



GRANTS FROM COUNTY & LOCAL AUTHORITIES

A number of local authorities and county councils make grants towards the cost of repair and renovation of churches that are Listed or in a Conservation Area. From time to time, local authorities also make grants towards the cost of works that improve the quality of the built environment in a particular area; typically a town-centre.

The money available and the requirements of the grant-making body differ significantly across the Province but it is always well worthwhile enquiring if any assistance might be available. Such enquiries should be made at the earliest opportunity as retrospective financial assistance is rarely available.

From time to time, grants are available for specific purposes that are unrelated to the historic or architectural importance of the building. A 'Safer Cities' programme was launched by the Home Office in 1988 which made grants for such purposes as improvement in security or establishing a youth club. More recently, the Rural Development Commission has been provided with funds for making grants towards the cost of meeting the needs of the elderly, those with disabilities, low income families and others. Parts of Oxfordshire, the Isle of Wight and West Dorset qualify for such financial assistance and details should be obtained locally through the Commission's Rural Services Officer.