

# Safer places of Worship

## Trees

During windy conditions trees may fall onto or lash against the building and rocking of the roots can cause collapse of boundary walls. Leaves and twigs block gutters and underground drains. Roots removing moisture from clay soils can lead to shrinkage of the clay, causing the foundations to move and the walls to crack. Branches falling onto visitors, neighbouring property or cars are a frequent source of claims.

Regular inspections of trees, at least every six months should be considered essential and at least every five years by a tree surgeon.

