



## Potential sources of funding for heating, lighting and audio-visual services in Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire churches

Information on and links to the wide range of sources of grant aid for church buildings is given on our Fundraising and Grants [web pages](#).

This note flags-up a smaller number of funders more likely to grant-aid heating, lighting and/or audio-visual services. More information on most of the funders listed below is given in our advice notes on [national grants](#) and [local grants](#).

It is helpful to view webpages and get in touch with funders to discuss your project and its eligibility for their grants at an early stage. This will establish a connection and avoid wasted time and work.

Some funders will grant-aid work in Bedfordshire or Hertfordshire but not both.

### Funders with some kind of local focus

A good place to start is the **Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust** which has funded heating and lighting in the past. The Trust has more flexibility in Bedfordshire where it is able to offer grants from Wixamtree funds. Get in touch with Archie Russell for more information – see <http://www.bedshertshct.org.uk/grants.html> for contact details.

**Mrs B L Robinson' Charitable Trust** (email [Anne.quinn35@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Anne.quinn35@hotmail.co.uk)) will consider any applications for capital works but not running costs. Grants are limited to charitable causes in Bedfordshire.

**The Steel Charitable Trust** <https://steelcharitabletrust.org.uk/> will potentially fund services. The Trust has a focus on Bedfordshire and Luton in particular.

**Gale Family Charity Trust.** The Trustees will consider all applications. Write to [alistair.law@garnerassociates.co.uk](mailto:alistair.law@garnerassociates.co.uk) giving some details of what you are doing and the amount you are seeking from the Trust. The Trust likes to support projects that will use its contribution promptly. Grants are limited to charitable causes in Bedfordshire.

## National Funders

**Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme** – grants to cover the cost of VAT on some works – see the eligibility checklist and other information at [www.lpwscheme.org.uk/](http://www.lpwscheme.org.uk/).

The **Allchurches Trust** [www.allchurches.co.uk](http://www.allchurches.co.uk) will consider applications for funding towards heating, lighting and audio-visual services.

**Garfield Weston** [www.garfieldweston.org](http://www.garfieldweston.org) is 'very open to everything' in terms of applications.

The **Bishop Radford Trust** <http://bishopraddfordtrust.org.uk/> can fund services. However grants are limited to £1,000 and only around 15 are given each year.

The **Foyle Foundation** [www.foylefoundation.org.uk](http://www.foylefoundation.org.uk) will potentially grant-aid services so long as the church is requesting funding to support equipment/repairs for community facilities (that is ones which go beyond the use of the weekly congregation). The church must also have a turnover of less than £100K per annum.

The **National Churches Trust** [www.nationalchurchestrust.org](http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org) would not be able to fund any of the services on their own. However, if they are part of a wider project which is also introducing or upgrading toilets and/or catering facilities then they would be eligible.

Other trusts and the **National Lottery Heritage Fund** may also support services when they are part of a large project but this would need to be checked in each case.

The **Laing Family Trusts** [www.laingfamilytrusts.org.uk](http://www.laingfamilytrusts.org.uk) - heating or lighting could be eligible if, for example, they are part of a larger project which reorders a church or provides new facilities, and the church is looking outwards to embrace the community. Standalone heating or lighting work would be much less likely to attract funding as a general rule but it depends on individual circumstances. The trust will not fund audio-visual equipment.

The **Headley Trust** (Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts) [www.sfct.org.uk/Headley.html](http://www.sfct.org.uk/Headley.html) can fund exceptional large churches and this diocese's parish churches through its second grants round in 2023. Will not fund heating and need to check for other services.

The **Alan Evans Memorial Trust** (email [Alan.Evans@roydswithyking.com](mailto:Alan.Evans@roydswithyking.com)) - the Trustees will judge any application put before them against their objectives. Given that much of the focus of the trust is on the preservation of lands and buildings it is likely that services such as heating, lighting and audio-visual may be considered relatively low priorities.

## Help and feedback

Please get in touch to talk about these funding sources and tell us if you have found another source of grant-aid for services or think that this note should be updated.

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