Introduction

An incident at a church in the Diocese, where a wooden shed in close proximity to a church caught fire and caused severe damage to part of the church, has also prompted the issue of this Advisory Leaflet as well as Advisory Leaflet 42 on Storage Sheds.

This leaflet is about the need to consider carefully where and how rubbish is stored prior to its removal from site.

The principal hazard of rubbish storage

The increasing use of both domestic and commercial types of ‘wheelie bins’ has bought about an increased fire hazard. Regrettably vandals have realised that these bins can be placed alongside a building due to their mobility and are easily set alight; the building can then be severely damaged by the fire in the bin.

We offer the following advice:

- Place rubbish bins in a location away from any building.
- If a ‘wheelie’ bin is used, either provide a means of securing it in place or place it in an area where it cannot easily be moved against a building.
- If the area is prone to vandalism, consider making the rubbish storage area secure against access by fencing or other means.

Additional information and advice is available from the DAC team:

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