Proposals for works to our cathedrals are managed under the Care of Cathedrals Measure 2011.

We can help you understand the rules for making changes to your building.
The Care of Cathedrals Measure 2011

The Measure is a framework that explains:

- The roles and duties of the Cathedral Fabric Commission for England
- The roles and duties of local Fabric Advisory Committees
- The types of works that require permissions
- The roles and duties of the cathedral architect or surveyor, and archaeologist
- The roles and duties of cathedrals to put together and maintain an inventory of its property and objects of outstanding interest
- The boundaries of the cathedral precinct

It supports us when we:

- Look at proposals for change to our cathedrals, their content, surroundings and archaeology
- Try to understand and justify the impact those changes might have
- Want to make sure that any work done is appropriate, sustainable and in line with best practice

A user's guide to the Care of Cathedrals Measure 2011 and how to make an application is available here

“Our aim is not to prevent change, but to enable change to be responsibly managed.”

Thomas Ashley, Senior Cathedrals Officer
The Care of Cathedrals Rules 2006

The Rules 2006 and the (Amendment) Rules 2020 for Inventories explain the procedures we use to operate the Measure.

Other types of permissions you might need

You may still need to obtain permissions from secular planning, including:

- **Scheduled monument consent** for works to scheduled monuments
- **Listed buildings consent** for works to listed buildings within the precinct
- **Planning permission** (e.g. extensions, works to the exterior of the cathedral, etc.)

Finally, you are not exempt from the provisions of the [Equality Act 2010](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/35), or from [legislation governing trees, wildlife or health and safety](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/guidance-for-cathedrals).

Also of interest

**What type of work requires permission?**

Make sure you're applying to the right committee

**Advice and guidance for cathedrals**

Everything from new art to lighting and sound equipment
Contact us

Contact our cathedral officers

How the Church manages its buildings

Find out more about the different legal frameworks that govern us

Source URL: https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/churchcare/cathedral-fabric-commission/legal-framework