

Introduction to the Taylor Review Pilot 2018 - 2020

This note sets out the practical information about the Taylor Review Pilot, funded by DCMS. The main topics are as follows:

- 1. Main components of the scheme
- 2. Minor Repairs Fund
- 3. Budget

1. Main components of the scheme

The Pilot will be managed by Historic England. There are three main strands to the work in the two Pilot areas of Greater Manchester and Suffolk:

- 1. Learning and best practice workshops to share best practice as widely as possible. The Churches Conservation Trust will deliver these workshops equally across both Pilot areas. The aim is to ensure that communities/volunteers are offered relevant training and support in building their own local networks for maintenance of their place of worship.
- 2. Four support officer roles, overseen by a Project Manager at Historic England. Both Pilot areas will have a Fabric Support Officer and Community Development Adviser. All support officers should work with all faiths and denominations but we recognise that there is a large number of listed Church of England buildings that are likely to be eligible for the work.
- 3. Access to a £500k Minor Repairs Fund per annum across the Pilot areas. These grants will be capped at £10,000 per place of worship, so there will be approximately 25 grants per year in each area. The Fabric Support Officer in each area is the main contact for the grant scheme.





Figure 1: Increasing impact of the three main strands

A fourth component, managed by DCMS, is both an independent evaluation of the scheme and desk-based research project to consider, holistically, the interventions over the last 10 years. This includes (among others): DCMS' Listed POW scheme, Historic England Support Officers, SPAB programmes Faith in Maintenance and Maintenance Co-operatives and the National Churches Trust's Maintenance Booker scheme.

Overall governance and management

DCMS Ministers are ultimately accountable for the scheme and DCMS has established an Advisory Board. This will meet twice a year to review progress and provide advice to DCMS. Its members are: DCMS Deputy Director for Heritage, Bernard Taylor, HE, HLF, Churches Conservation Trust, National Churches Trust, Church of England, the Historic Religious Buildings' Alliance and the Inter Faith Network for the UK.

Internally, the Pilot will largely be led by the Pilot Team (the project manager and support officer posts) and governed by the internal Project Board, chaired by one of our Planning Directors and consisting of key staff from local teams, a quantity surveyor and staff with national expertise.



2. Minor Repairs Fund

Although both a Minor Repairs Fund and a Major Repairs Fund were recommended by the Taylor Review, there is no funding within the Pilot for a Major Repair Fund. Fabric Support Officers will identify the scale of need within their area for any potential Major Repairs Fund (e.g. by costing the full repairs identified in Quinquennial Reports (or equivalent) as necessary in the next 5-10 years).

For the Minor Repairs Fund, Fabric Support Officers will provide information on a suite of options to those involved in the Pilot. The evaluation will seek to identify which of these models were chosen by grant recipients and why.

Those who care for buildings that are identified as eligible will be invited to apply for one of the 25 grants each year. The eligibility criteria are as follows:

- Must be active place of worship (any faith or denomination)
- Must be listed (any grade)
- Must be vulnerable either on the HAR Register (or database) OR eligible for inclusion on the register OR identified in the most recent QI (or equivalent) as being vulnerable to imminent deterioration of fabric
- Must offer additional public access over and above times of worship. Exceptionality criteria are available for those which do not offer additional public access include: not utilising their space beyond worship; those with serious security issues; those that are not structurally sound. Any place of worship claiming exceptional circumstances should do so at the point of application.
- Applicants can also apply to the Listed Places of Worship scheme.

Conditions for receiving a Minor Repairs Grant

Initial Grant

- Grant aid will be at a maximum of 90%. The other 10% of funding should be found by the grant recipient. Funding will be for financial costs only, and will not be for services provided in-kind or for fees.
- Grants will be capped at £10k per place of worship. If you have an exceptional need (such as a very large building), please contact the Fabric Support Officer to discuss your application.

Works Funded

- Works funded by the grant must address minor repair needs recognised by recent conservation accredited professional inspection (with report) as "urgent".
- The work funded by the Minor Repairs Grant, must be completed before the end of the Pilot scheme



- Grants will be issued once the application has been approved but 10% will be retained until a completion certificate is submitted.
- Work should be carried out by a contractor experienced in conservation work using appropriate materials.
- Work should be carried out on the basis of three written quotes obtained by the applicant to demonstrate best value. The quote accepted does not have to be the lowest but should demonstrate best value.
- Consent (if required) to be secured before the start of works by applicant.

Claiming the final 10%

- A five year building maintenance plan should be submitted upon completion, covering the fabric of the building.
- Quality control digital images (to a standardised format) along with a receipted invoice should be submitted to demonstrate completion.

Public Awareness

- When you make an application you must consent to participate in any of promotion of the grant aided works by Historic England or DCMS.
- Details of the works will be uploaded onto the online faculty system or other denominational database if available.

3. Budget

These are the Historic England costs per year for two years, 18/19 and 19/20.

Area of funding	Cost per year
Minor Repairs Fund	£500k (£250k per area)
Staffing	£222k (5 FTE roles)
Training / best practice workshops	£20k
Historic England administration costs for grant scheme	£20k
Contingency	£44k