Church Growth Fund:   
**Tier 1** Application Form

This is the Tier 1 application form for grants of **up to £10,000** from the Church Growth Fund.

**For grant applications of over £10,000, please use the Tier 2 application form.**

The Church Growth Fund is the vehicle through which projects that will increase our confidence as a Church in joyfully sharing the good news throughout the nation of Wales are enabled.

Whilst evangelism can take place in different contexts and in a variety of ways, no genre is better than another and some are more appropriate in particular contexts.

**Criteria**

Though the list below should not be viewed as an exhaustive list of all evangelistic contexts, any projects to be supported by the Church Growth Fund should clearly align to at least one of them:

1. **Attractional and established church**. The inherited model of church present in mission and ministry areas (hereafter “MA”) provides opportunities to share good news through Sunday and midweek worship utilising the church seasons and other parochial engagements through the ministry of local disciples.
2. **Place and story**. The revitalisation of place and story, such as pilgrimage and storytelling, connects the church with its history in a new and living way. Heritage and tourism, arts installations, the popularity of festivals (CODA and Eglwys Wyllt, for example) all possess impact capacity.
3. **Pioneer ministry**. The work of pioneering is predicated on the idea that culture is now more diverse than ever. To pioneer a fresh expression of church is to create a church for a distinct cultural group or with a distinct ethos and purpose. Pioneering work would naturally embrace social projects and enterprise schemes (café, laundry, pub etc). Work in schools and our network of children, family and youth workers sit within this stream.
4. **Memorialisation**. There is a wealth of information which suggests experiences of gathering and honouring for significant societal or national moments presents evangelistic opportunities. This will almost always be undertaken by the established and traditionally supported church. The investment in resourcing and developing such an approach to parochial or extra parochial ministry is relatively inexpensive and the Anglican Church is well placed to deliver this in our communities.
5. **Commemoration**. This arena of evangelism relates to those connections with the wider community which need a ‘liturgy’, such as baptisms, marriages and funerals, and to include in those moments the reality of faith. The ‘Life Events’ resources are so important because they connect the church with people who seek our ministry at significant times in their lives, people who are often outside the normal and ongoing worshipping congregation. This is about bringing the language of the Gospel to the wider population, interpreting faith and offering personal challenge.
6. **Process evangelism**. The insight we gain through process evangelism is that faith is a journey and that belonging, connecting and engaging are key steps towards full inclusion. Courses like Emmaus, Alpha and numerous others all work to the idea that engagement is critical. Building relationships through gathering, food, worship, discussion or by other means allows faith to grow with appropriate invitation, experience and creed to be accessed.
7. **Church planting**. The potential for Church Planting is now widely understood and there are many churches who successfully plant new congregations which grow and develop.
8. **Para church partnerships**. Organisations like the Church Army specialise in delivering and facilitating evangelism and wider missional work at a local level.
9. **Chaplaincies**. The potential for developing specialists who can grow church in specific contexts (schools, businesses, airports, prisons) is largely underdeveloped and may have ossified until recently but new energy suggests a different model may have new potential.
10. **Cathedrals**. Cathedrals and large cathedral-like churches operate evangelism in reverse. People deliberately seek out excellence in music, hospitality, storytelling, liturgy and architecture. The opportunity to make the good news live with such opportunities is obvious.

It is imperative that any bid to the Church Growth Fund is able to provide evidence that the project’s aim is church growth.

**Guidelines**

Please read the submission guidelines below carefully before filling out this form to ensure that your application meets all the applicable criteria.

*Eligibility to submit a project bid*

1. Applications will be considered from ministry areas, individual cathedrals or dioceses.
2. MAs may apply for funding for more than one project. There is no limit to how many applications can be submitted per MA. However, bids must be made on a one bid, one project basis.

*Developing a project bid*

1. All grant applications must explain, in detail, how the proposal is clearly in line with one of the ten arenas for evangelism (see criteria above)*.*
2. All grant applications must demonstrate how the project aligns with diocesan vision and strategy and is consistent with the Church in Wales’s net zero commitment.
3. Grant applications must be for projects which will make a difference locally and be replicable nationally.
4. All grant applications must clearly set out anticipated qualitative and quantitative outputs, goals and outcomes.
5. Tier 1 grants are not to be used for supporting staffing or building projects. Projects involving staffing or building costs should apply for a Tier 2 grant.
6. Grants may be used for the temporary hire of premises if essential to the project.
7. Funding for equipment necessary to the running of the project will be considered.

*Gaining approval for a project bid*

1. Applications must clearly set out what other support has been secured for the project, either financially and/or in-kind.
2. All applications must be made by the MA and need Ministry Area Council (MAC)[[1]](#footnote-2) approval and support.
3. All bids must have the written support of the diocesan bishop. All bid applications must be sent to the diocesan bishop 28 days before submission to the Church Growth Fund Allocation Group.
4. All Tier 1 grant applications must be submitted 14 days before a Church Growth Fund Allocation Group meeting (see point n. below).

*Awarding project bids*

1. Tier 1 grant applications will be considered at two Church Growth Fund Allocation Group meetings during 2024 on 19 March and 12 September.
2. Applicants will be informed of the Church Growth Fund Allocation Group’s decisions as soon as possible and no later than five working days after the Group has met.

The first step in any application process is to discuss your proposal with Mandy Bayton, Director of Evangelism, [churchgrowthfund@cinw.org.uk](mailto:churchgrowthfund@cinw.org.uk), prior to the submission of your application.

**Please enter all of the requested information within the boxes below. You may expand these boxes as required but do not exceed the stated word limit. Any information, other than clearly relevant documentation that is not provided in the format requested, will be disregarded. If your answers exceed the stated word limit, all text above the stated word limit will be disregarded.**

# **Section 1: Who is making this application?**

Diocese(s), cathedral(s), ministry area, church

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of applicant body |  |
| Name of lead bid writer |  |
| Role |  |
| Address |  |
| Postcode |  |
| Telephone number |  |
| Email |  |

# **Section 2: About your project**

Please answer these specific questions below. Note the ten areas of evangelism (as set out in annex I) and ensure that it is clearly stated how your application reflects one or more of them, and ensure that your application demonstrates alignment with diocesan or cathedral group vision and strategy as applicable.

|  |
| --- |
| Describe the project for which you are applying for funding support  (*maximum of 500 words)* |
|  |
| In what ways do you expect that this project will grow the church within your current context? How can this project benefit the wider province? (*maximum of 500 words*) |
|  |
| How long do you envisage the project running for and, if you were to receive funding, what is the estimated start date for your project? (*maximum of 200 words)* |
|  |
| What are the expected outcomes of your project? How will these outcomes be measured? (*maximum of 200 words)* |
|  |
| Have you provided a written statement of support from your diocesan bishop along with your application? |
|  |

**Section 3: Sustainability**

Please explain your approach to sustainability:

|  |
| --- |
| How will you ensure the benefits of this project can continue after the grant funding ends and how new disciples will be helped to grow in their faith? *(maximum of 500 words)* |
|  |

**Section 4: Costs**

Please provide the financial information requested below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| How much money are you requesting from the Church Growth Fund? | £ |  |
| What is the *total* cost of the project? N.B This should not be just the grant amount you are applying for here, but instead the total budgeted cost all work that our grant will help fund (unless the total cost exactly equals the amount i.e. you are fully funding the work/project with our grant with no funding from any other sources). | £ |  |
| Please provide a basic breakdown of your *total costs for:* | Capital costs | |
| £ |  |
| Revenue costs | |
| £ |  |
| If you are applying as an individual church or ministry area, what contribution is your diocese making to the project? | £ |  |
| Support in kind if applicable: | |
|  | |
| What other sources of support (if any) are you seeking for this project? |  | |
| Do you already have support from other areas secured for this project? If so please state from whom and the total amount of support provided. | Additional support provided by: | |
|  | |
| Total monetary contribution: | |
|  | |
| Support in kind if applicable: | |
|  | |

# **Section 5: Bank Account Details**

Whilst you will be notified in advance of any payments that are to be made to your project from the Church Growth Fund, in order to facilitate the swift payment of any awarded grant, please provide the details of the account to which a BACS transfer should be made.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Finance contact |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Email |  |
| **Please enclose either a paying in slip or a cancelled cheque to verify the account details below.** | |
| Account name |  |
| Sort code |  |
| Account number |  |

# **Section 6: Completing your application**

Before you sign and date this application, note that by signing this you agree to providing an end of project report and, for projects that last longer, monitoring feedback every 6 months.

You are also agreeing to provide additional project reports as requested by the Church Growth Fund Allocation Group and agree to attend meetings of the Group as requested.

Any funding provided by the Church Growth Fund can only be spent on the project for which this grant was given.

Any unspent money must be returned to the Representative Body

Your project may also feature in Church in Wales promotional material and will be included in a list of projects in receipt of Church Growth Fund grants.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project lead signature |  |
| Print name |  |
| Role |  |

**Send your completed form and any supporting documents to Mandy Bayton, Director of Evangelism,** [**churchgrowthfund@cinw.org.uk**](mailto:churchgrowthfund@cinw.org.uk)**.**

1. May also be known as Ministry Area Conference – other terminology may exist in other areas. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)