

Listed Places of Worship Scheme

Amid the upcoming busyness of Christmas, may we ask you for some of your time to support the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (LPW). The LPW scheme allows listed places of worship across the UK to reclaim the full amount of VAT they pay on repairs of over £1000. Simply put, its removal would mean 20% more would now need to be raised by local people to pay VAT to the Government.

Across the country, at all levels of the church, there is increasing concern that this scheme, administered by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and funded jointly with HM Treasury, may not be extended beyond its current end date of **31 March 2025**. This would be an appalling blow, not only to countless buildings projects and volunteers across the country but also the vital contribution our churches make towards community welfare and the common good.

Please could we ask you to publicise this situation and encourage as many people as possible to write to their local MP - before Christmas preferably - requesting the continuation of the LPW scheme. **The national church have provided a written briefing** which outlines the various impacts of closing of the scheme, and gives examples of that impact from particular churches. Please do add your voice to this campaign and help us to secure an extension to this vital funding for our churches.