Protective barriers for Cope Chests

York Minster’s Collections contain two medieval cope chests, dating from the 12th and 13th centuries respectively. These were used for storing copes long mantles of cloaks worn by members of the clergy for ceremonial occasions. The chests are significant as rare examples of this type and period.

The cope chests have been relocated from the South Quire Aisle due to planned work to conserve the 15th century St Cuthbert Window. One is now in the Lady Chapel and one in the North Quire Aisle. It is proposed to erect high quality museum standard barriers around them, which provide good visibility to visitors while providing protection to the chests through discouragement to touch. Interpretative labels will be attached to the barriers.

The freestanding barriers are grey power coated steel, size 400mm high with a 232mm diameter base. The uprights are 20mm in diameter. The barrier cord is also grey.