

St Bartholomew & All Saints
Parochial Church Council

Health & Safety Guidance

Section A - General Statement of Health and Safety Policy

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Section A : General Statement of Policy

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Bartholomew & All Saints Parish Church, Wootton Bassett recognises the legal obligations imposed on it by the **Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 (HSW Act)** and the **Management of Health and Safety at Work (MHSW) Regulations 1999** for the health, safety and welfare at work of their employees and the health and safety of those affected by the work, including visitors e.g. contractors, and self-employed persons who the PCC may engage. The PCC also fully accepts their responsibility for other persons who may be affected by their activities and will take steps to ensure the PCC's statutory duties are met at all times.

The PCC also recognise that the Health & Safety Executive consider it is good practice for volunteers to be provided "*the same level of health and safety protection as they would in an employer/employee relationship*" and the PCC will, so far as is reasonably practicable, ensure the health and safety of volunteers and other persons using St Bartholomew & All Saints Church as if they were employees.

The PCC is committed to ensuring, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of their employees, casual labour and voluntary helpers, and to provide such information, training and supervision as they need for this purpose and as is necessary to enable the safe performance of work activities.

The PCC will also endeavour to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of all members of the congregation, contractors, visitors and others who may visit the church, churchyard and associated buildings.

Adequate facilities and arrangements will be maintained to enable employees and voluntary helpers to raise issues of health and safety.

Competent people will be appointed to assist the PCC in meeting their statutory duties including, where appropriate, specialists from outside the organisation.

Every employee and voluntary helper must co-operate with the PCC to enable all statutory duties to be complied with. The successful implementation of this policy requires total commitment from everyone involved. Each individual has a legal obligation to take reasonable care for his or her own health and safety, and for the safety of other people who may be affected by his or her acts or omissions.

Full details of the organisation and arrangements for health and safety, details of the allocation of duties in relation to safety matters and the particular arrangements the PCC will make to implement the policy are will be set out in separate documents.

This policy statement together with all detailed health and safety policy documentation will be monitored to ensure the objectives are achieved. The policy will be kept up to date, regularly reviewed and, if necessary, revised in the light of legislative or organisational changes.

Section A – General Statement of Health and Safety Policy

To ensure health and safety matters are kept constantly under review, an item on health and safety will be on the agenda for all meetings of the Parochial Church Council and, where appropriate, any sub-committees and employees and voluntary workers will be consulted on a regular basis in order to seek their views on health and safety issues.