

FUNDING FOR CHURCH BUILDINGS: HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND

The history of State and lottery funding for church repairs is long one, dating back to 1977. It has been distributed by a number of different agencies during that time, and has given rise to a good deal of confusion and folklore among church officers and congregations.

For some years, the funding was handled in a joint repair grant scheme administered by English Heritage, but including funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. For major repair cases, this has usually been the largest single source of grant-aid available. The scheme has called for a disciplined and time-critical approach by church officers, and in some cases the application process has been undertaken professionally by the church's architect or surveyor.

Since the closure of places of worship, churches are encouraged to apply to the 'Our Heritage' and 'Resilient Heritage' funds. For the most up to date information, please visit their website:

<https://www.hlf.org.uk/looking-funding/what-we-fund/buildings-and-monuments/places-worship> or contact the local HLF office on (Tel) 01392 223 950 or southwest@hlf.org.uk