

Installation of fire alarms



These notes are intended to provide guidance to Parochial Church Councils that wish to install or update a fire alarm. Doing so may result in a premium discount.

These notes provide a basis upon which to obtain comparative quotations although in all cases a visit by an Ecclesiastical Risk Management Surveyor will be required in order to approve any specification prior to installation work being carried out.

General

The building should be protected by an automatic fire alarm system installed to BS 5839 Part 1. The control panel must have keypad operation and be analogue addressable.

The system must be designed, installed, commissioned and maintained by an LPS 1014 Certificated Fire Detection and Alarm System firm, or an installer accredited under the British Approvals for Fire Equipment (BAFE) adopted SP 203 scheme.

There must be an annual maintenance contract. The specification must include confirmation by the alarm company that sub-contractors will not be used or specify the extent to which sub-contractors will be used.

Signalling

In order to obtain the higher levels of discount, remote signalling must be incorporated to a permanently manned monitoring station conforming to BS 5979.

Risk Advice Line

Should you have any additional questions on this topic or other risk-related matters, as a valued Ecclesiastical customer you can contact us through our Risk Advice Line on

0345 600 7531

(Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm, excluding bank holidays)

and one of our in-house risk professionals will be able to assist.

Alternatively, you can email us at

risk.advice@ecclesiastical.com

and one of our experts will call you back within 24 hours.

Detection

In addition to break glass points, protection must be provided by means of automatic heat/smoke detectors of either the point or beam variety. All equipment must be LPC approved.

Faculty applications

Parochial Church Councils are reminded that a Faculty will be required prior to any work being carried out.

Alarm discounts

In order to qualify for a discount, in addition to the system being installed as set out above, the Fire and Rescue Service must be able to attend the church within 20 minutes.

The amount of the discount will depend on the extent of the system and the method of signalling. The following are in descending order from the highest to the lowest discount.

Full building protection to P1/L1 with remote signalling.

Part protection (P2/L2) with remote signalling.

Full building protection with audible signalling assuming someone is able to act upon hearing the alarm operate.

Part building protection with audible signalling assuming someone is able to act upon hearing the alarm operate.

Discounts cannot be given until the building has been inspected by an Ecclesiastical Risk Management Surveyor.

Important notes

It is the responsibility of the party implementing the above specification to ensure that the implementation does not contravene any statutory or Local Authority requirements, e.g. under the Health and Safety at Work Act, and other relevant legislation.

Prior to contract, copies of design drawings and/or specifications are to be forwarded to Ecclesiastical for approval.

Report a claim

Do you need to report a claim? If so, you can call us on **0345 603 8381**. Our normal office opening is 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday, excluding bank holidays, but our lines are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week for emergencies. Alternatively, **click here** to report online or you can send us an email to **claims@ecclesiastical.com**. It's helpful if you can have your policy number available when making contact.

Contents

To help us process your contents claim as quickly as possible, it would be helpful if you could provide a description of the item(s) (including a make or model number where applicable) when you call us. Where more extensive damage has occurred, we may ask you to provide a list of items to help us process your claim.

Policy cover queries

For queries about your policy cover, call our specialist church team on **0345 777 3322** (Monday to Friday 8am – 6pm, excluding bank holidays) or email us at **churches@ecclesiastical.com**.

Alternatively, please visit **www.ecclesiastical.com/church**.

This guidance is provided for information purposes and is general and educational in nature. It should not be used as a substitute for taking professional advice on specific issues and should not be taken as providing legal advice on any of the topics addressed.



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