

# Community case studies: Climate Change Grant

**Organisation:** Abbey United Reformed Church (AURC) Romsey

**Location:** Romsey

**Ward:** Abbey

## Challenge

Abbey United Reformed Church, which is a listed building, is used by numerous groups within the local community including for church services, concerts and a venue for choir rehearsals. Its hall and lounge room are regularly used by many community groups and local residents. With rising on-going and maintenance costs, the Church wanted to explore ways in which it could reduce its energy costs, whilst also reducing its impact on the environment by reducing its carbon footprint.

## Project Overview

The Church decided to replace the existing lighting with LED lighting to reduce electricity consumption. Another benefit of LED lights is that they require less frequent repairs and replacement.

## Funding

AURC applied for the full £10,000 from the climate change grant to help fund the project. By applying for a grant of more than £5,000, they had to provide quantitative evidence on how the project would reduce emissions or energy usage.

## Impact

AURC had already seen a reduction in their electricity consumption since LED lighting was installed in their hall. It is expected that now the LED lighting in the church is completed they will continue to see a further reduction. The general quality of the lighting has also improved. This will help ensure the financial sustainability of the organisation and help ensure both buildings can continue to be used by the many various community groups.

The installing of the lighting was straight forward and a simple way of improving energy efficiency and reducing costs.

## Where to find out more

You can find out more about Test Valley Borough Council's community grants at: <https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/communityandleisure/communities/workingwithcommunities/communitygrants>

