



DIOCESE OF TRURO
DISCOVERING GOD'S KINGDOM
GROWING THE CHURCH

To: PCC Treasurer's and all those who completed EFT returns 2019

May 2021

Dear Colleague

We are pleased to announce that the portal for the Energy Footprint Tool (EFT) is now open and ready for 2020 data to be submitted. It is the responsibility of the PCC to ensure the data is submitted and is most usually done by the PCC Treasurer.

We would be very pleased if you could submit your Energy Footprint data onto the portal here:- <http://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/>. The portal will require a username and password. If you have previously completed the Stats for Mission and Return of Parish Finance returns for 2020, then your password will remain same. If you do not have your username and password to hand please contact us and we will be able to provide that for you. If this email has gone to the incorrect person, please accept our apologies and let us know and we will correct that.

Your help with completing the Energy Footprint Tool will benefit every level of the life of the Church. We recognize, along with the rest of the Church of England, that we, individually and corporately, need to act urgently on the climate crisis, which is the single greatest environmental challenge before us, and to cut our carbon use to net zero. The Very Revd Roger Bush, Dean of Truro Cathedral and Chair of the Net Zero Group writes to parishes:

“Continued Easter blessings to you and your church community!

As you may be aware, the Diocese has conducted a review into its environmental strategy in order to meet the enormous challenges that face, not just us, but the whole world with regard to climate change and all its consequential threats. Part of that review has seen the establishment of the Net Zero Group, whose task it is to oversee the reduction of carbon emissions throughout the diocese of Truro to a net zero balance by 2030, and it is my privilege to chair that group. NZG is answerable to the new Environment Board, and we are determined to deliver on the promises we have made to achieve net zero by our target date.

The first year or so of our work will be spent in collecting data on just what our carbon consumption is at the moment. Although that sounds quite a number-crunching task, without such data we will not be able to determine what the scale of the task is, nor set in train achievable policies to reduce our level of carbon consumption. One such tool that we are encouraging parishes to use is an Energy Footprint Tool, which is attached to this correspondence. It provides a recognisable breakdown of the main areas of carbon usage in our churches, and therefore provides a straightforward way of collecting the data we need. Such is the significance of this work that amassing this data has now become one of our marks of mission, because, unless we can address our carbon consumption, then it curtails significantly what the mission of the Church is all about, as we seek to become more sustainable environmentally, ensuring that our care for God's creation is at the forefront of our discipleship and evangelism.

I am delighted that you have already used this tool, and so I hope that you will not need too much encouragement to use it again. The information gathered from using the tool will be collated centrally, and that will help us build up an overall picture of carbon usage, and therefore assist us in advising on where alterations and changes can be made to reduce our dependence on carbon.

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Thank you for your commitment to this project. It is salutary to know that the Book of Genesis opens with God's injunction to humanity to be good stewards of the creation he has lovingly given. As I say, it is a mark of our discipleship to effect that stewardship as determinedly as we can. Our Christian commitment is not just defined by what takes place within the walls of our buildings, but how we can live out the lessons from the Parable of the Sheep and Goats in Matthew 25: 'for as much as you did this to the least of my brothers and sisters, you did it to me.' Creation care has this at its heart, and cutting carbon is a huge step in making our care for creation the heart of our Christian stewardship.

Thank you for your help with this".

With every blessing

Roger Bush, Dean of Truro
Chair of the NZG

Please may we request that your EFT data is submitted online by the **end of August 2021**. If you want to check and compare your 2020 readings with your 2019 readings, you can do this by selecting your church on the Portal, clicking on <View Data> at the top bar and then 'Archived Returns'. You will then be able to see how energy consumption is hopefully reducing year by year.

If you would like any help in completing the EFT information or have any other questions, please don't hesitate to contact us on 01872 274351 or by email info@truro.anglican.org

Many thanks for your continued assistance,

Rosey Sanders
Operations Assistant