.39
Install an Air-to-Air Heat Pump to replace the existing heating system served from the Upstairs	2,235	£23	£25,080	N/A	Faculty	0.44
Install an Air-to-Air Heat Pump to replace existing heating system served from the Church and Entrance	2,395	£24	£26,950	N/A	Faculty	0.47
Install an Air-to-Air Heat Pump to replace existing heating system served from the in Kitchen Boiler	2,635	£27	£28,655	N/A	Faculty	0.52
Savings from gas standing charges once church achieves Net Zero and removes gas meter	N/A	Unknown	Potential £400 charge for meter removal	N/A	None	Part of above
Consider registering for Eco Church	The Eco Church programme, which is recommended by the Church of England, helps congregations care for the environment in all aspects of church life. The programme is free; you can, however, donate to A Rocha UK towards its costs.					
Create a procurement policy for appliances (and other goods)	Commit to buying only appliances with the new energy efficiency ratings of A, B or C at the lowest when those you currently have reach the end of their useful life. (NB ovens, air conditioners and space or water heaters are still on the older rating scale, so for these, try for A+++.)					

How can we reduce?



PCC Plan

Action	Cost	Saving per Year	Permissions	Responsibility	Priority	Timescale (plan, funds, works)
Insulate roof space	£3k	£200	List A	Wardens	1	Summer 2025
Exclude draughts	£1k	£100	List A	Operations Manager	2	Summer 2025
Change lights to LED	£10k	£400	List B / faculty	Wardens and Treasurer	3	Plan and fund 2025 Works 2026
Install solar panels	£20k	£2.5k	Faculty / planning permission	Wardens and Vicar	4	Plan/fund '25 Work 2026/7
Replace gas boiler with heat pumps	£40k	n/a	Faculty	Wardens and Fabric Committee	5	Plan by 2027 Fundraise 2028 Works 2029/30

A Practical Pathway to Net Zero Carbon for Churches

Let's get started!

These are easy actions which nearly all churches can beneft from, even if your church is only used on a Sunday.

	Action	What type of permission do we need?	Find out more	Complete
Reducing heat loss	Maintain the **roof and gutters**, to prevent damp entering the building and warm air escaping.	Typically, routine maintenance is List A, small scale repairs are List B	Caring for heritage buildings from Historic England	
	Fix any broken window panes and make sure opening windows shut tightly, to reduce heat loss.	If your church has modern or plain sheet glass – LIST A If it has stained or historic glass - FACULTY	If interiors are of historic, architectural or artistic interest, seek professional and Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) advice first.	
	Insulate heating pipes, pumps and valves to prevent heat being lost.	LIST A	Focus on heating pipework hidden-away in cupboards, voids, boxings or unheated rooms, not exposed within the worship space. A Net Zero Carbon Church Historic England advice on heating	
	If draughts from doors are problematic, **draught-proof** the gaps or put up a door-curtain.	Draught-proofing the doors – LIST A Installing a door curtain - FACULTY	If interiors are of historic, architectural or artistic interest, seek professional and Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) advice first. A guide to ventilation and draught-proofing in historic churches	
	Consider using **rugs/floor-coverings** (with breathable backings) and cushions on/around the pews/chairs.	Pew cushions and matting between pews – LIST A Replacing fixed carpet – LIST B Introducing new fixed carpet - FACULTY		

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What can we reduce?

Energy Usage

- Heating timetables
- LED bulbs
- Smart meters

Energy Loss

- Draught proofing – Thermal camera
- Water ingress – Guttering, leaks, etc.
- Insulating pipes

Energy Efficient Devices

- Triple insulated urns
- Heated cushions
- Digital Thermostat

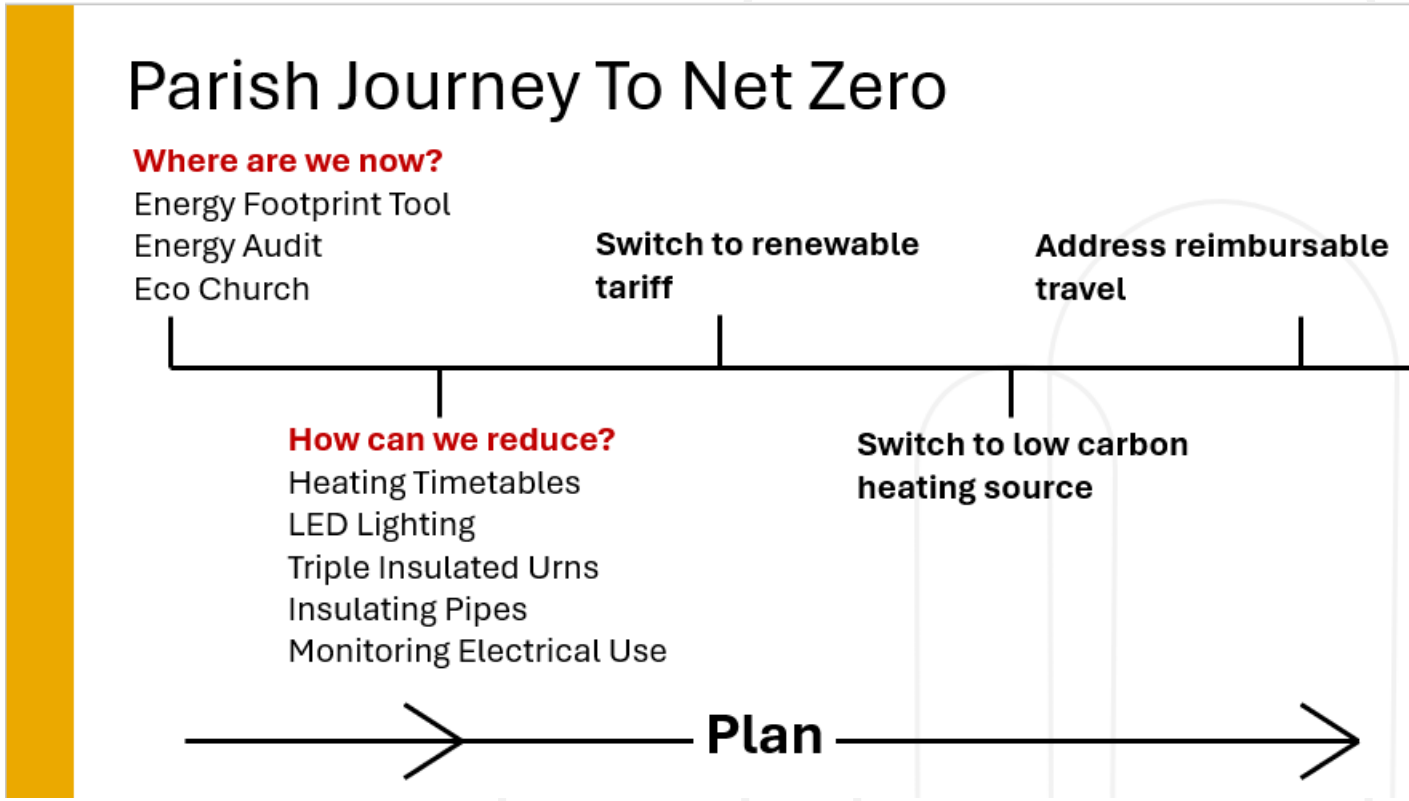
St Denys, Southampton

Audited their building and made small changes saving £5,000 a year on energy.

Changes include:

- Replacing kettles for triple insulated urns
- Installing LED lights
- Insulating Pipes
- Installing automatic timers

Switch To A Renewable Tariff



HOW CAN WE SWITCH?

1. Check your energy bills

- Find out how many units of energy your building has used annually, by calculating the difference between two bills, 12 months apart. Do this via your monthly bills, or using your supplier's app.
- Find out if you are in contract and/or have exit fees.

2. Choose a supplier

- Go to Parish Energy to switch your energy to its green tariff, or;
- Get 2-3 quotes from the list outlined below, by going on each suppliers' website, entering your details, and asking for a quote

3. SWITCH!

Decide on a tariff and switch!
The supplier – or Parish Energy – will do the rest. Also, make sure to celebrate and share that you've switched!

WHAT IS PARISH ENERGY?

Parish Energy is managed by Parish Buying. It uses the bulk buying power of the Church of England to obtain competitive prices for your gas and electricity.

The Parish Energy electricity tariff aligns with our green tariff definition, allowing you to switch hassle-free.

Parish Buying

Choosing a supplier

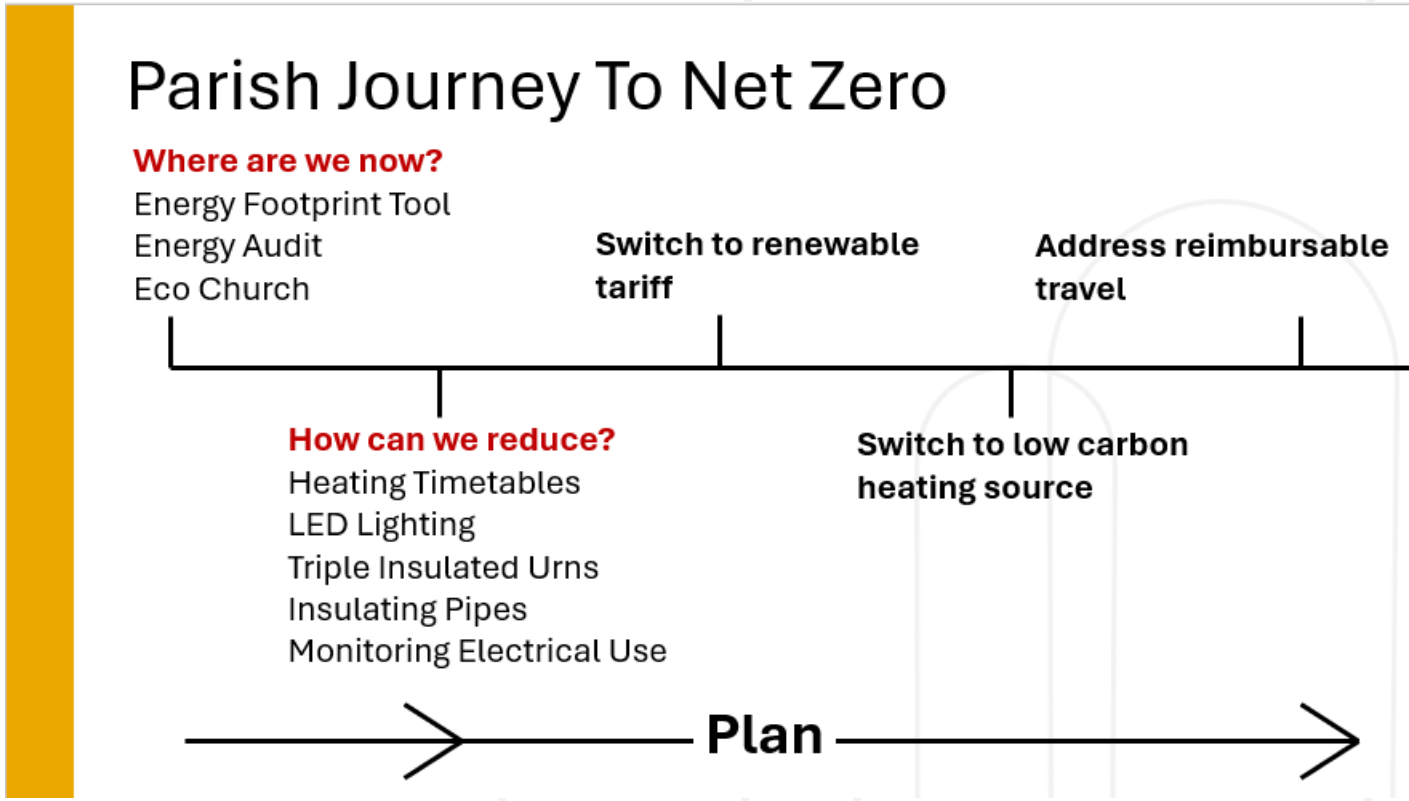
In 2025, the national church carried out market research to divide ‘green tariffs’ into three categories:

Best – 100% traceable UK renewable energy with wider ethical compliance.

Better – 100% renewable energy, but 50% is more traceable than the other 50%, some ethical compliance.

Basic – 100% renewable energy, but 10% is more traceable than the other 90%.

Switching To A Low Carbon Heating Source



Switching To A Low Carbon Heating Source

Think about your space:

- How often is it used?
- What activities is it used for?
- Do you plan to change your space?
- How old is your boiler?

These questions will often help shape your heating approach. For example, will you heat the people or the space?

Proactive planning is key when it comes to heating.

Heating Feasibility Report

The next step is a heating options appraisal.

This can be done by the PCC using the Church of England heating guidance document.

Or a professional heating feasibility report. These reports consider:

- Building fabric, context and use
- Running costs and carbon footprint
- Viable heat sources and emitters

An *independent* M&E engineer is best rather than a supplier selling a solution.

Fundraising

- **Plan**
  - What projects do you need to fund?
  - Can they be parceled out?
- **Cost**
  - What's the overall cost of the project?
  - Can be broken down into smaller chunks?
- **Impact**
  - What will this project mean for your ministry in the community?
  - How much carbon will this reduce?

Action	Cost	Saving per Year	Permissions
Insulate roof space	£3k	£200	List A
Exclude draughts	£1k	£100	List A
Change lights to LED	£10k	£400	List B / faculty
Install solar panels	£20k	£2.5k	Faculty / planning permission
Replace gas boiler with heat pumps	£40k	n/a	Faculty

Funding Net Zero

- **Demonstrator churches** – hand picked projects across the country to inspire their neighbours.
- **Quick Wins Grant** – Small grants up to (£3k usually) for quick carbon reduction projects.
- **Give to Go Green** – Match funded grants for small to medium carbon reduction projects, up to £10,000.
- **Boiler Replacement Hardship Grant** – a grant to support churches/halls with limited budgets to replace a failing gas system with an alternative low carbon system.
- **Decarbonising Churches/Hall Grant** – a flexible grant tailored to the needs of the parishes, ie project development or capital works.

Funding Net Zero

- **Outside Funders** – Local Government, Charitable Trusts, etc. Partnership and community is key.
- **Benefact Trust** – Building grant fund for sustainability. 30% of projects expected to be match funded.
- **Environmental and Sustainability Project Grants.**

Environmental & Sustainability Projects

Environmental and sustainability projects take many forms. Some funders have particular interests and/or fund in very restricted areas. Others are much more generalist.

In this table the "Geography" section indicates the areas of England that a funder is interested in. "National" indicates that there are no stated restrictions within England. Any stated restrictions are described.

The "Project Types" classification describes the kinds of projects that the funder has said they are interested in or that they have funded previously. For simplicity we have divided these into:

- **Energy** – projects that use greener mechanisms to generate electricity or heart (e.g., solar PV panels, biomass boilers, air source heat pumps).
- **Efficiency** – projects that reduce energy consumption (e.g., LED lighting, insulation).
- **Water** – projects that improve water quality or reduce water consumption (e.g., grey water systems) or improve quality of runoff water (e.g., sustainable drainage systems).
- **Biodiversity** – projects that improve biodiversity.
- **Engagement** – projects that focus on environmental awareness and education.
- **Other** – other types of projects, usually detailed in the grant maker's entry
- **General** – all or most types of environmental projects. Any known exclusions will be detailed in the grant maker's entry.

Antony Hornby Charitable Trust	
Geography: Nationwide	
Project Types: General and environmental	
Tel: 020 7841 4000 **Address:** c/o Saffery Champness 71 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4BE NB the trust does not have a website. **Grant potential:** Generally £1,000 but up to £3,000	**Interests:** General charitable donations to organisations working in the following causes: • General charitable purposes • Education and training • Medical, health and sickness, • Arts and culture • Animals, • Environment Community development, Employment **How to Apply:** In writing, outlining the project with a cost breakdown. **Charity No:** 263285

Contact Your Diocesan Team

For support contact:

Portsmouth
Matt Lockwood – matt.lockwood@portsmouth.anglican.org

Chichester
Buff Stone - environment.officer@chichester.anglican.org

Guildford
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Winchester
Lucy Howlett – lucy.howlett@winchesterdiocese.org