

Guide to looking at Heating Replacement Options

Introduction

On the 1st July 2022 the Faculty Jurisdiction rules were amended so that like for like replacements of fossil fuel heating systems now require a faculty. Part of the reason for doing this was to ensure the church came into contact with the DAC, was prompted to do an options appraisal, and received good advice.

We know that we need churches to move away from fossil fuels, wherever it is feasible; any new boiler installed now locks us into fossil fuels for 30 years, so exceptions to this need to be few and far between. Making these balanced judgements is part of the role of the DAC, looking at all the circumstances of a case.

Supporting Documentation

To assist the DAC in making a decision, the PCC should support their application with the following information: -

- What is the existing boiler? Please include (where known) details on fuel type, age, filter type, output in KW, location in the church, flue arrangement. Do you have a single or multi-phase supply? Photos are also very helpful.
- What is the existing heat distribution system? For example, radiators – how many are there? How effective are they?
- Please describe the use pattern of the church. Who is it used by? How often? And for what kind of services? How many hours per day and days per week do you run the heating? Here we are trying to get a better idea of what an economically viable fuel source for the building may be.
- Does the church have fixed pews? Photos of the church interior are very helpful to provide for us to understand your building as best as possible.
- Do you have very significant historic building fabric which may be sensitive to temperature and moisture level changes? An example of this may be wall paintings.

Do's and Don'ts

- **Do phone your architect for advice.**
- **Do complete your Energy Footprint Toolkit.**
- **Do consider an Energy Audit. This can be arranged via the diocesan subsidised scheme.**
- **Don't impose a tight tendering process, that excludes renewable specialists. Do consider a contractor led design based on performance specification.**
- **Do steer away from large interventions for small savings, to ensure that the embodied carbon in the materials of a whole heating system is actually 'paid back' over time by the operational carbon savings.**
- **Do provide an action plan showing how your church plans to meet Net Zero by 2030.**
- **Do consider purchasing your energy from a renewable/green tariff supplier.**
- **Do contact the DAC for advice dac@carlislediocese.org.uk**

Useful Guidance

ChurchCare ([Heating](#)) has developed a suite of documentation to help with your proposal.

- [Church Heating Principles](#)
- [Heating Checklist: What you have, and what you need.](#)
- [Heating Options Appraisals and getting advice](#)

Where a replacement fossil fuel boiler is recommended by the DAC it is likely that conditions will be suggested to the Chancellor to ensure your church continues to strive to meet Net Zero Carbon targets.