

Safer places of Worship

Health & Safety Policy

If you have five or more employees you need to have a written Health and Safety policy.

'Employees' includes part-time cleaners, organist, caretakers etc. Also volunteers count as employees for this purpose, and anyone who makes use of volunteers is considered to be an employer.

You must give the same level of training, information and protection to both employees and volunteers.

The best advice is that all churches should have a written policy that sets out your organisation and procedures for Health and Safety

Visit the health and safety executive's website for more information on health and safety policies:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/smallbusinesses/must/policy.htm>

For a general overview of areas you might consider when designing your policy visit

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg259.pdf> (38 pages)