
CONTRACTORS WORKING AT YOUR HOME DURING COVID-19

It is possible to continue with any necessary maintenance and repairs to houses during COVID-19. Indeed, it is important that usual servicing is continued to maintain safety in homes.

However, additional precautions are necessary at this time. The government has published guidance "Working safely during COVID-19 in other people's homes". A full copy of the document can be found on the government's coronavirus web pages:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/homes>

The diocese will be expecting out contractors to work in accordance with the guidance. The reasonable cooperation of occupiers will be necessary to ensure that appropriate measures can be taken.

Enquiries Before Works

Before the property department arranges for a contractor to attend you can expect to be asked:

- Whether anybody in the household is isolating because one or more family members has, or has had, symptoms of COVID-19 or on advice following a test and trace contact.
- Whether any individual in the household has been advised to shield.
- Whether any individual in the household is clinically vulnerable, but has not been asked to shield (for example being over 70).

Should any of these apply then you must advise us immediately. Additional precautions would need to be discussed to allow work to continue. If anyone in a household is isolating then work will not be considered at all unless there is a direct risk to the safety of the household or to public safety.

Contractors are likely to repeat the enquiries for themselves when making an appointment.

Precautions For Works

Measures in which occupiers will be expected to cooperate with contractors to allow works to be conducted in a safe manner will include:

- Discussing and agreeing with the contractor in advance working arrangements and how the work will be carried out.
- Making hand washing facilities available on arrival and departure and ensuring safe disposal/cleaning of hand towels.
- Maintaining social distancing at all times, ensuring a separation of at least 2m.
- Not offering any drinks or food. Contractors will arrange their own.
- Ensuring internal doors are left open to minimise contractors' contact with door handles.
- Agreeing safe arrangements for disposal of any waste and cleaning down surfaces after the contractors visit.

We will be grateful for your cooperation in these matters. If appropriate precautions cannot be agreed then we regret that it will not be possible for work to be undertaken. Please do contact us if you have any concerns over work at your home.

Neal Andrews
Property Manager

6th October 2020

property@carlisediocese.org.uk