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Sharing the Sacred Space: navigating
leases and shared use of Church buildings
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and Bristol

Bath
Birmingham
Bristol
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Manchester

*The church is . . . an icon for
community memory and a focus for
social activity.*

*Historic England, State of the Historic
Environment Report, 2002*

Points to cover



1. Why do we need to be concerned about shared use?
2. Is it better to use a lease or a licence under faculty?
3. Key considerations;
4. Pitfalls;
5. Ecumenical shared use.

Why do we need to be concerned about shared use?



1. The purpose of a church;
2. The effects of consecration;
3. The statutory framework.

Is it better to use a lease or a licence under faculty?



1. What's proposed?
2. Are grants required for the proposed use?
3. Is the operator of the facility going to spend money on alterations/plant and machinery?
4. How extensive is the proposed use?

Key considerations



1. The primacy of use for public worship;
2. Extent of any alterations;
3. Short term/long term;
4. Valuations;
5. Maintenance responsibilities;
6. Termination;
7. Insurance.

1. Planning consent;
2. Business rates;
3. The Petitioners' not getting advice;
4. Best terms for any lease/licence;
5. A misunderstanding about the role of the Consistory Court;
6. Failing to articulate the missional need (NB s35 of the EJCCM 2018)

Ecumenical shared use



1. Canon B43.3 and Code of Practice;
2. Form of agreement between the denominations;
3. Need for a faculty?
4. Other procedures.

Questions?



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