

# Synod Advance Fund

## Grants to support Churches with urgent repairs

The Synod Schemes & Grants Committee offers 10% funding for building schemes with a mission and outreach objective. However, the Committee recognises that churches have had restricted income for 2 years because of reduced members offerings and loss of letting income. Some buildings require urgent maintenance, which may have been identified in a Quinquennial inspection, but they do not have sufficient reserves to carry out the work. Discretionary grants are being made available. Churches should show that they are financially viable in terms of routine expenditure and assessments through a 12 month budget and previous year accounts.

The SS&GC will make up to a total of £50,000 from Advance Fund available until the end of Connexional Year 2022/23 for such schemes.

## Guidelines

Churches should consult their Circuit and Synod Property Stewards, ensuring that guidelines for listed buildings and other building regulations are adhered to.

Proposals should be submitted on the SAF application form. (Available on the Synod website or on request). However, there is no requirement to link the work to the church and Circuit mission plans (omit that section). The proposals should include:

- A plan stating what work is required and time table
- What consultation has taken place to ensure quality of the work/ repairs,
- Evidence that due diligence with regards to cost effectiveness and consideration for the environment has been made.
- Budgets which indicate the costs and any additional sources of funds or fundraising
- Proposals should be approved by the churches own planning and financial procedures (eg number of quotes required) – please include the date of that approval
- Proposals should also receive Circuit approval - please include the date of that approval
- Latest annual accounts. State the % of reserves (all funds available) in relation to average annual outgoings.

### Grants up to £5000 are available:

- Churches or other sources should contribute at least 50% of the amount requested.

## Reporting Requirements

Churches receiving grants should produce a short report indicating the outcomes of the project and any lessons learnt after 12 months. This will enable the committee to evaluate the effectiveness of the scheme. A financial report against budget is also required.

Any questions please contact

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