

South Western Synod URC Property Eco Survey:

The United Reformed Church is committed to caring for creation and adopted an Environmental Policy in 2016 which it updated in 2019. (see URC website). In 2016 the URC commended the Eco Church award scheme within the context of its new Environmental Policy which was updated also in 2019. The URC has since worked with A Rocha UK to develop Eco Synod as a tool by which Synods can encourage local churches to engage in wider creation care. We would therefore encourage you to take part in the Eco Church Survey questionnaire as a useful Audit tool.

This will assist us as we attempt to implement our new Eco policy for the Synod's various land and property interests. If you need help with filling out the survey please contact the Synod Property office / Green Apostles who should be able to assist / offer guidance. For assurance the vast majority of the questions can be answered by whoever is responsible for the building maintenance, with possibly a very few needing input from the treasurer (e.g. whether the energy supplier is on a green tariff).

Please would you send your completed questionnaires in for our property records:

email: Property@urcsouthwest.org.uk

Thank you

Property Team, South Western Synod, Taunton And the Synod's Green Apostles

Name of Church & Reference number:

Address:

Church Contact details:

Name, Address, Email, Phone etc.

Buildings:

1. Is your church responsible for the premises in which it meets?
Yes No
2. Have you measured your energy use and calculated the carbon footprint of your church premises?
Yes No Need to find out
3. Have you set sufficient targets for reducing the carbon footprint of your church premises and achieved year on year improvements in energy efficiency?
Yes No Need to find out
4. Do you offset the carbon footprint of your church premises for those you can't reduce?
Yes No Need to find out
5. The electricity supplied to the church premises is generated from renewable resources and/or charged according to your supplier's green tariff?
Yes Some No Need to find out Not applicable (no external supply)
6. The gas supplied to the church premises is generated from renewable resources and/or charged according to your supplier's green tariff?
Yes Some No Need to find out Not applicable (no external supply)
7. In terms of energy efficiency (an engineer should be able to determine this as part of the annual service) the main boiler for the church premises is rated:
A or above B C D Need to find out Not applicable (no boiler)
(if you have more than one boiler please use the Additional Information box below)

Additional Information:

8. Your Church premises are insulated as follows:

Main Church

All walls and all lofts / ceilings Some walls and some lofts/ceilings All walls only

Some walls only lofts/ceilings	All lofts/ceilings only	Some
Not at all	Not applicable (Listed status)	

Church Hall:

All walls and all lofts / ceilings only	Some walls and some lofts/ceilings	All walls
Some walls only lofts/ceilings	All lofts/ceilings only	Some
Not at all	Not applicable (You don't have one)	

Church Office:

All walls and all lofts / ceilings only	Some walls and some lofts/ceilings	All walls
Some walls only lofts/ceilings	All lofts/ceilings only	Some
Not at all	Not applicable (You don't have one)	

9. Your church premises are double glazed as follows:

Main Church:

Full Double glazing	Some double glazing	Full secondary glazing
Some secondary glazing	Not at all	Need to find out
Not applicable (listed status)		

Church Hall:

Full Double glazing	Some double glazing	Full secondary glazing
Some secondary glazing	Not at all	Need to find out
Not applicable (You don't have one)		

Church office:

Full Double glazing	Some double glazing	Full secondary glazing
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Some secondary glazing	Not at all	Need to find out
Not applicable (You don't have one)		

Other Buildings: (e.g. Manse etc.)

Full Double glazing	Some double glazing	Full secondary glazing
Some secondary glazing	Not at all	Need to find out
Not applicable (You don't have one)		

10. The lighting in the main church premises uses energy-efficient light bulbs as follows:

Main Church:

All LED bulbs	Some LED bulbs and some low energy bulbs	
Some LED energy bulbs and some NON low energy bulbs		All low energy bulbs
Some low energy bulbs and some NON low energy bulbs		No low energy bulbs
Need to find out	Not applicable (listed status)	

Church Hall:

All LED bulbs	Some LED bulbs and some low energy bulbs	
Some LED energy bulbs and some NON low energy bulbs		All low energy bulbs
Some low energy bulbs and some NON low energy bulbs		No low energy bulbs
Need to find out	Not applicable (you don't have one)	

Church Office:

All LED bulbs	Some LED bulbs and some low energy bulbs	
Some LED energy bulbs and some NON low energy bulbs		All low energy bulbs
Some low energy bulbs and some NON low energy bulbs		No low energy bulbs
Need to find out	Not applicable (you don't have one)	

Other building (e.g. Manse):

All LED bulbs	Some LED bulbs and some low energy bulbs
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Some LED energy bulbs and some NON low energy bulbs All low energy bulbs
Some low energy bulbs and some NON low energy bulbs No low energy bulbs
Need to find out Not applicable (you don't have one)

11. You have a policy designed to limit the amount of energy consumed by floodlighting and/or security lighting around our church premises:

Yes No Need to find out

Not applicable (no floodlights/security lights)

12. The water supply to the church is metered:

Yes Yes partially No Need to find out

13. Rainwater collection facilities are installed and used on the church premises (e.g. grey water systems, water butts etc.)

Yes No Need to find out

14. the toilet cisterns on our church premises are fitted with dual-flush buttons or other water saving devices:

All Some None Need to find out Not applicable (no toilets)

15. You have installed composting/ waterless toilet (e.g. eco-toilets.co.uk) on the church premises

All Some None Need to find out Not applicable (mains drainage)

16. Recycled toilet paper is provided on the church premises:

All Some None Need to find out Not applicable (no toilets)

17. The cleaning products used around church premises are environmentally friendly:

All Some None Need to find out

18. The disposables (e.g. paper cups and plates etc.) used on the church premises are:

Never use disposables	Occasionally use disposables	Biodegradable
Recyclable	Non-biodegradable	Need to find out

19. You are reducing your paper usage (e.g. through double sided copying / printing etc.)

Always	Sometimes	Not at All	Need to find out
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20. Our church administration uses recycled paper:

Yes	No	Need to find out
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21. In the event of the need to undertake a building/refurbishment project would you insist that it adheres to BREEAM (or similar) standard to ensure best practice in sustainable building design, construction, and operation:

Yes	No	Need to find out
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22. Cycle racks are available on church premises:

Yes	No	Need to find out
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23. Recycling facilities are available on church premises:

Outside (for use by local community)

Inside (primarily for use by church members)	Both inside and outside
No	

Need to find out

24. Has the church given due consideration to the possibilities of generating renewable energy on the premises (e.g. air or ground source heat pump, solar PV panels, wind turbine, etc.):

Yes	No	Need to find out
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25. Does the church generate renewable energy on / for the premises (e.g. from air or ground source heat pumps, solar PV panels, solar hot water, wind turbine etc.)

Yes

No

Need to find out

LAND:

1. Does the church have any influence over any land (e.g. church yard, community nature reserve etc.)
Yes No Need to find out
2. Is the land managed for the encouragement of nature wildlife (birds, animals, plants etc.)
Yes No Need to find out
3. Do you encourage native wildlife on the church land through provision of the following:
Bird boxes Bat boxes Bug hotels Hedgehog boxes Other (please state)
None Need to find out
4. Stocked wildlife feeding stations are present on church land (e.g. bird feeders, bird tables)
Yes all year round Yes winter only No Need to find out
5. Does the church land contain a pond or wetland that is good for wildlife:
Yes No Need to find out Not applicable – no space
6. Do you grow plants on the land that benefits birds, bees, butterflies etc.
Yes No Need to find out
7. Does the church maintain an area of land for native wildflowers:
Yes No Need to find out
8. Has the church researched and established a mowing regime appropriate to the conservation of the grassland and wildlife present:
Yes No Need to find out

9. Does the church avoid the use of harmful chemicals (pesticides, herbicides, or fertilizers) in the management of the land (excluding paths and driveways)
- Yes No Need to find out
10. Does the church participate in responsible native tree planting schemes in accordance with guidance from environment professionals:
- Yes No Need to find out
11. Does the church undertake wildlife (birds, animals & plants) surveys on the land:
- Annually (or more) Occasionally Never Need to find out
12. Does the church participate in a scheme other than Eco Church, designed to promote conservation on church land (e.g. Living Churchyards):
- Yes No Need to find out
13. Do you grow fruit and vegetables on the land (including in planters, window boxes etc., as well as in a community garden / allotment)
- Yes No Need to find out Not applicable (insufficient land)
14. Are composting facilities available on church land?
- Yes No Need to find out
15. Does the church actively encouraging members to use church land for recreational / contemplation (e.g. picnics, prayers etc.)
- Yes No Need to find out Not applicable (insufficient land)
16. Does the church actively encouraging members of the local community to use church land for recreational / contemplation (e.g. picnics, prayers etc.)
- Yes No Need to find out Not applicable (insufficient land)
17. Does the church have an established management plan for the land for which it is responsible?

Yes

No

Need to find out

Not applicable (insufficient land)

Source: Eco church, A Rocha