

## RESOURCES TO HELP UNDERSTAND AND PLAN REGULAR MAINTENANCE

### Guidance and Links for PCCs



The best way to tackle the long-term care of historic buildings is to concentrate on regular planned preventative maintenance.

Carrying out regular maintenance can also help to save energy and reduce the impact upon the environment.

This Guidance Note provides a number of links to other websites where advice and guidance is available. Clicking on the hyperlinks below (the underlined text) should take you directly to relevant webpage.

*“Stave off decay by daily care.” William Morris*

When setting up the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB) in 1877.

### Introduction

Maintenance can be split into two categories: **Preventative**, which reduces the probability of decay, and **Corrective**, in which decayed material is renewed. For instance, keeping timber in good decorative order to help to protect the wood from rotting is Preventative, whereas renewing rotten timber is Corrective. In this example, preventative maintenance, i.e. keeping the paintwork in good order, is still required after the corrective maintenance has been carried out.

Preventative maintenance is usually cheaper than Corrective maintenance, although the reality is that we will end up carrying out both types of maintenance on our church building. However, the more preventative maintenance that can be carried out the better as this helps to prolong the life of building elements and avoid costly repairs. Keeping buildings in good condition helps to save energy, and the materials needed to repair them. We are also acting as good stewards as our buildings are in our care and trust for the next generation.

### General Information

- Historic England: Maintenance and Repair of Places of Worship [Guidance](#)
- A general summary on the topic from the National Lottery Heritage Fund is available [here](#)
- The National Churches Trust is a good source for grants for church repairs and they have information on [Regular Maintenance](#)

## Maintenance Checklists

*Knowing which parts of the building to look at is essential and it is best to use a checklist to help you do this in a logical sequence.*

- Historic England provide a list of building elements to check [here](#)

## Maintenance Plan

*A maintenance plan helps to identify those parts of the building where preventative maintenance should be carried out and when this should be done.*

- The Church Building Team have prepared a [Guidance Note](#) to help explain further and help you to put one together. This guidance note contains further links to assist.

## Maintenance Calendars

*It is really helpful to carry out particular maintenance tasks at set times of the year – such as checking that gutters and gullies are not blocked by fallen leaves at the end of autumn. The following give appropriate maintenance tasks to be carried out each month.*

- Church of England: [Calendar of Care](#)
- [Faith in Maintenance Calendar](#) from The SPAB

## Where to get further help and advice

*Your Quinquennial Inspector and/or the Church Buildings Team can provide help and advice.*

Historic Churches Support Officer: Mr Simon Headley 07398 639326 [Simon.Headley@LeicesterCofE.org](mailto:Simon.Headley@LeicesterCofE.org)

And from the Diocesan website [www.leicester.anglican.org](http://www.leicester.anglican.org)

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