

**CHURCH ENERGY COSTS 2022  
NOTES TO ACCOMPANY GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

1. We are expecting churches to use their own resources first so that funds are available to those in real need. We are also expecting churches to review their charges for hiring their buildings to reflect higher longer term energy costs.
2. We expect M & M to remain the first charge on a church's income because of its importance in providing ministry nationally. A church's present position in respect of payment of M & M may be taken into account in assessing the provision of both grants and any loans under this programme.
3. Each church is expected to reduce as far as it is able all energy costs, be they gas, electricity or oil, by managing usage of premises appropriately. In the longer term Eco grants may be available for buildings that are suitable for longer term energy saving investment.
4. Any assistance in the form of loans will be for a maximum period of three years. They will be interest free for the first six months from the end of the month of draw down and will then be charged at the standard Synod rate prevailing at the time.
5. We are expecting these arrangements to be short term to enable churches to reorganise their affairs to cope with any longer term higher energy costs.
6. We realise that you may not wish to sell investments whilst markets are volatile to finance the increase in energy costs. We would however expect any money held on deposit, either locally or by URC Thames North Trust, to be used as part of the repayment if any loan remains outstanding at the end of the three-year period.
7. We aim to turn applications around quickly but can only do so if the information is accurate and complete.

8. When completed please return the application form by e mail to:  
Martyn Macphee (Assistant Treasurer) [macpheemartyn@aol.com](mailto:macpheemartyn@aol.com) and  
John Wise (Convenor, Resources Committee) [dr.jpwise@gmail.com](mailto:dr.jpwise@gmail.com)