

The General Trustees of the Church of Scotland

HELPING CONGREGATIONS : The Better Heating Scheme

Under the Better Heating Scheme, which is administered by the Church of Scotland General Trustees, congregations can obtain, for a modest fee, skilled advice in the matters of saving money on heating bills and improving the standard of comfort of buildings.

Andrew W. MacOwan is the energy consultant prepared to undertake energy surveys of churches, halls and manses on behalf of all Church of Scotland congregations. He can also carry out a limited number of surveys each year for non-Church of Scotland congregations.

Mr MacOwan can be contacted at:

Andrew MacOwan Associates
92 Old Castle Road
Glasgow
G44 5TF
Tel.: 0141 637 6256
Fax.: 0141 637 3087
Email: admin@andrewmacowan.co.uk

Consultant's fees

The fees payable to the consultant are based on the total expenditure on energy from all sources during the most recent period of 12 months available – not necessarily a calendar year. This total expenditure must include all energy costs – including oil, gas (piped and bottled), coal and electricity – for heating and lighting. No deduction should be made for donations. The fees **are inclusive of VAT** and, unless a special arrangement is made for Mr MacOwan to carry out a survey on short notice, there is no addition for expenses.

Subsidies

Both initial and repeat surveys attract subsidies from the General Trustees, and subsidy payments will be sent automatically to the relevant congregational treasurer after the consultant's fee has been paid. The General Trustees regret that subsidies cannot be made available to non-Church of Scotland congregations.

Please note

It should be noted that although **church and halls** may be on completely separate sites with independent measured supplies of energy they will be surveyed for a single fee. It should be further noted that **no additional travel expenses** are normally chargeable and, because of this, for locations outside a range of about 50 miles from Glasgow, it may be necessary to wait until there are sufficient applications to make the journey economic. Special arrangements for urgent surveys outside this radius can be made on the basis of an agreed contribution towards expenses.

Fees

The fees payable to Mr MacOwan are subject to VAT and are categorised according to the most recent available twelve months total cost of energy use.

Category 1, £1,000 or under
Category 2, £1,001 - £2,500
Category 3, £2,501 - £4,500
Category 4, £4,501 and above
(1) Initial Surveys

	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Grant</u>	<u>Net Cost</u>
Category 1	£176.25	£70.50	£105.75
Category 2	£235.00	£94.00	£141.00
Category 3	£293.75	£117.50	£176.25
Category 4	£352.50	£141.00	£211.50

(2) Repeat Surveys

Category 1	£146.88	£60.00	£86.88
Category 2	£205.63	£80.00	£125.63
Category 3	£264.38	£105.00	£159.38
Category 4	£323.13	£130.00	£193.13

Scope of Survey

The survey will review existing energy usage within the premises and will make specific recommendations with regard to potential for savings. Comfort issues will also be addressed and advice will be given in respect of any specific heating problems which are identified. Finally, heating systems, plant and automatic controls will be inspected and commented on. It should be noted that the survey will not give adequate detail to be used as the basis of a specification where replacement plant or systems are required – see **Additional Consultancy Service**.

Additional Consultancy Service

Where a Survey has been carried out, additional consultancy services may be provided by direct arrangement with Mr MacOwan. These range from an additional post survey meeting with representatives of the congregation to the preparation of outline specification for major works. In each case, the fees should be agreed between the congregation and the consultant at the outset.

Fabric fund

The cost of a Survey is a fair charge on a monies held for a congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund held by the General Trustees and applicable to the buildings in question.

Implementation of Recommendations

It is not a condition of the Better Heating Scheme that congregations act upon the advice given by the consultant, but they are strongly urged to do so. Experience to date has shown that on average the carrying out of recommendations made should result in a saving of some 20% of fuel costs, but savings recommended may be anywhere between the insignificant and, in certain cases, 50%, at the two extremes.

In the majority of cases, the cost of the survey and any expenditure on equipment which may be involved can be recovered out of savings within a single heating season.

Manse Surveys

The consultant is also able to offer energy/heating surveys of manses. If such a survey is carried out on the same visit as is being made to the church buildings, the fee is £50 (inclusive of VAT). If carried out independently of other buildings, the cost is £75 (inclusive of VAT). There are no grants or subsidies available in respect of manse surveys but the cost is very modest and congregations are encouraged to utilise them where appropriate.

If this service is required, please contact Robert Lindores (details below) who will forward a manse survey (pink) form which should be completed and sent direct to Mr MacOwan.

The Eco-Congregation Programme/ The Eco-Congregation Programme

This programme provides advice and assistance to congregations working on environmental issues. The initiative aims to help local churches to link their Christian service with caring for God's creation and the wider world. It's co-ordinated jointly by Keep Scotland Beautiful and the Church and Society Council on behalf of the Scottish churches. It is part of a wider scheme involving churches all over Britain and Ireland.

Contact details: To find out more about the Eco-congregation Programme and how to involve your church visit their website at www.ecocongregation.org/scotland

Next step to an Energy Survey?

Please contact Robert Lindores, General Trustees, 121 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4YR (telephone no. 0131 225 5722, ext. 294 / email address: rlindores@cofscotland.org.uk) for a Better Heating Information Pack (please give the name of your congregation).