



Recruitment pack



Fabric Advisory Committee Member

Closing date for applications:
Monday 2 November 2026



About us



Birmingham Cathedral is the oldest building in the city centre still used for its original purpose. We are home to some remarkable treasures, as well as the largest green space in central Birmingham.

Our cathedral is free to visit, and attracts over 200,000 people a year. Our visitors come to us for many different reasons - including to attend services, pray, reflect, light candles, learn about our heritage, take part in key civic events, and to enjoy a range of concerts and events held in our building or Cathedral Square throughout the year.

We are a Christian Church of the Anglican Communion and seat of the Bishop of Birmingham. We offer corporate worship of The Church of England, enriched by the Anglican choral tradition. Christian worship is at the heart of the cathedral's life as we offer to God our praises and prayers.

Everyone is welcome to attend any of our public services, as we rejoice in the diversity of the communities we serve and promote inclusion as widely as possible.

Birmingham Cathedral Chapter places the safeguarding of all who worship at and visit us as their highest priority. This particularly includes children and at risk adults. As a Church of England Parish Church Cathedral we work closely with our Diocesan Safeguarding colleagues to ensure our practices and policies are providing a safe environment for all.

A close-up photograph of the back of a dark blue t-shirt. The words "BIRMINGHAM" and "CATHEDRAL" are printed in large, white, blocky capital letters, stacked one above the other.

BIRMINGHAM
CATHEDRAL

Overview



Across the Church of England, volunteers form a hugely valued and important resource serving in a range of roles, including helping to care for and protect the nation's cathedrals – some of our most precious and significant buildings. We at Birmingham Cathedral would warmly welcome hearing from experienced professionals with an interest in cathedrals, and the time and specialist skills to serve on our voluntary Fabric Advisory Committee (FAC) that helps to shape the conservation and development of our cathedral building.

Works on and around the Church of England's cathedrals are controlled by a statutory planning system, in which FACs play a leading role. Each cathedral has its own FAC: a committee of 6-10 expert members that provides the cathedral with advice on the care, conservation and development of the cathedral buildings, their setting and contents, and deals directly with some applications for works that, under the secular planning system, would require listed building consent.

Birmingham Cathedral FAC is carefully constituted to contain expertise relevant to the cathedral's conservation and development. The cathedral seeks to recruit a suitable candidate to join current cohort to fill a vacancy, for an initial five year term to April 2031.

You can download more detailed information about the Care of Cathedrals Measure and the role of FACs at <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/churchcare/cathedral-fabric-commission/cathedral-fabric-advisory-committees>



Person specification

Serving on Birmingham Cathedral FAC offers a unique chance to form a special bond with one of England's great buildings and with the people who use and care for it day to day. These roles are voluntary but reasonable expenses will be paid. The commitment typically involves three meetings a year, plus time to read and respond to application documents and advice requests.

We hope you will consider this opportunity even if you never previously imagined volunteering for the Church of England! We welcome applications from all walks of life and lived experience and are keen to hear from a diverse range of applicants. By diversity, we mean we want more skilled, experienced people who are also women; people of global majority heritage; LGBTQIA+; younger; with disabilities; and from all faith and social backgrounds. We believe that removing barriers to diversity and inclusion is a fundamental part of our becoming a “simpler, humbler, bolder” Anglican Church, and in our committees, we hope to achieve more robust decision making informed by diverse voices drawn from all the people and communities the cathedral serves.

There is no requirement to be a Christian, but as cathedrals exist to proclaim the Christian faith, appointees must be able to work comfortably and in sympathy with the mission of the Dean and Chapter.



Person specification

Expressions of interest are invited from specialists in the following areas:

- Accessibility in historic buildings
- Archaeology
- Architectural history
- Art, stained glass and sculpture – history, theory and practice
- Church history
- Conservation – buildings and objects
- Contested Heritage
- Engineering – structural, mechanical and electrical
- Environmental conservation and management
- Museums and collections management
- Project management in a heritage context
- Public realm, place making and landscape design
- Town planning
- Visitor and heritage management



The application process



To express interest, please send a CV and covering letter (no more than two sides of A4) indicating your relevant area of expertise and experience.

All submissions should be emailed as PDF or Word documents to recruitment@birminghamcathedral.com by Monday 2 November 2026.

We will assess applications to the post as they are received, with the expectation that that appointment will begin in January 2027. Appointments to FACs will be made following an informal interview with the Dean and the Chair of the FAC.

For further information or an informal discussion about this role, please email Emma Kupsa at recruitment@birminghamcathedral.com



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