THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

Church heating replacement process

The Church of England's commitment to Net Zero by 2030 means that like for like replacement of gas or oil boilers is no longer the default option for church heating. The Buildings and Environment team and DAC office at Church House are here to help you when considering renewing your heating. Heating replacement is complicated and can take some time, so every parish should have a five-year plan for heating.

There are five steps

Read CofE heating guidance

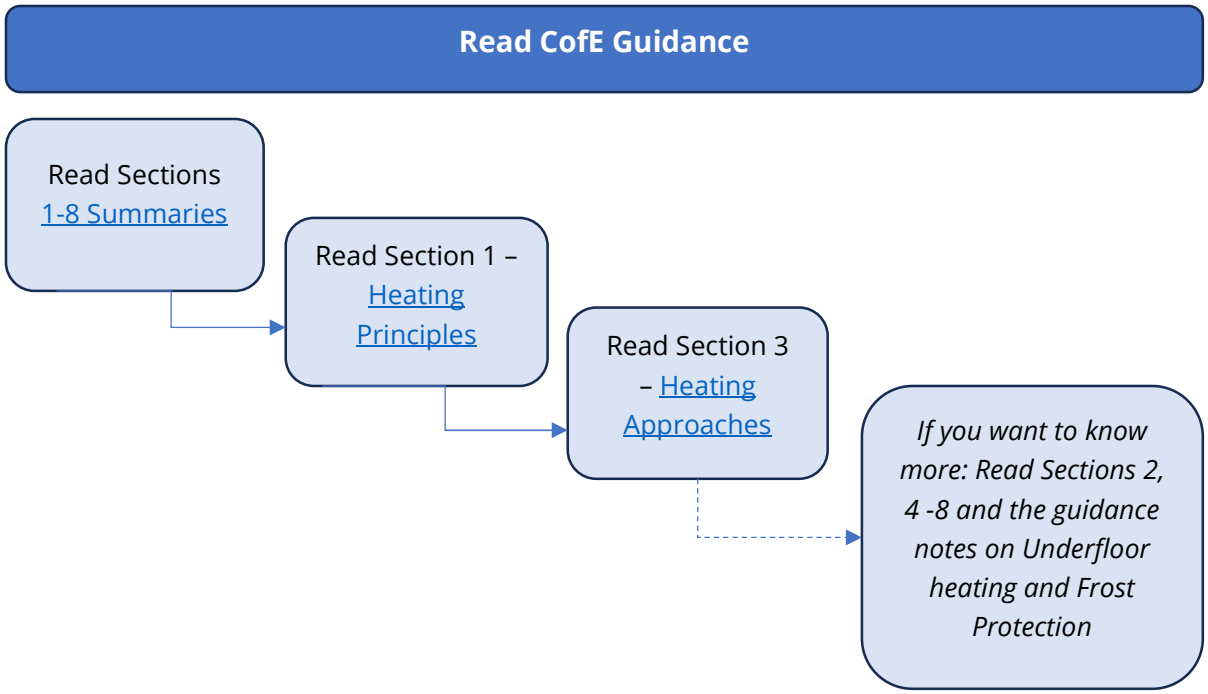
Assess your current heating system

Investigate potential heating solutions

Prepare a proposal

Apply for permission

Step 1- Church of England heating guidance

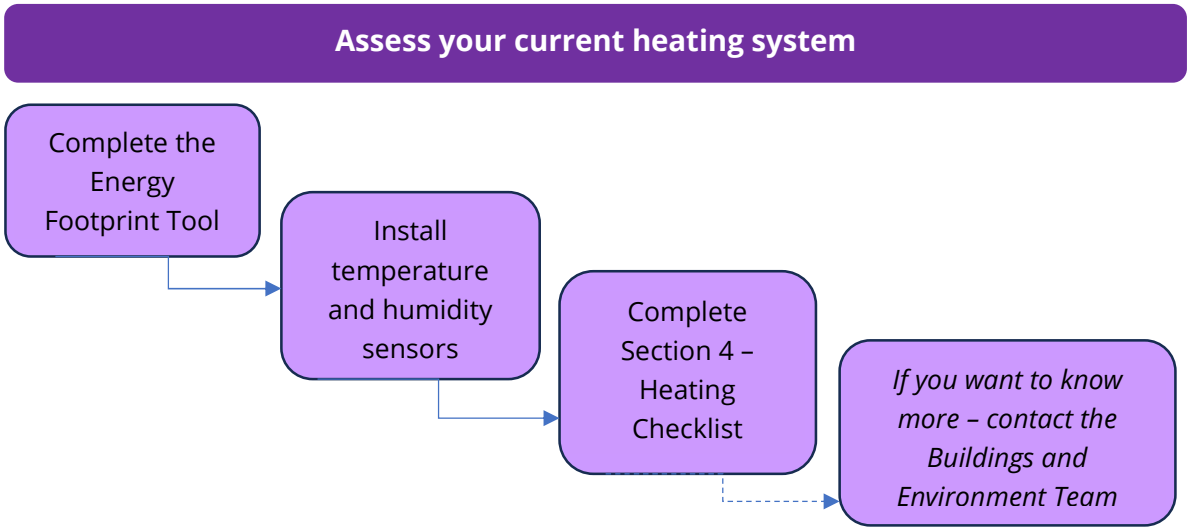


There is no single solution for church heating, every church is likely to have different needs and constraints and therefore a different solution.

We recommend reading the summary of each of the 8 sections, and if you want to know more look at the downloads where you feel you need to, but as a minimum read the first and third sections, ***Heating principles*** and ***Heating approaches***.

Please contact the Net Zero Carbon Project Officer at any time to talk through anything that needs clarification.

Step 2 – Assess your current heating system



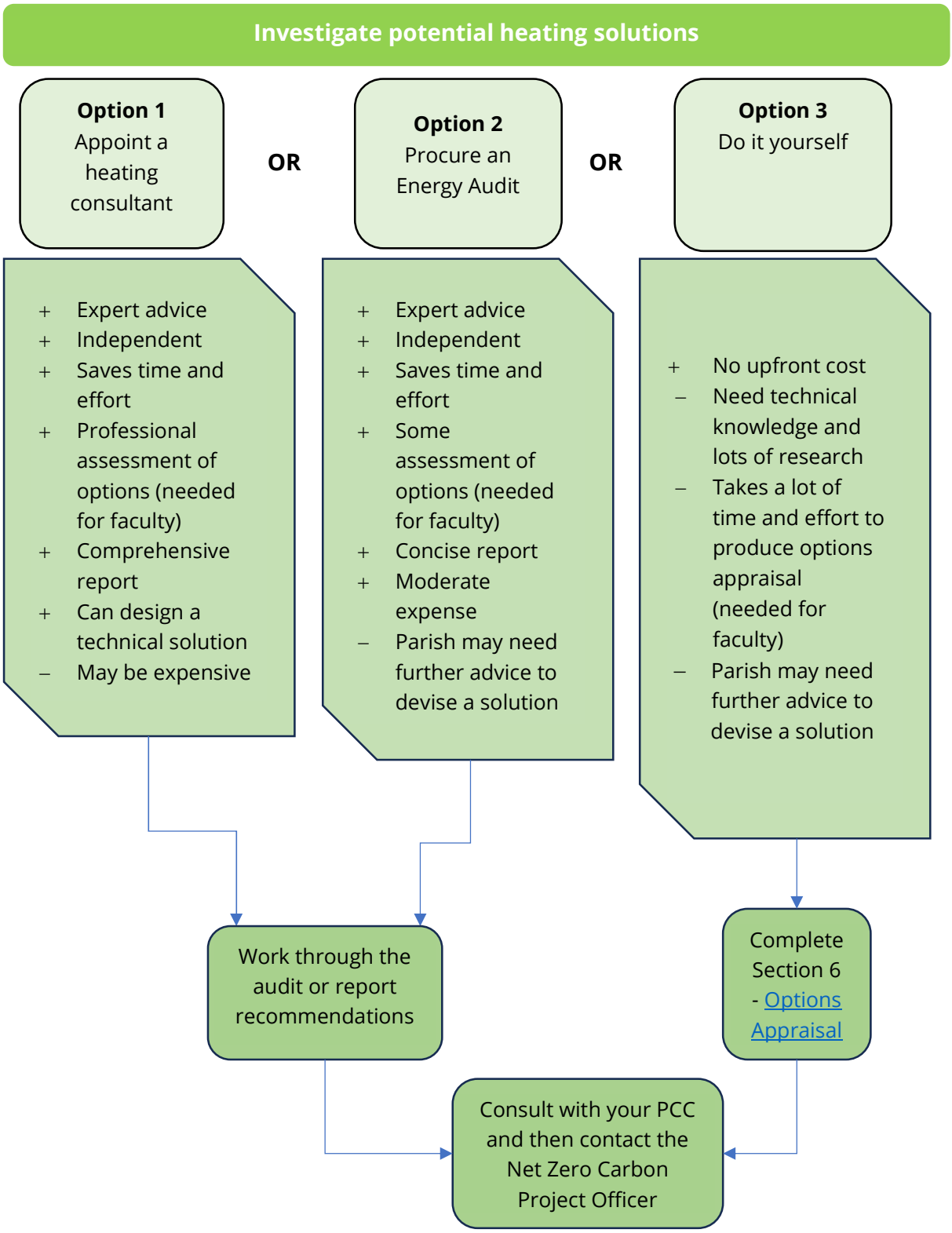
Complete the energy footprint tool (EFT). You can do this at https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org (you may need to create an account; we can help you). Completing the EFT can enable you to access Net Zero grants to help pay for the work you need, as well as help you understand your carbon usage, and help the diocese and national church report on carbon emissions.

You should fill in the national church *Heating checklist.* You will need details of the current building use, in terms of time and activities, oil/gas and electricity usage, temp and humidity records etc. It would help you if you could you begin recording this information sooner rather than later.

You can buy simple digital temperature and humidity sensors very cheaply online (we can advise on location, position and number), but you will need to organise someone to make note of readings on a regular basis.

The diocese may be able to help a limited number of churches with a remote system for collecting and analysing this data. Talk to the **Net Zero Carbon Project Officer** if you would like help with this.

Step 3 – Assess the options for replacing the current heating



It may be difficult to navigate your way through what solutions may or may not be appropriate and then document your findings in an unbiased and justified way. If you only ask your usual boiler contractor for advice, they are very likely to suggest a new boiler as the only realistic alternative. This may be the case but is not sufficient to submit to the DAC or Chancellor to evidence that you have paid 'due regard to advice on net-zero'.

Replacement heating will need faculty permission, and your application will need to show that you have seriously considered all options by seeking independent advice and arrived at the best solution for your church users, the building itself, budget and net zero.

We would recommend using a heating consultant to undertake this assessment. We recognise that is an extra cost, but the time and effort in consulting a wide spectrum of technological experts and contractors yourself is considerable.

We are aware of the following heating consultants, Heating consultants will advise on options and are usually qualified to design a solution.

- Bob Costello Associates, 133 Newport Road, Stafford, ST16 2EZ Tel: 01785 247 300
- Ernest Griffiths Consulting Engineers, Inglewood Manor, Ledsham, CH66 8PF Tel: 0151 334 1358
- Ingleton Wood, Sherwood Business Park, Pure Offices, Suite 24 Lake View Dr, Nottingham NG15 0DT Tel: 0115 865 4072 peter.webb@ingletonwood.co.uk
- CBG, 1 St Peters Square, Manchester, M2 3AE Tel: 0161 527 2805, CT@cbgc.com

A less costly but less comprehensive option is to procure an energy audit. Parish buying sometimes offer subsidised energy audits. https://www.parishbuying.org.uk/categories/energy/energy-basket/audit.

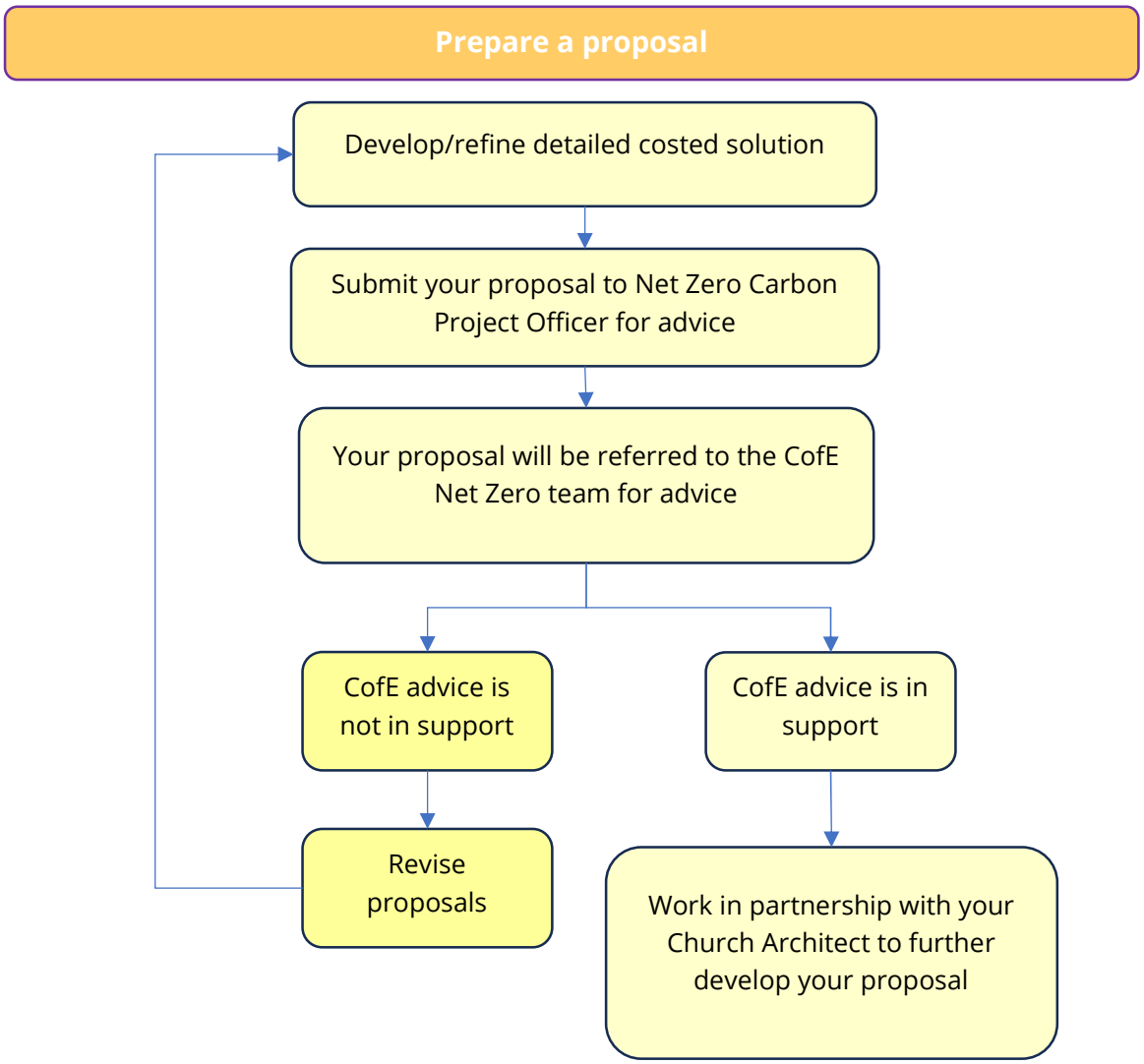
Energy Audits may cost parishes around £500. An energy audit will suggest a way forward but will not provide a replacement heating design.

- Arrow - af@arrowenergy.co.uk
- Greener Edge (these are based in Wales, but have been doing audits in our diocese as part of the national net zero work) - stu@greener-edge.co.uk
- Reheat – melissa.rowell@reheat.uk.com
- Inspired Efficiency (Matt Fulford is a DAC advisor in Gloucester diocese, and is very involved in national net zero) - matt@inspiredefficiency.co.uk

When you've considered your options, you can either produce a consultant's report or follow the *Options appraisal* guidance in section 7 of the national guidance. You will need this for any future faculty application

Once you have an options appraisal or report, please contact the Net Zero Project Officer to talk through the possible solutions.

Step 4 – Develop a proposal



If you engaged a heating consultant, they should be able to develop a technical specification for your preferred option. This is likely to incur further fees.

If you decided to undertake the options appraisal yourself or undertook an energy audit, you will need to find and consult appropriate contractors yourself, or else engage a heating consultant to take your project forward for a fee.

When you have an outline proposal, please provide details to the Net Zero Carbon Project Officer. They will ask for early advice from the central Church of England Net Zero team.

If the early advice is supportive, you will then need to talk to your church architect and contractors/consultant about the technical details of the solution. Your church architect

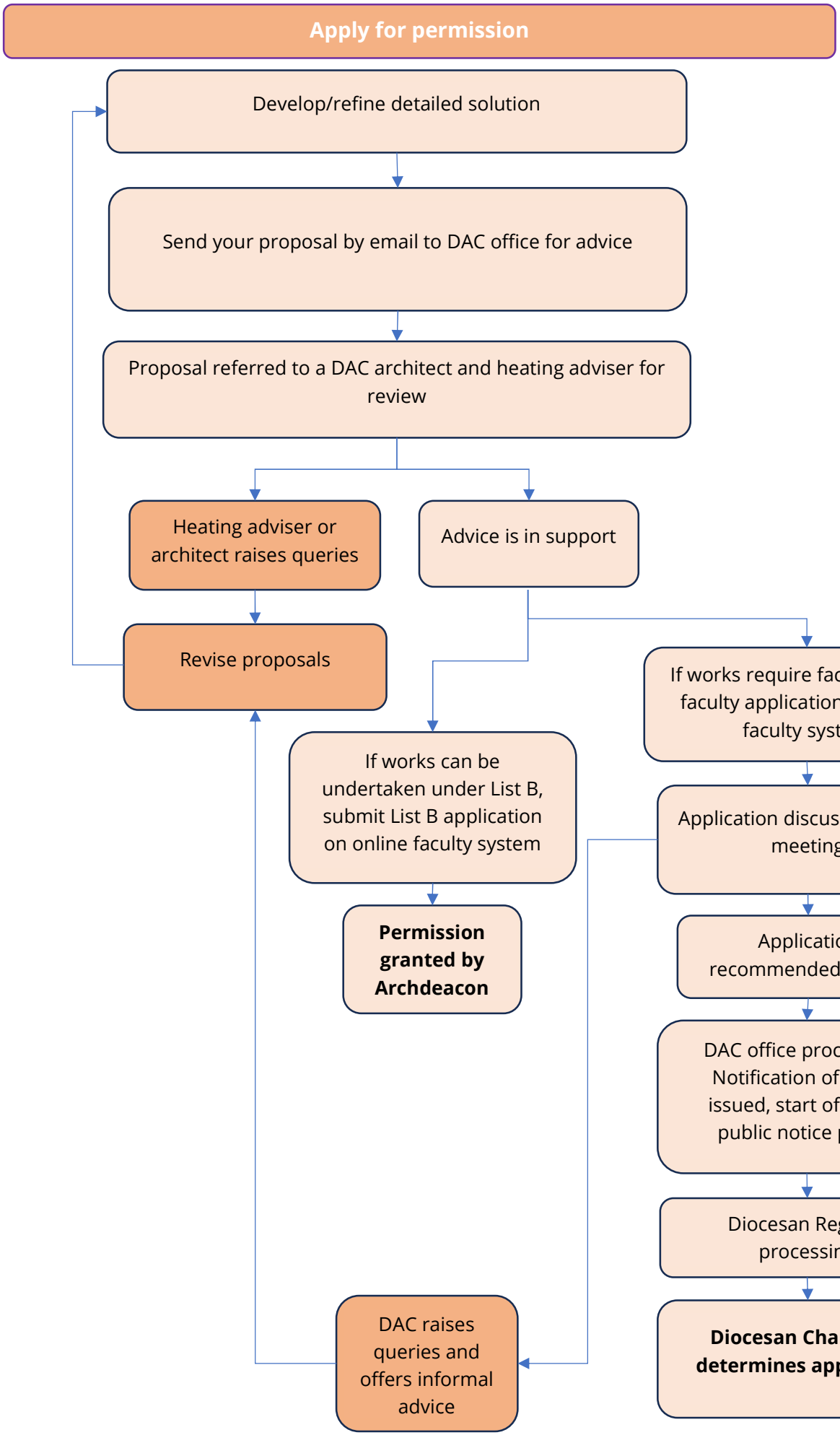
will need to advise on any potential harm to significance, fixings and locations of equipment/cabling/pipework/flues etc.

Step 5 – Apply for permission under Faculty

The majority of heating schemes will need permission under faculty. The DAC office will be able to advise on whether your proposals can be undertaken under List A (no formal permission required) or List B (archdeacon's permission). Both List B and faculty applications are made through the Online Faculty System portal. You should allow at least four months from submission date, in order to take into account timing of DAC meetings (usually once a month), the public notice period (30 days), any necessary statutory consultation (42 days), and any external factors affecting the DAC office, Registry and the Diocesan Chancellor.

The DAC do not grant permission; they only recommend that the Chancellor do so. It is important to understand that no works can be undertaken until the Chancellor has granted faculty. It must also be stressed that the recommendation of the DAC is not binding, the Chancellor will decide whether a faculty should or should not be granted and will pay specific attention to the question of due regard to Net Zero guidance.

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Diocese of Chester



Useful Links	
Quick Wins Guidance	**Your guide to projects eligible for Quick Wins grant A4 doc**
Heating Guidance	**Heating | The Church of England**
1.Heating Principles	**heating_principles.pdf**
2.Heating Perspectives	**heating_perspectives.pdf**
3.Heating Approaches	**heating_approaches.pdf**
4.Heating Checklist	**heating_checklists.pdf**
5.Heating Options Appraisals	**heating_options_appraisals.pdf**
6.Heating Permissions	**heating_permissions.pdf**
7.Temporary Heating Solutions	**heating_temporary_solutions.pdf**
Frost Prevention	**frost-prevention.pdf**
CCB Under Floor Heating	CCB-Under-Floor-Heating.pdf
Grants and Funding Guidance	**A short guide to grants and projects to help your church get to net zero | The Church of England**