

Church Security

During this period when our churches are closed for public worship, the Church Buildings Team offers the following guidance. Please note, that Government Advice regarding movement of people, hygiene etc. must be followed at all times and takes precedence.

ENSURE THAT:

- Doors, safes etc are locked and access to the building should only be possible by keyholders
- Valuables and registers kept in secure and locked locations
- Ladders are secured
- Bins are secured so that they can't be used to access roofs or transport material. If they are empty a locked internal location may be appropriate

Sadly, it is entirely possible that criminals will exploit the current situation, so theft of valuable items, including lead and copper roofing, may still persist.

Where possible, and acting within the Government's advice on movement of people:

- Regularly check the church building, keeping a log of dates and times when this has been done, but only if it is possible to do this as part of the permitted exercise regime.
- Do not use the car to travel around the countryside to do this – see if there is someone more local to the church who would be willing to do this if you do not live nearby.
- Check the perimeter of the building; windows, doors and roofs particularly if these are lead or copper.
- Check internally, if this can be restricted to one family unit

ABOVE ALL

- Your personal health and government guidance regarding movement of people takes precedence over building security
- Attend to personal safety, first and foremost
- Follow Police advice and dial 999 if a crime is in progress otherwise use 101 or report online

If emergency works to the building are necessary because a crime has been committed or other damage has happened, contact either the DAC Secretary, the Revd Rupert Allen (rupert.allen@leccofe.org) or Lee Coley, Diocesan Registrar, (registry@stoneking.co.uk or 020 7796 1007) so that advice can be given about Interim Faculties etc.

If you have experienced metal roof theft, contact Simon Headley on 07938 639326 or simon.headley1@leccofe.org