

THE JOINT COUNCIL OF HOLY TRINITY AND ST JAMES'

ASBESTOS POLICY

The following policy was agreed at the Joint Church Council (JCC) meeting held 22-7-2025.

1. This asbestos policy is the responsibility of the JCC and changes to it must be approved by JCC.

2. Background

There are several pieces of legislation covering the use of Asbestos Containing Materials (ACMs). The most recent is the Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2012. See:

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/priced/l143.pdf>

These regulations require employers to 'manage' the asbestos in their buildings. In summary, such management involves:

Find out if ACM or suspected ACM are present - carry out a survey.

Assume that materials contain asbestos unless there is strong evidence that they do not.

Check the condition of the materials.

Identify - If the material is in poor condition or maintenance or refurbishment is to take place arrange for the material to be sampled and identified.

Record the location and condition of the ACM and assumed ACM on a plan or drawing.

Assess whether the condition or location means the material is likely to be disturbed.

Monitor the condition of ACM and assumed ACM to check on possible deterioration.

Plan: prepare and implement a plan to manage these risks

3. Current Situation

A survey was undertaken in 2006 at St James's and ACM was identified or assumed to exist in 2 locations, namely, within the organ-box (sealed) and the ceiling of the clock room in the tower. No other ACM was found.

The condition of the ceiling and the relative inaccessibility mean that the probability of disturbance has been assessed as being remote. The material has been labelled and no further action will be taken unless circumstances change.

The organ was refurbished in 2007. Any further work within the organ and its confines will only be undertaken by specialist organ renovators and they will instruct the JCC about

precautions that they feel should be undertaken. Access to the organ is limited to those authorised by the Vicar, Church Organist or Church Wardens.

4. Control of ACMs in the future

The JCC policy is that no ACMs be used in any repair, renovation, or new construction. Therefore the JCC's future obligations should be limited to monitoring at appropriate intervals the condition of the ceiling of the clock room. Such monitoring to be undertaken by the Churchwardens or as delegated by them.

Incumbent: Revd Rebecca Elliott