

What is a QI?

A QI stands for a Quinquennial Inspection, it is an inspection that takes place every five years on the status of your church from a buildings perspective. It is required by the Inspection of Church Measure 1955 and it is to be carried out by qualified architects or surveyors only.

A QI will assess the condition of the buildings fabric and recommend repairs to be undertaken on the church. The repairs are normally separated into distinct categories to provide a timeline of when they should be done by. These are generally:

Items that need to be completed ASAP

Items that need to be completed within two years

Items that need to be completed by the next QI

Items that can be done beyond the next QI

The categories of repair will slightly deviate from architect to architect but they will generally use a system similar to this and will explain how they grade repair needs within the QI.

It is important to note that QIs are used to detail what needs repairing and when, not for routine maintenance that should be carried out. If a QI is picking up that maintenance is needed, you need to implement a maintenance plan so that you can mitigate the need for repairs and allow a QI to focus on what needs repair and its urgency. With regular maintenance a QI may not find as many problems that need repairing as well.

How to Get a QI

To get a QI carried out on your church you need to hire an accredited architect or surveyor. The Diocese has a list of approved Quinquennial Inspectors available [here](#). Create a shortlist of candidates and choose someone who feels right for your PCC and your Church. Make sure they are experienced with buildings from a similar time period to yours, it doesn't have to be churches but buildings with a similar age is important. The fees for a QI should be between £500 to £800 depending on the size of your church.

