



We are delighted that St Pauls has been awarded £10,500 by the Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage in its second round of funding, in which £44 million were shared between 23 cathedrals and more than a hundred parish churches, as well as well-known attractions such as the Bluebell Railway, Blenheim Palace and Cambridge Botanic Garden. Organisations who were eligible for this funding from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport included churches and cathedrals. Eligible churches had to be listed buildings, open to the public for worship and wider activities.

The award is intended to assist cultural and heritage organisations to recover from the economic impact of Covid 19 as they open up again. The grant cannot not be used for capital works but any work that is needed for the transition towards full reopening, such as testing and servicing of equipment, making the building safe, improving the welcome with signage or other initiatives, and staff costs involved in reopening, are included. The award emphasised there should be a commitment to diversity and growing community engagement both of which are priorities for St Pauls. The grant must be spent between April and June 2021.

In St Pauls, this funding will be used as outlined above for servicing all our facilities and making all the preparations which are needed to open up again as soon as it is permitted. As well as being delighted to see the return of all the community groups which use our facilities, we look forward especially to being able to welcome back all those in the community and church who have really missed our various communal weekly meals and other activities together.

We are very grateful to Jonathan, Peter and Sarah who have been involved in this application and to all the congregation who make St Pauls a welcoming community.