



INTRODUCTION

Church buildings become more vulnerable to theft and malicious damage when work is being conducted and scaffolding is erected around the building. Scaffolding can provide an easy means of access to the building for potential thieves and instances of lead being stolen from roof areas together with lead rainwater goods have occurred in Church of Scotland churches and church halls across Scotland.

Whilst it may not be possible to entirely preclude an attack of this sort the introduction of some simple deterrent measures may go some way to preventing what can be costly damage and loss to the fabric of the building and its contents.

The Church of Scotland Insurance Company in conjunction with one of its partner insurer's Aviva Insurance Limited, has produced these guidelines to provide you with some helpful advice to protect your buildings and other possessions.

WHAT ACTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN?

The following precautions should be considered when scaffolding is being used at your church, church hall or manse:

1. Advise local police of the work that is being undertaken and how long the contract will last.
2. Ask local people to keep a watchful eye on the buildings and report any suspicious activity.
3. Try to minimize the period that scaffolding is erected, especially to roof height.
4. Avoid leaving lead on site, deliver materials on a "Just in Time" basis.
5. If possible remove ladders to a secure place at the end of each day. If tied ladders are in use remove at least the 1st level access ladders.



ACTIONS (CONTINUED)

6. If a fixed stair scaffold is in use then secure a barrier or boarding over the lowest stair.
7. Board up or otherwise secure any accessible openings from the scaffolding, including roof hatches.
8. Consider removing valuable contents from the building for safekeeping elsewhere.
9. Consider introducing additional lighting to the site.
10. Ensure any SmartWater signage is clearly visible to deter thieves.
11. Erect hoarding or heras security fencing around the site perimeter to prevent access.
12. Consider the installation of a Scaffolding Alarm (battery operated) with GPRS central station signaling.
13. Consider out of hours security patrols or manned guarding of the site.
14. Consider remotely monitored detector activated CCTV camera system with an audible challenge for the entire site.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
REGARDING THESE GUIDELINES OR
ANY OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO
YOUR CHURCH INSURANCE SCHEME
POLICY

- Please call us on
0131 220 4119
- If you prefer you can e-mail us at
enquiries@cosic.co.uk
- Or visit our web site at
www.cosic.co.uk



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