

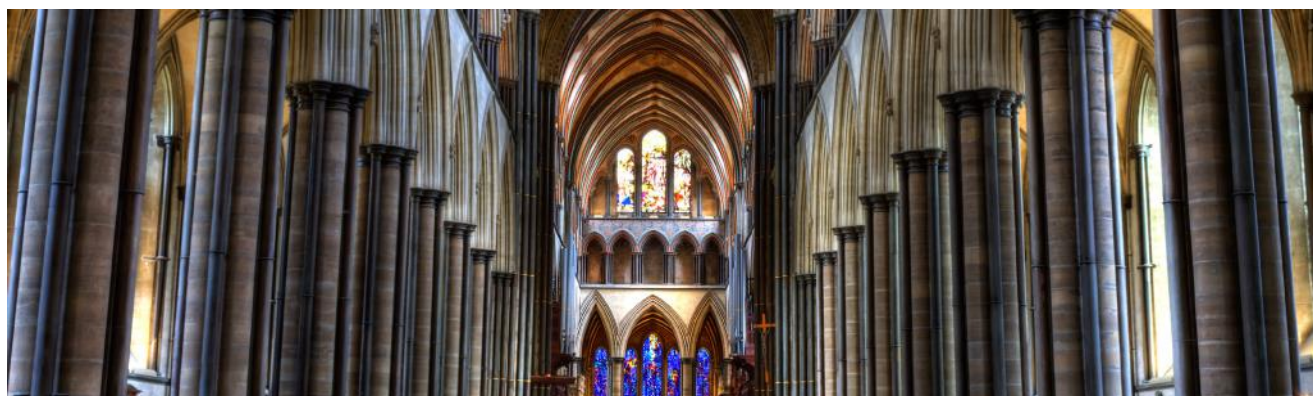
Loans of objects from Cathedrals

A Cathedrals Fabric Commission Policy and Practice Note

ChurchCare



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The Commission considers all applications on their own merits and in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Care of Cathedrals Measure 2011 (the Measure) and the Care of Cathedrals Rules 2006 (the Rules).

This Policy and Practice Note sets out its expectations of an application and some of the considerations it will bring to bear on its decision-making.

Introduction

The Commission recognises that chapters regularly wish to **loan objects** in their collections or associated with the cathedral to **other venues or institutions**, often for public exhibition. Chapters might also wish objects from their cathedral to travel to another location as part of, for example, a fund-raising or awareness-raising initiative organised by the chapter. These circumstances fall within the scope of the Care of Cathedrals Measure. Many such objects are of national or international significance and are irreplaceable.

Background

The sale, loan or other disposal of, or work to, any object in the ownership or possession of the cathedral's corporate body, or to which it is entitled, is covered by the Measure where the object is one of **architectural, archaeological, artistic or historic interest**.

CCM 2 (1) (b)

Such objects are to be recorded on the cathedral's **Inventory**. CCM 24

The sale, loan or other disposal of, or work to, such an object should be the subject of an **application to the Commission** where the object is designated as being of **'outstanding'** interest. CCM 6 (1) (a) (iv) and CCM 24 (4)

The sale, loan or other disposal of, or work to, other objects should be the subject of an application to the cathedral's **Fabric Advisory Committee (FAC)**. CCM 2 (1) (b)

It is, however, open to the Commission to **call-in** for its own determination any proposal which gives rise to consideration of special interest such that it agrees the application should be determined by it. CCM 6 (1) (b)

Where the chapter proposes to loan an object or number of objects, the Commission will expect any application to cover the following:

- The **duration** of the loan period, including any pre- and post- exhibition travel and preparation periods.
- Details of the **receiving or host venue or institution**, including any exhibition location.
- A **pre-loan assessment** of the condition of the object(s) prepared by an appropriately qualified conservator and including a summary of the current environmental conditions under which it is displayed or stored (temperature and relative humidity, light levels and exposure to UV light etc), as well as recommendations for, or details of, any conservation or





stabilisation work which is needed in order to make the object fit for, or safe to, travel and be exhibited. (Provision should also be made for a **post-loan condition assessment** in order that any damage or changes in the condition of the object(s) can be identified and appropriate remedial action taken.)

- Details of **proposed handling arrangements** for the object(s) including their packing, transportation, unpacking and physical handling.
- Details of **insurance valuation**, insurance cover and security arrangements for the object(s) in transit and when exhibited.
- Details of **exhibition arrangements**, such as a **Facilities Report**, including security of venue and of display; display environment and environmental controls (temperature and relative humidity, light levels and exposure to UV light etc); and monitoring provision.

Any application for the loan of an object or objects should be accompanied by **supporting information** covering the points set out above, along with:

- **Introductory statement** by the chapter providing background information and setting the loan in context.
- **Inventory extract** giving details of the object(s) in question.
- Statements by the **Cathedral Architect** and/or **Cathedral Archaeologist** if appropriate (e.g. where the loan object is part of the cathedral fabric* or from its lapidary collection or archaeological archive).

* For the purposes of the Measure any object or structure permanently situated in or affixed to the cathedral church shall be treated as part of the cathedral. *CCM 32 (2)*

For advice and to discuss a potential project please contact the Commission via the Head of Conservation: Tel 020 7898 1889 or e-mail:

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This information is required in order that the Commission can reach a fully-informed view on the implications of making the loan in question. It is primarily concerned that object(s) should not be damaged by or during the loan; but also that appropriate information is available to all parties to ensure that the loan goes smoothly and there is, for example, no doubt about the pre-loan condition of the object(s).

Date: December 2015

