



INTRODUCTION

Sadly, acts of terror have become all too familiar. The increased prevalence of these attacks in the UK has resulted in some congregations asking the question “Is our church insured against damage caused by acts of Terrorism?”.

The short answer to this question is no, all standard property policies in the UK exclude loss or damage sustained as a result of Terrorism.

It is however possible to “buyback” Terrorism cover at an additional cost and under a separate policy that we can arrange for you.

The insurance protection is provided by an organisation called Pool Re and is arranged through the existing Church Scheme insurers. For more information about Pool Re please click [here](#).

WHAT CAN A TERRORISM POLICY COVER?

It can protect the congregation against loss or damage to property (buildings and contents) due to an act of terrorism; it can also protect against loss of congregational income suffered due to the damage.

Importantly an incident has to be declared a Terrorism event by the relevant authority before cover under a Terrorism policy is triggered.

Terrorism is defined as follows:

“...acts of persons acting on behalf of, or in connection with, any organisation which carries out activities directed towards the overthrowing or influencing, by force or violence, of Her Majesty’s government in the United Kingdom or any other government de jure or de facto.”

Please also note that if you choose to take Terrorism cover you must insure all the property that is owned by the congregation, including manse and contents. The arrangements do not permit insuring only part of the assets.



SHOULD “WE” BUY TERRORISM COVER?

Since each church is different, your Board or Kirk Session will need to consider the question locally. We certainly recommend that you discuss the matter.

Considerations might include:

1. The location of your church – rural locations might be less likely to suffer from an incident than a city centre one.
2. What other buildings and businesses are there nearby and how likely are those to be subjected to an attack?
3. Do prominent people worship at your church or attend in other capacities?

If you feel that you want to explore the topic in more depth, please contact us to discuss.

Overleaf we have shown some examples of the type of losses that would be covered, together with an indicative costing for buying Terrorism insurance.



EXAMPLES OF TERRORISM LOSSES

- 1.** Damage to a church or church hall caused by a bomb/explosion at the premises.
- 2.** Damage to the church or church hall caused by an explosion at any adjacent premises.
- 3.** Loss of income suffered because of damage to the church or church hall following a terrorism incident.
- 4.** Loss of income suffered because of damage to property within a one mile radius of the church or church hall which physically restricts access to or use of your own premises.

As previously advised for cover to operate as described above it is necessary for HM Government to declare formally that the incident is one of Terrorism as defined.

WHAT DOES TERRORISM COVER COST?

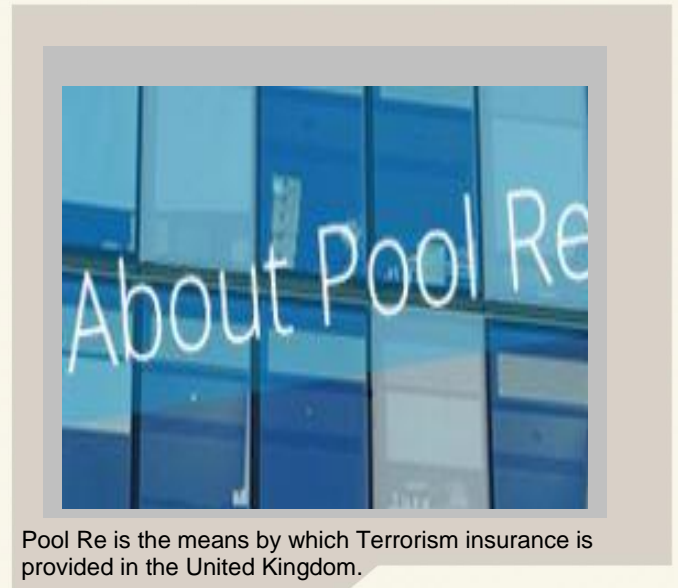
It is Pool Re that sets the rates for Terrorism cover.

For example looking at all Scottish postcodes except city centre Edinburgh and Glasgow, based on the following sum insured:

Buildings sum insured £5,000,0000
Contents sum insured £50,000
Loss of Income £100,000.

The annual Terrorism premium applying as at July 2017 would be £449.50 plus Insurance Premium Tax.

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



Pool Re is the means by which Terrorism insurance is provided in the United Kingdom.

Terrorism premiums are payable in addition to the underlying annual cost relating to your Church Scheme Policy. Note such Terrorism premiums cannot be paid by instalments.

POOL RE

Pool Re was originally formed in 1993 following a series of Terrorism incidents and it was decided by insurers and reinsurers that Terrorism cover could no longer be provided by traditional methods. Pool Re developed out of this consensus and has been providing Terrorism cover since that time. For more information about the history of Pool Re please click [here](#).

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

The guidelines provided are based on our understanding of current law and practice. The Church of Scotland Insurance Services Ltd cannot accept any liability whatsoever for any errors or omissions which may result in injury, loss or damage, including consequential or financial loss. It is the responsibility of the congregation or any other person to ensure that they comply with their statutory obligations and any interpretation or implementation of the above is at the sole discretion of the congregation or other party who may read these guidelines.