

## Consultation on Church Object: frequently asked questions

Cloudesley is currently consulting on proposals about possible revisions to its Church and Health Objects. The deadline for responses is 5pm on Friday 22 November. After the deadline, Trustees will consider the responses and decide whether to ask the Charity Commission if it might make changes to the Objects. Depending on the responses received, this could either be to request that the Objects are updated as set out in the 'Proposed Wording' section of our consultation documents or amended in another way in light of consultation responses: [Cloudesley Church Object consultation details](#)

Following the initial responses received to the Church Object consultation, we've put together this additional frequently asked questions document to clarify points which some churches have raised. During the consultation period, we may add to this FAQ document if further clarification and information is needed. We would encourage you to check this document again before your church submits its response.

### Current Church Object

The charity's current Church Object specifies that Trustees can make grants:

'towards the upkeep and repair of the fabric of, and the maintenance of services in, any churches of the Church of England in the area of the London Borough of Islington'

### Proposed wording of revised Church Object

The proposed wording for the revised Church Object would enable the charity to make grants as follows:

'towards the upkeep, repair and redevelopment of the fabric and facilities of any churches of the Church of England in the London Borough of Islington and the maintenance or development of the public acts of worship and mission of those churches.'

In this instance 'churches' would include 'all buildings, structures, gardens, paths and grounds within the curtilage of the principal place of worship and any other premises in the London Borough of Islington which are responsibility of the incumbent and/or the Parochial Church Council of that church'.

## Frequently asked questions

1. Under the proposals, which church buildings and properties would be in scope?

The proposed Object would broaden the buildings that would be in scope by including structures such as walls, pathways and more church halls, not only just those used, however occasionally, for public worship as under the current Object. However, Cloudesley would not fund redevelopment for commercial purposes, such as residential developments, as that would not be for a charitable purpose. Cloudesley would also not fund work on buildings let to third parties for commercial use.

2. Are church halls currently in scope? Would this change if the proposals are agreed?

Under the current Church Object, church halls which are used at least partly for public Church of England worship are in scope. Church halls which are not used at least partly for public Church of England worship are not in scope.

It is proposed to change this to include church halls that are used for the mission of the church, even where the building is not used for public worship.

3. Under the proposals, would residential properties and vicarages owned by parishes be in scope?

This is not the intention of the proposals. Trustees will consider how this can be clarified.

4. Under the proposals, would community engagement, community outreach and social action be in scope? In the proposed wording, does 'mission' refer to the activities of the church or is it intended to still focus on the fabric of the buildings?

Under the proposed wording, if community engagement, community outreach and social action fell within the church's mission then they could potentially be in scope.

Under the proposed wording, 'mission' could refer to the activities of the church.

As now, if the Church Object is changed, depending on the circumstances at the time, it would be up to Trustees to agree a set of priorities for the Church Grants programme. Trustees are currently prioritising the upkeep and repair of church buildings.

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