

August 2021

PROPERTY MATTERS

The **Methodist** Church 

Welcome to the August edition of Property Matters with a focus on updates on guidance during the Covid-19 pandemic. If you have any feedback, please email the [Property Support Team](#).

Lifting of Restrictions

As government restrictions have now been lifted in England, the managing trustees must decide what restrictions are necessary for the building and the groups that use them. Guidance has been given on [Coronavirus Guidance for Property](#) but the final decision rests with the managing trustees. Further guidance from the government can be found [here](#).



Please note this is for England only, please refer to the links below for guidance in other areas:

- In Scotland, please refer to the [Scottish guidance for the Safe Use of Place of Worship](#)
- In Wales, please refer to the [Guidance for Re-Opening Places of Worship](#)
- Please follow the links for specific local regulations and guidance for the [Isle of Man](#) and Channel Islands ([Guernsey](#) & [Jersey](#))

HSE Update on Covid



Following the lifting of restrictions, HSE have updated their guidance on:

- [Adequate Ventilation](#) – our updated guidance includes a [new video](#)
- [Sufficient Cleaning](#)
- [Good Hand Hygiene](#)

For a full range of COVID-related information and advice visit [HSE's coronavirus pages](#). You should make sure the measures identified by your risk assessment take account of the public health regulations and guidance for the nation you are working in. Please refer to your relevant guidance in [Scotland](#) and [Wales](#).

Methodist Insurance Update

Prepare for more storms this summer

With more storms on the horizon, there is a greater risk of heavy rain, high winds and

lightning. There are some steps you can take to prepare your church, as well as guidance on what to do during and after a storm. [Find out more](#)



Managing slips and trips

Slips and trips are common causes of accidents in Methodist churches. Many only cause minor injuries, but others can be severe and in some cases even disabling. Managing slips and trips at your church is an important part of your duty of care for staff, volunteers and visitors. You should review slip and trip hazards both inside your church buildings as well as outside including any car parks and pathways on the church grounds. [Find out more](#)

Tell your fundraising story

A Case for Support tells your church's fundraising story and can form the basis for all your communications and applications. Learn how to pull together a strong Case for Support and win funding for your church. [Find out more](#)

Home Insurance - Working from Home Cover Enhancement

As more of us are working from home, we are extending our cover to provide you with some extra protection and peace of mind. [Find out more](#)

Have you read the latest edition of Dialogue?

Our spring/summer edition is available online and includes:

- Tips on planning construction at your church
- An introduction to some of the teams who support you
- Important questions about home contents stored in your garden

[Read now](#)

£80,000 grant helps Barry Uniting Church build New Mission in Docklands

The Methodist Grants Programme provided £80,000 to Barry Uniting Church for a £1.3 million community and church building, 'The Bridge Between Centre', in the docklands of Barry, Glamorgan. Revd Phil Challis said, "It's taken a significant mental shift to think about building a community centre in which we will worship."

[Find out more](#)

TMCP Updates

Data Champions Forum 2 - Recording Now Available

The second [District Data Champion Forum](#) took place via Zoom on Thursday 29 July 2021. We are very grateful to all those District Data Champions who were able to join members of the TMCP Legal team for a constructive and helpful session.

[Read more](#)



New QSR Template and Streamlining Transactions Flowchart

You can read more about these and other new announcements by [clicking here](#).

Online Suite of Applications

ANNUAL RETURNS

The Annual Returns for the year ending 31 August 2020 need to be submitted by **31 August 2021**. No late submissions are accepted.

Please contact your local Property Secretary if you have any concerns about meeting the deadline.

STATISTICS FOR MISSION

The statistics for mission site will re-open for data submissions in October. More information will be sent out in due course.

CONTACT

Help and guidance documents for all applications of the online suite can be accessed and downloaded via www.methodist.org.uk/online suite.

Latest updates on technical issues can also be found on that page.

Any questions about the main applications of online suite (property consents, statistics for mission, annual returns) should be sent to our shared support email address: OnlineSuiteSupport@methodistchurch.org.uk.

Climate Sunday

Over the past year, over 1600 churches from a number of denominations have held a Climate Sunday service, to worship, commit and speak up on the climate crisis. On 5 September, we'll gather together to celebrate all we've achieved, and



present our commitments to government. [Join us online here](#).

[Find out more](#) about Climate Sunday and our other environment resources.

Conference on Disability and Church

The 10th annual conference on disability and church, [Still Calling from the Edge](#), takes place online on **Sat, 16 October 2021**. The event is a space for disabled people to gather and resource each other and the Church through art, music, story and theology, in plenary talks, small groups, workshops and liturgy.

[Read more and book here](#).



Building Works and Bats

All of the UK's bats and their roosts are protected by law. Our latest guidance is intended to help property owners and all involved in managing, maintaining or using buildings avoid infringing the law.

[Read more here](#).



Listed Building Advisory Committee

Meeting dates:

- **19 October 2021** - Deadline for paper - 20 September 2021
- **18 January 2022** - Deadline for paper - 20 December 2021

Property Matters is a monthly newsletter focused on giving updates on property related guidance and legalisation as well as providing information

and links to related subjects. We cannot know about everything that's going on, so please do [email us](#) if you have any feedback or ideas for items to include.

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