

Dear

Listed Building Churches / Chapels Change of Use

Thank you for your request which I received on 1 July 2026. You asked

1. For the most recent five-year period for which records are available, how many planning applications or listed building consent applications relating to listed chapels and churches in Wales were refused where heritage or conservation objections formed part of the decision-making process.

The Welsh Government does not hold this information.

2. For copies of any policy, guidance, briefing note, or position statement regarding the future reuse, conversion, adaptation, or sustainable redevelopment of listed chapels and churches that are no longer viable for their original purpose.

Please see attached internet links:

- [Conservation Principles](#)
- [Best-practice guidance | Cadw](#).
- [Chapels in Wales – Conservation & Conversion](#).

3. For copies of any information, assessment, or report regarding the risk of listed chapels and churches falling into vacancy, dereliction, or disrepair where proposals for reuse, conversion, or redevelopment are refused.

The Welsh Government does not hold this information.

4. The identity of the Welsh Government Minister and department with responsibility for: the protection and future sustainability of listed buildings in Wales; policy relating to the reuse and adaptation of listed chapels and churches; ensuring that historic buildings at risk of vacancy, deterioration, or loss are brought back into viable and sustainable use. And a published description of the Minister's responsibilities and remit in relation to these matters.

Cadw is the Welsh Government Department responsible for matters relating to listed buildings in Wales. The Cabinet Minister is Heledd Fychan MS, Cabinet Minister for Culture and Sport. Her portfolio responsibilities are published on the Welsh Government website here: [Heledd Fychan MS: Trefnydd, Chief Whip and Cabinet Minister for Culture and Sport | GOV.WALES](#).

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at Information Rights Unit, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ or email: freedomofinformation@gov.wales. Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours Sincerely,