

Sir Chris Bryant MP Minister for Creative Industries, Arts and Tourism Department for Culture, Media and Sport 1st Floor 100 Parliament Street London SW1A 2BQ

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Luke Evans MP luke.evans.mp@parliament.uk

Your Ref: LE31718 Our Ref: MC2024/10450/MM

Dear Luke

Thank you for your correspondence of 17 December to Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP, on behalf of a number of your constituents, regarding the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme. Your letter has been transferred to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport as this this department is responsible for this area. I am responding as the minister responsible for heritage.

Listed places of worship hold great cultural and historical significance, representing some of the nation's finest heritage. They play an important role not only as spiritual centres but also as important local historic assets, much needed community hubs, and visitor destinations. The government acknowledges the unique challenges involved in maintaining this important element of our national and spiritual heritage.

The department is responsible for managing the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme, which provides funding to support the preservation and maintenance of historic places of worship. This funding is currently secured to continue until March 2025. Departmental settlements have been set following the Budget announcement on October 30. We are currently going through the final round of the departmental Business Planning process and I will be finalising funding arrangements beyond March 2025 in due course.

Thank you for writing on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Sir Chris Bryant MP

Minister for Creative Industries, Arts and Tourism

