

Safer places of Worship

Lightning

Experience shows that a properly installed and maintained conductor system provides valuable protection and is strongly recommended for churches on the grounds of both safety for parishioners and staff and preservation of the structure.

Advice should be obtained from the Church Architect to see whether a lightning conductor system is required.

A properly installed and maintained conductor system provides valuable protection for the building as well as being safer for the congregation.

A lightning conductor system which is not in perfect order is a positive danger, because the air terminals will attract lightning without providing a free passage to earth. Regular visual inspection of all the conductor ribbons should be undertaken. Particular care is needed following building works or after visitors have been allowed on the roof of the tower. Any break in the ribbons should be repaired immediately.

At intervals of not more than five years the whole system should be examined and tested by a competent specialist firm. The method of testing should be in accordance with code of Practice for Earthing BS7430: 1998.

