

ST. MARY'S HADDINGTON LIGHTING PROJECT

APPLICANT

St. Mary's Parish Church, Haddington

www.stmaryskirk.co.uk

TOTAL PROJECT COST

£361,616

£75,000

(20.7%)

£286,616

Tyne Esk LEADER

Match Funding

PROJECT AIMS

- Install LED lighting to better illuminate an iconic medieval church.
- Cut running costs.
- Enhance the visitor experience for church life and events.
- Attract further visitors and events/exhibition rentals.

PROJECT DETAIL

Built in 1380, St. Mary's church, Haddington, is the largest parish church in Scotland. It is known as 'The Lamp of Lothian' and the aim of restoration work was to create a space 'for the solace of the community'. The size, majesty and acoustics of the building mean it is used for concerts and events such as, lectures and exhibitions and is a predominant venue for the Lammermuir Festival. Until the project, the church used standard lighting, which fell short of showcasing its features and was costly to run. The project aimed to retrofit LED lighting to address these issues.



RESULTS

With the LEADER grant it was possible for the church to achieve its aims. The results have not only improved lighting for standard use, but strategic positioning has meant architectural features are now illuminated and highlighted. This includes archways, vaulted ceilings and stained glass windows. Energy costs have been cut to a fraction of their level. Maintenance/replacement, are both required much less and are far more straightforward. This has reduced running costs considerably and makes the church more sustainable. Above all though, the experience has been enhanced for the many well-respected events the church hosts, augmenting its already substantial appeal. It is envisaged this will translate into greater visitor numbers and rentals for the space.

