Christ Church Risk Management Guidance

Title	Last Revision	Author	Next Revision
Risk Management guidance	Drawn from previous Risk Policy and amended as of 08.11.2024 Approved by Trustees 05.12.2024	Nick Wells / David Bishop	Nov 2025

This guidance sets out to give uniformity in Christ Church's approach to risk identification, evaluation and management.

An Understanding of Risk

Risk is synonymous with uncertainty. Whilst risks are usually thought of as threats with unfavourable outcomes, analysis may reveal opportunities leading to favourable outcomes.

The significance of any risk will be a combination of the probability (or frequency) of it happening and the severity of the outcome if it were to occur.

Personal safety and accident prevention are a part of the overall risk profile. Whilst injury is the area of risk for which the trustees have the lowest appetite, risk outcomes can also be in financial and reputational as well as physical loss, and any individual risk event may impact any or all of these outcomes, e.g. culpability for personal injury could have both financial and reputational effects.

Risk Ownership

In line with the Trust deed, the Trustees have overall responsibility for provision of the church buildings, appointment of the Priest-in-Charge, appointment of new Trustees and the proper management of the Trust's affairs. The trustees own the risks in these areas.

Operational responsibility for Christ Church's worship and ministry is delegated to the Priest-in-Charge working within the structures of the Church of England and the diocese of Bath and Wells. In doing this the Priest-in-Charge works with the Council. Whilst all risks are ultimately of concern to the Trustees, the management of many risks in this operational area should be owned at the Council level.

Specific responsibilities of Trustees: appointment of Priest-in-Charge; management of the Trust's estate (church building, mews, cottages and car park including liaison with DAC and planning bodies); management of tenants; management of finances in accordance with

Charity Commission guidelines; health and safety; employment issues; liaison with ex-officio members; media communications relating to employment and property matters.

Risk Assessment and mitigation

The range of regular activities within the church should be reviewed for sources of risk.

A risk assessment should be included when presenting any significant plans and proposals to Council or Trust.

Each risk should be assessed in terms of both its likelihood (sometimes considered as 'possibility' or 'frequency' and a consequence rating.

Mitigating actions should be considered for new risks or when re-evaluating previously identified risks in the register. Mitigations may reduce either likelihood or severity of consequence.   Risks for which are there are no workable direct mitigations may be insurable.