



Diocesan route map including parsonages – June 2023 Synod

Introduction

The *Routemap to Net Zero Carbon (NZC)* produced by National Church and some 72 pages in content, outlines the key milestones and actions needed to work towards the net zero carbon objectives. This plan forms the basis of all works towards NZC and covers Cathedrals, Churches, C of E Schools, Diocesan Offices, Parsonages and Glebe (property and land).

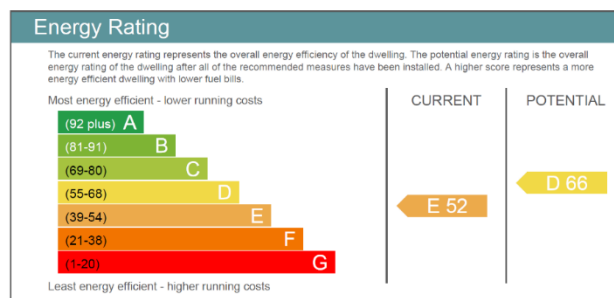
During 2023/24, we are tasked with reviewing each of the above categories and coming up with a costed plan based on maximising the carbon reduction in use.

Current status – Diocese

- A Funding application has been made to National Church to support a full time NZC Officer and part time Regional Learning co-ordinator for 2.5 years to develop the full costed plan
- The Regional Learning Co-ordinator will ensure information and data is fed back into the National Church system for monitoring of progress and release of stage payments on funds
- We are currently reviewing and looking at resource capacity to appoint a Diocesan Environment Officer

Current status - Property

- Energy Performance Reports (EPR's) have been completed to all properties and data used for the initial costed plan
- A network group has been established with Chelmsford, Norwich, Ely and St Albans to share knowledge and opportunities
- Working with the PCC, the benefice house at Nacton will be sold and a new low carbon property purchased in Bucklesham. The new build is constructed to a high B EPC rating and future proofed with air source heating system. Saving some 4.5 tonnes per year carbon omissions against the Nacton property. This will be further improved with the additional of solar panels
- The draft plan and knowledge across other dioceses suggest a budget figure of £100k per property is needed to maximise impact – totalling some £15m



What can incumbents do to help with the costed plan?

- Ideally we need actual energy data for usage on electricity and gas/oil – incumbents to be encouraged to share this data (units only required)

Current status – Churches

- The data for the base line information is taken from the churches energy footprint tool to establish omissions. Only 28% of churches have returned these as of 21st June 2023.
- Once appointed, the NZC officer will work with PCC's to develop their base information – we expect larger churches with daily use to have the highest carbon footprint and with those particularly rural buildings with occasional use to require less improvement



What can PCC's do to help?

- All churches to be encouraged to return the energy footprint tool by 31st July 2023
- Churches to be encouraged to register for Eco Church and work towards achieving Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards

Current status – schools

- The schools energy toolkit has been used to develop a baseline of CO2 omissions
- Schools are funded by public sector funding programmes which are oversubscribed
- With the 21 Diocesan MAT and 9 voluntary aided schools, a successful bid for funding to commission heat decarbonisation plans has been made
- Typical works to achieve NZC across our schools is £800-£900k per site to decarbonise – for the 30 schools we have a significant degree of influence on improvements, this could total some £27m

Glebe (land)

- We are working with our agents, Clarke & Simpson, to identify areas or use to encourage carbon reduction ie renting a field to a thatcher who grows then cuts and uses the thatch for local roof works

National Church

- The Pensions Board whose portfolio covers the UK are working with Dioceses' to complete exemplar improvements as a learning and procurement tool

Useful links –

- A practical path to "net zero carbon" A Checklist for your Church https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/PP2NZC_SelfGuidedChecklist_print_version.pdf
- A practical path to "net zero carbon" for our churches <https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-04/the-practical-path-to-net-zero-carbon-for-churches-FINAL-April-2020.pdf>
- The routemap to NZC by 2030 <https://www.churchofengland.org/media/28196>