STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2026 No. 199

ECCLESIASTICAL LAW, ENGLAND

The Payments to the Churches Conservation Trust Order 2026

Made - - - -	*9th February 2026*
Laid before Parliament	*5th March 2026*
Coming into force - -	*1st April 2027*

The Church Commissioners, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 65 of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011(**a**) and in accordance with section 9(3A) of the Church Commissioners Measure 1947(**b**) and section 11(6) and (7) of the Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure 2018(**c**), make the following Order.

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Payments to the Churches Conservation Trust Order 2026.

(2) This Order comes into force on 1st April 2027.

(3) In this Order, "the 2011 Measure" means the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.

Funding period

2. The funding period for the purposes of Part 6 of the 2011 Measure (buildings closed for regular public worship) is the period which begins with 1st April 2027 and ends with 31st March 2030.

Amount of payment

3.—(1) The total amount to be paid by the Church Commissioners to the Churches Conservation Trust in respect of the funding period specified in Article 2, by way of grants under section 57(19) of the 2011 Measure and moneys allocated under section 64(1) of that Measure, is—

(a) £6,000,000 and

(b) such additional amounts as are provided for by paragraph (2).

(2) Where the Church Commissioners' one-third share of the proceeds and premiums received during 2027, 2028 or 2029 exceeds £1,267,000, there is to be an additional amount for the purposes of paragraph (1)(b) equal to the amount of the excess.

(**a**) 2011 No. 3.
(**b**) 1947 No. 2. Section 9(3A) was inserted by section 11(1) of the Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure 2018 (No. 7).
(**c**) 2018 No. 7.

(3) But the total of the payments under paragraph (1)(b) must not exceed £1,000,000; and paragraph (2) accordingly has effect subject to this paragraph.

(4) In paragraph (2)—

(a) the reference to the proceeds and premiums received during a calendar year is a reference to the net proceeds and net premiums referred to in section 64 of the 2011 Measure which are received during that calendar year, and

(b) the reference to the Church Commissioners' one-third share of those proceeds and premiums is a reference to the moneys comprised in the remaining one-third as referred to in that section.

Payments on account

4. A payment on account of the sum specified in Article 3(1)(a), or of an additional amount referred to in Article 3(1)(b), may be made only if the Church Commissioners are satisfied that—

(a) the amount of the payment is a proportion of a sum of money needed by the Churches Conservation Trust, and

(b) the balance of that sum will be paid to the Trust out of moneys provided by Parliament.

Signed on behalf of the Church Commissioners by two officers of the Church Commissioners authorised by the Board of Governors for that purpose

John Worth
Officer of the Church Commissioners

Paul Stevenson
Officer of the Church Commissioners

Approved by the General Synod of the Church of England.

A.S. McGregor
9th February 2026 Registrar of the General Synod

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order provides that, for the period from 1st April 2027 to 31st March 2030, the total amount to be paid by the Church Commissioners to the Churches Conservation Trust is a fixed sum of £6,000,000 plus certain additional sums determined in the way described below. The total amount consists of grants made by the Church Commissioners and moneys allocated by them out of the net proceeds of the sale or exchange of churches closed for regular public worship or land occupied by them and the net premiums for the grant of leases of such churches or land.

The additional sums referred to above are determined as follows. If the Church Commissioners' share of the net proceeds and premiums referred to above exceeds £1,267,000 in 2027, 2028 or 2029, the amount of the excess is payable to the Churches Conservation Trust. But that is subject to an overall cap of £1,000,000 on the additional payments for the whole of the three-year period.

The Order also provides for payments on account if the amount in question is a proportion of a sum needed by the Churches Conservation Trust and if Parliament has approved the payment of the balance of that sum.

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