



Environmental News



Spring 2026

Bethan Still, Diocesan Environmental Officer

I have now returned to work after a period of maternity leave and am keen to update everyone on the exciting new developments happening both within the diocese and from the national Church of England Environment Team.

Net Zero Programme

- We will have a Net Zero Fundraising Officer joining the Northern Dioceses soon, and a new funding portal should be announced shortly. Look out for updates from us regarding this.
- As always, myself and my colleague Martin Howard are happy to visit your church and talk about some of the Net Zero quick wins you can implement, or discuss larger projects such as electrical heating.
- Last year a fantastic 95% of churches returned their Energy Footprint Tool. Thank you so much for making this happen. This year we are aiming for 100% please!!

Eco Church Awards

- Congratulations to all our new Eco Churches! You can see them on this [map](#)
- If you have recently signed up or are feeling stuck on your journey, please reach out. I have a Gold award church who are happy to share their experiences with others and I will happily put you in touch with them.
- It will soon be mandatory for churches to be registered for Eco Church in order to receive Net Zero Funding. It is easy and free to register. You can do so [here](#).



Other News

- Churches Count on Nature is 6th-14th June. For more info and to sign up please see [here](#).
- If you are an Eco Champion for your church, A Rocha have produced a very useful document for you. Take a look [here](#).
- The National Emergency Briefing has produced a film to inspire action against the Climate Crisis. There is a resources pack for churches to host a showing of the film. If you are interested please speak to me, and find out more [here](#).



Contact Me

I am always happy to visit churches, offer advice or give presentations. Please contact me if this will be of interest to your Church or Eco Group, or if you have any other queries.

bethan.still@durham.anglican.org
01388 660018

Energy Footprint Tool



Please continue to fill in your EFT on [Parish Returns](#).

The deadline is 30th June