

Leicester Diocese Parsonages Housing Policy

Context

It is the intention that parsonages are of a good quality and capable of meeting the needs of the clergy, providing comfortable and convenient homes for them and their families as well as suitable places from which to carry out effective ministry.

A parsonage should relate conveniently to the church and population and be capable of being repaired and improved at reasonable cost. Where the continued upkeep of a particular house imposes a disproportionate financial burden on the DBF or is prohibitively expensive for the occupant to live in then it may be appropriate to consider sourcing alternative accommodation. *(Church Commissioners Parsonages Guide 6th Edition)*

The appropriateness of a parsonage house should be reviewed at a time of vacancy and not during an incumbency.

Principle Considerations

Key factors in the provision of clergy housing are as follows:

The parsonage should be:

- well located for mission and in the Benefice.
- able to accommodate the needs of the occupant and their nuclear family.
- finished to a good standard, in sound condition, easy to maintain and relatively energy efficient.

Accommodation Guidelines

A guide to what is deemed as acceptable minimum criteria for appropriate accommodation is as follows:

- a house with a minimum total floor area of 181 square metres (excluding roof space & garage)
- 4 bedrooms
- family bathroom with shower
- 2 ground floor reception rooms
- separate study
- downstairs WC (in convenient proximity to the study)
- kitchen
- single garage
- off road parking