

The Energy Footprint Tool

The Research and Statistics team have been working on creating a tool that will inform churches of their carbon footprint based on their energy usage. This tool will be made available to all Church of England churches using the Online Parish Returns System (Please see Figure 1). We are aiming to streamline information from our own data sources to pre-populate the majority of the tool, so that churches will only be asked for additional information if it is not available to us elsewhere.

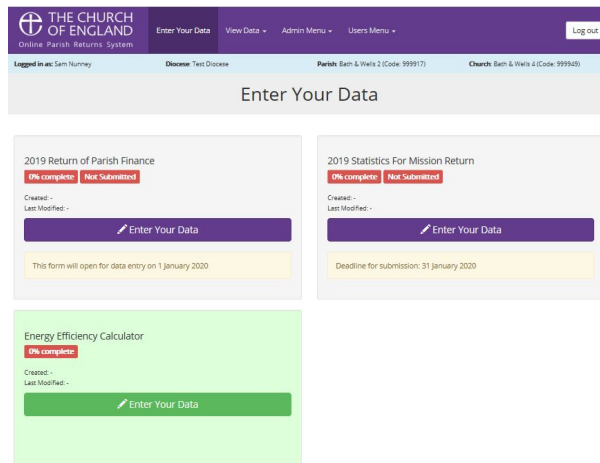


Figure 1. The Online Parish Returns System, with the Energy Tool included.

Each church will receive the amount of carbon produced by their church annually. There will then be two efficiency scores (Please see Figure 2 for an example), one for energy efficiency based on building size and one for attendance. In the future there will be opportunity to see how churches progress over time as well as the ability to compare with other churches within their diocese and other similar-sized churches nationally. There will also be some helpful tips to reduce carbon emissions.

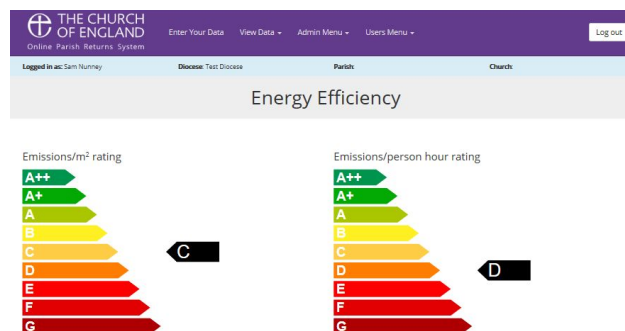


Figure 2. An example results page for the Energy Tool. This will be adapted before the pilot to simplify the results and provide a “what next” list of links for things that could help energy efficiency.

The tool will be piloted by two dioceses in November 2019 and will be rolled out to all Church of England churches fully in 2020.

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