

Expressions of interest: Cathedral Projects Support Panel

The Association of English Cathedrals, the representative body for the 42 English Anglican cathedrals, would like to hear from those with an interest in cathedrals and the time and relevant specialist skills and experience to serve as volunteer expert members on the newly created Cathedral Projects Support Panel.

Cathedrals often respond to their growing popularity by taking on large development projects to provide additional facilities and improved visitor experiences. Some cathedrals struggle with the process of developing these major projects because of the extreme resource constraints under which they operate and because of the wide range of technical and management skills needed.

In order to assist those cathedrals which request help in devising realistic briefs to enable projects to proceed in a cost-effective and timely way, some handholding is needed, particularly at the pre-project stage. Panel members will help these cathedrals to scope out projects and identify project elements, point out potential problem areas and recommend how to overcome them, share wisdom and contacts, and advise on need for specialist advice and input, with a view to enabling cathedrals to become better clients. The Panel will not meet as a body: members will work with cathedrals, either individually or in small teams, to identify the areas of skill needed, help a cathedral shape and write its brief, and ensure that the right technical experts are recruited by cathedrals to deliver their plans.

Serving on the Support Panel will offer a unique opportunity to assist cathedrals, some of England's greatest buildings, and the people who operate them day to day. The role of a Panel member is voluntary but reasonable expenses will be paid.

Allchurches Trust has provided funding for an initial two year pilot project.

Expressions of interest are invited from competent and experienced specialists in the following areas:

Accessibility in historic buildings	Interpretation
Archaeology	Landscaping
Architecture	Museums and collections management
Business and/ or financial planning and/ or appraisal	IT consultancy
Business start ups	Operation of retail, catering, events and other businesses in heritage sites
Community engagement	Project management and/ or development
Conservation – buildings and objects	Property strategy and management
Economic forecasting	Public realm
Engineering – structural, mechanical and electrical	Space planning
Environmental conservation and management	Town planning
Facilitation of away-days and meetings	Visitor and heritage management
Fundraising	Urban studies
Health and safety and regulatory compliance	



Please note that this list is not exhaustive and if you have skills and experience that could assist cathedrals devise realistic projects, we would like to hear from you.

To express interest please send a CV and covering letter (no more than two sides of A4) indicating your relevant area of expertise and experience. All submissions should be emailed as PDF or Word documents to Dale Copley, the Panel Coordinator (dale.copley@englishcathedrals.co.uk), by 31 October 2017 to be included in the first tranche of Panel appointments. Expressions of interest will be welcome after this date, as we continue to build the Panel's numbers and range of expertise.