Learn Your Church's Carbon Footprint

An easy-to-use Energy Footprint Tool will tell your church of what your "carbon footprint" is, based on the energy you use to heat and light your buildings.

This tool has been made available to all Church of England churches using the Online Parish Returns System.

The system uses the information we already hold about your church, to pre-populate your answers.

This means churches will only be asked for a small amount of additional information. You will need to have the whole of last year's electricity and gas/ oil bills.

The Energy Footprint Tool will tell your church the amount of carbon produced annually by heating and lighting your church buildings. There will be 2 useful graphs which show you your efficiency scores; one for energy efficiency based on building size, and one for attendance. It can take account of separate buildings such as church halls, as long as you have the utility bills for them.

The tool will also offer some helpful tips to reduce your carbon emissions. As you use the tool each year, you will be able to see how your churches improves, as you take steps to cut your carbon footprint.

If you would like to know more, please get in touch with Sam Nunney from Research and Statistics via sam.nunney@churchofengland.org.

The Energy Footprint Tool was created by the Church of England Research and Statistics Team in response to the call from General Synod in Feb 2019 to be able to measure the carbon footprint of churches.

It is a key step towards meeting our goal to cut our emissions, and play our role in responding to the climate crisis.