The Development Fund

Supporting local Christ-like church projects to be missionally creative in your local context, reflect where God is at work and encourage learning.

Open to all parishes, benefices and deaneries in the Diocese of Oxford, with total awards of up to £1 million each year. There are four application deadlines a year: 31 January, 30 April, 31 July and 31 October.

Grants up to £2,500

- Short-term, one-off grants to kick start a new initiative.
- Feasibility studies for building projects.
- Tier 1 Application Form.

Grants over £2,500

- Larger, longer term programmes.
- Projects including employment of staff.
- Tier 2 Application Form.

What makes a strong application?

- Describe how you have discerned the missional need.
- Identify the new mission activities enabled by your project.
- Explain the resources the project requires.
- Demonstrate PCC/parish support and fit with your wider plans.
- Is the project compassionate, contemplative, and courageous?
- How might the project contribute to wider learning?
- Be sure to follow the application guidelines.

Large projects

- Seek support and advice at an early stage.
- Be realistic about your timescales, costs and expected outcomes.
- Ensure permissions are in place (e.g. Diocesan Advisory Committee).
- Plan match-funding/fundraising.
- Plan for sustainability.

Get inspired

Visit **oxford.anglican.org/news/** and click on the Development Fund tag to see examples of projects that have made successful applications.

Application checklist

1. Research and gather project info
2. Read application guidelines
3. Seek support and advice
4. Read application guidelines again
5. Complete application form and supporting documents
6. Submit application by email
7. Panel considers your application
8. Award or response - no later than 2 months after the deadline

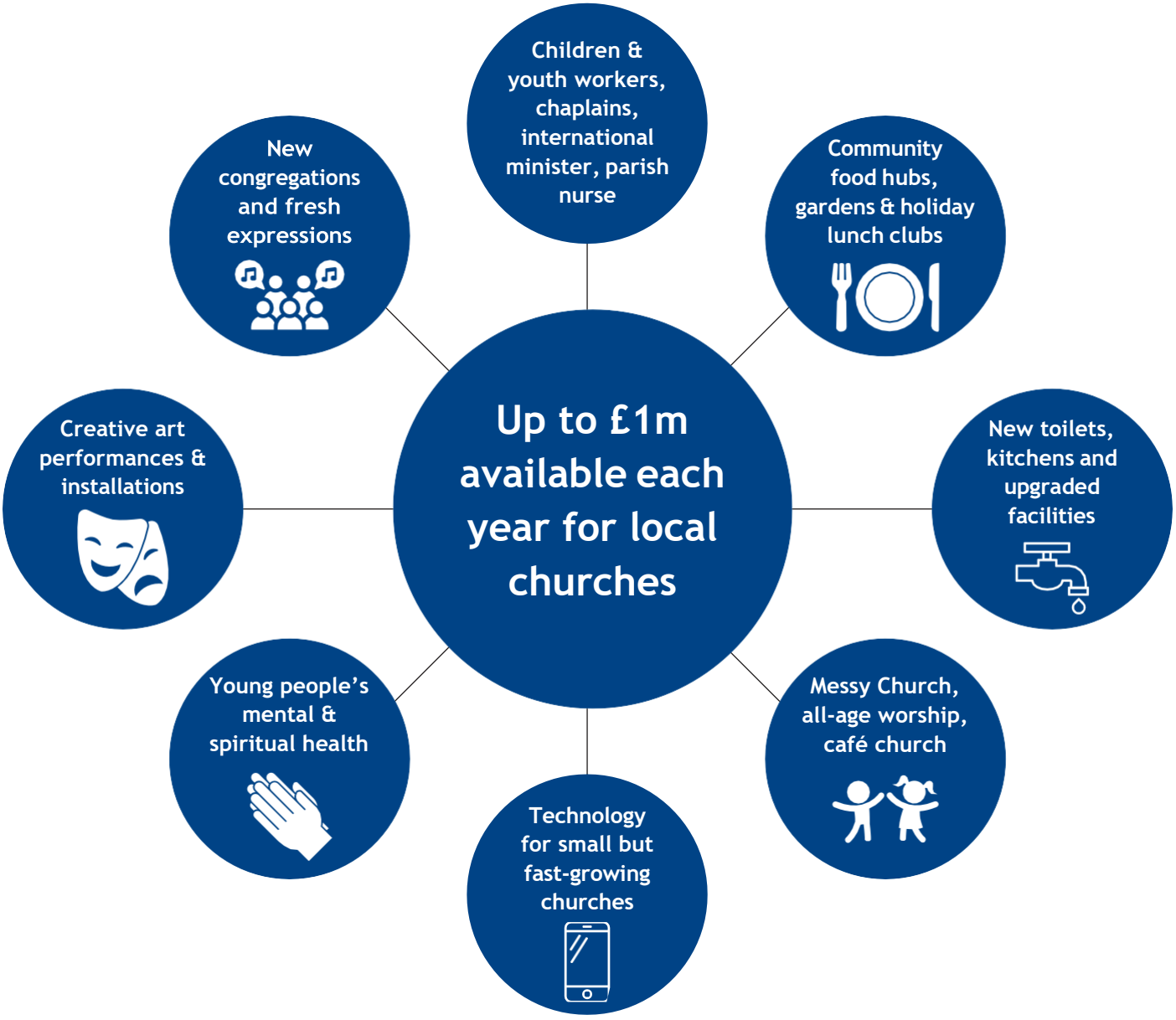
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Get more help and advice

You are strongly encouraged to discuss your grant application with relevant diocesan staff, and this is particularly expected at an early stage for a Tier 2 application. There are people available to help across a range of expertise:

- General mission and vision planning – speak to a Parish Development Adviser
- Children, youth and families – talk to a Discipleship Enabler
- Fundraising and giving – contact the Generous Giving Adviser
- Buildings projects – speak to the Church Buildings team
- HR and people appointments – talk to the HR Adviser
- Application process – contact the Development Fund Administrator

Find contact details at **oxford.anglican.org/contact-us**



- Guidelines and application **forms at oxford.anglican.org/development-fund**
- Submit applications to **commonvision@oxford.anglican.org**
- For further information and questions contact the Development Fund Administrator **commonvision@oxford.anglican.org / 01865 208739**

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