



Historic England

Ms Jacqui Carreira-White  
Secretary to the Diocesan Advisory Committee  
Bath & Wells

Direct Dial: 0117 975 0717

Our ref: E00238946  
Your ref: 2023-088927  
15 December 2023

Dear Jacqui,

**Notification under the Ecclesiastical Exemption (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (England) Orders 2010**

**LOCATION: WRINGTON: ALL SAINTS**

**PROPOSED WORK:** Accessible WC in vestry area.

Thank you for requesting advice from Historic England in respect of your proposals for an accessible WC within the vestry at All Saints' Church, Wrington.

All Saints, listed at Grade I, is an impressive and high-status church, with a powerful tower and lofty interior. It was restored in 1859, at which point the current pews and organ were added. The vestry is a relatively recent construct, built at the base of the tower in 1997, and separated from the nave by a well-made limed oak screen.

It is proposed to construct an accessible toilet within the vestry area. The documentation supplied details the restrictions and complications associated with providing an external WC, either attached to the church, within the churchyard, or within another building. The fine interior of the church does not lend itself to provision of WC in an alternative location, and we can see that the vestry is the logical position for it.

Three options for a toilet within the existing vestry are proposed. Option 1 is for a toilet in the North-west corner of the vestry, incorporating a chamfer to the south wall to allow the west tower doors to be opened. Option 2 is similar but centres the proposed WC on the North wall of the tower, allowing the west doors to be fully opened. Option 3 also is for a toilet in the North-west corner of the vestry, but rotated through 90 degrees, making the west doors inoperable.

As the existing vestry is a modern addition, the revised internal arrangements to accommodate a WC would have little impact on the significance of the building. We prefer option 2, which would allow the west doors to be fully opened if needed but recognise option 1 provides a little more storage space. We would advise against option 3, which would prevent use of the west doors.

All Saints Wrington is celebrated for its bells, and we understand that each of the WC



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options may require parts of the WC walls to be dismantled in the event that bells require lowering to the floor. It will be important to ensure the walls are capable of easy dismantling and re-erection as part of their design.

Yours sincerely

**Simon Hickman**

Principal Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas

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