



Energy Audit

Simple energy review for parishes

This Energy Audit is based on the Church of England's *Shrinking the Footprint* campaign. It is a simple review of energy use that can be used to assess your current energy footprint. Some questions will be more applicable to your circumstances than others but it is a good place to start.

More information about the *Shrinking the Footprint* campaign from the Church of England's Church Care website (www.churchcare.co.uk/shrinking-the-footprint).

A series of more detailed audits and practical tools and advice are available from Eco-congregation Ireland (www.ecocongregationireland.com).

Lighting in the Church:

Is there a need?	Yes / No
Do all the lights need to be on?	Yes / No
Even on a sunny day?	Yes / No
Can all the light fittings be fitted with energy saving light bulbs?	Yes / No
Are all fittings fitted with energy saving bulbs?	Yes / No
Could you use LEDs to illuminate parts of the church and its features?	Yes / No

Now ask the same for other church properties such as the Parish Hall.

Exterior lighting:

Many churches are floodlit for mission, security, tourism etc. Please refer to the RCB's guidelines on Light Pollution & Church Lighting Installation, available on Parish Resources, or by clicking [here](#).

Is the timing mechanism adjusted to meet seasonal needs?	Yes / No
Is the illumination programme adjusted to liturgical or individual donors etc	Yes / No
Is the lighting checked regularly to ensure against causing light pollution?	Yes / No
Are energy saving bulbs used?	Yes / No

Heating & Insulation:

Is your boiler more than 15 years old?*	Yes / No
(*if so then it will probably not be as efficient as it should be)	
Is it regularly serviced?	Yes / No
Does it have a time switch?	Yes / No

Is this adjusted to meet seasonal needs?	Yes / No
Is it possible to reduce the heating period?	Yes / No
Are all windows and doors draught proofed?	Yes / No
Are all pipes lagged?	Yes / No
Are buildings which can be fitted with roof insulation?	Yes / No
Are cavity walls insulated?	Yes / No
Can parts of the building be heated separately?	Yes / No

Transport:

Is there a car sharing scheme to get people to and from Church?	Yes / No
Is there a safe place to leave bicycles?	Yes / No

- As part of this audit please record the number of units used as recorded on your energy bills and set a reminder to do this at the same time each year from now on to gain an understanding of your parish's energy use.
- Remember all equipment on sources of energy is likely to cost money initially. It is important to consider the costs against potential longer term savings.
- It is recognised that many church buildings are not well suited to saving energy and that alterations are not always possible. The first task for all Churches should be to see how the existing facilities can be made more efficient.

Priorities for Action:

Please identify priorities for action and record any relevant notes, plans or reminders below:

- _____
- _____
- _____