



The Patrimony Committee of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales provides support and advice for historic Catholic churches and chapels throughout England and Wales including on the availability of grants. There are about three thousand Catholic churches and chapels in England and Wales.

Even modest grants can be or real assistance to those struggling to raise the funds to maintain and repair their places of worship.

Many churches have parish halls and community facilities attached to them which serve not only the Catholic parish but the wider community with all kinds of community groups using these facilities. These buildings also need repair and modernisation so that they can continue to operate effectively and serve local needs.

The law needs to be clarified so that it is clear that local councils are empowered to give grants to places of worship to support fabric repair and provision of facilities and amenities. The present position is confusing and unsatisfactory with the result that councils more often than not these days take the view that they are not permitted to give grants to places of worship.

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