

ST ALBANS DIOCESAN SYNOD

16 JUNE 2018

DIOCESAN MISSION AND PASTORAL COMMITTEE
PROPOSED CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION

1. Following a review of the constitution and remit of the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee (DMPC), the Bishop's Council recommends to Synod that changes be made as outlined below.
2. The DMPC currently has three main emphases to its work:
 - **Statutory Responsibilities**
 - **Deanery MAPs**
 - **Mission Stories**
3. It is proposed that the DMPC as currently constituted is brought to an end and its functions redistributed as follows:
 - i) **Statutory Responsibilities** – The Bishop's Council would act as the DMPC and would deal with DMPC matters within the Bishop's Council agenda. In addition, an executive would be appointed to carry out the detailed work which would be ratified by the Bishop's Council.
 - ii) **Deanery MAPs** – These would be developed and scrutinised through an archdeaconry-based peer learning model*. Proposed pastoral re-arrangements would be considered further by the Executive Committee and ratified by the Bishop's Council. Deanery Plans would also go to the Board for Mission and Ministry to ensure sharing of mission priorities.
 - iii) **Mission Stories** – A mission story of good practice regularly to be included on Diocesan Synod Agendas.
4. **Rationale**
 - i) Simplification;
 - ii) Good use of time;
 - iii) Close alignment of mission policy with strategic policy;
 - iv) Wider audience for mission stories;
 - v) Development Plans Monitoring Group feeds directly into the appropriate forum for policy development (the Bishop's Council with detailed work undertaken by the Policy Sub-Committee);
 - vi) Implications of pastoral re-organisation are considered in terms of policy (e.g. use of housing; allocations of ministerial resources).

5. Membership and Functions of DMPC with the Bishop's Council

If the Bishop's Council acts as the DMPC it would have the following effect on the existing membership and functions of the Council:

Membership:

- Existing Bishop's Council membership plus
- Additional lay membership needed to balance clergy in order to meet the requirements of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011;
- Additionally, the Pastoral Secretary in support as required.

Functions (in addition to the Bishop's Council existing agenda):

- Formal ratification of Deanery MAPs;
- Policy development;
- Recommendations to Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF)/Synod about strategy and resourcing;
- Formal ratification of recommendations by DMPC Executive;
- Formal ratification of recommendations of Closed Churches Uses Committee and Development Plans Monitoring Group.

6. Membership and Functions of DMPC Executive

Detailed work would be carried out by an Executive Committee where membership and functions would be as follows:

Membership

- Chair – appointed by the Bishop's Council;
- Archdeacons;
- 1 Rural Dean and 2 Lay Chairs, one per Archdeaconry;
- One member nominated by the Property Committee of the DBF;
- In support – Pastoral Secretary and Officer.

Functions

- Considering/developing proposals for pastoral re-organisation and first-stage consultation;
- Identifying options for pastoral re-organisation arising from Deanery MAPs;
- Vacancies and suspensions;
- Local Ecumenical Partnerships;
- Development of local [area] mission partnerships (LGL 2020);
- Identification and support of Fresh Expressions and new worshipping communities;
- Sharing good practice (LGL 2020);
- Casework under the Church Representations Rules [e.g. Team Council Constitutions – currently dealt with directly by the Bishop's Council];
- Some delegated functions from the Bishop's Council as DMPC to act between the Bishop's Council meetings.

7. If these changes are agreed, Diocesan Synod Standing Order 103 would require amendment to reflect the change in composition of the Council to achieve as far as possible an equal number of lay and clerical numbers. The following changes to Standing Order 103 are therefore proposed:

The Bishop's Council and Standing Committee

Composition

103. The bishop's council and standing committee (in these standing orders referred to as "the standing committee") shall consist of :

Ex-officio members:

The president
 All other members of the house of bishops
 The dean of the cathedral
 The archdeacons
 The chairman of the house of clergy of the diocesan synod
 The chairman of the house of laity of the diocesan synod
 The chairmen of the following diocesan boards and/or committees:-
 Board of Finance
 Board for ~~christian development~~Mission & Ministry
 Board of Education
~~Board for church and society~~
~~Pastoral committee~~
~~Stewardship committee~~

Elected members:

~~Five-Three~~ clergy elected from amongst themselves by the house of clergy of the diocesan synod, ~~of whom at the time of their election at least one shall reside in each archdeaconry.~~

~~Seven-Nine~~ lay persons elected from amongst themselves by the house of laity of the diocesan synod, of whom at the time of their election at least two shall reside in each archdeaconry-

Co-opted members:

Up to ~~42~~ members of the Synod, whether clergy or lay, may be co-opted by the Council at any one time, on the nomination of the Bishop. In exercising this nomination the Bishop shall seek to ensure that, as far as is reasonably possible, the Standing Committee is composed of equal numbers of clergy and laity. —

**MISSION AND PASTORAL MEASURE 2011 (“the Measure”)
DIOCESE OF ST ALBANS**

**RESOLUTION OF DIOCESAN SYNOD: AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION OF
MISSION AND PASTORAL COMMITTEE (“the Committee”)**

Pursuant to Schedule 1 of The Measure the Diocesan Synod resolves that from 1 January 2019 the members of the Committee shall be the members from time-to-time of the Bishop’s Council.

*The proposed process for the development and review of Deanery MAPs is as follows:

1. Deanery develops draft MAP with input from Church Growth Officers and others;
2. Peer review of the draft MAP and leadership input from discussion at an Archdeaconry meeting of the Rural/Area Deans and Lay Chairs with the Suffragan and/or Archdeacon;
3. Details of any proposals for pastoral re-organisation to serve mission better are considered by the Executive Committee;
4. The Deanery MAP is ratified by the Bishop’s Council. The MAP will also go to the Board for Mission & Ministry to draw out wider themes;
5. Archdeaconry meetings of the Rural/Area Deans and Lay Chairs will also provide a forum and structure for regular review of the priorities identified in each deanery MAP;
6. The Pastoral Secretary’s role will include liaising with the Archdeacons to ensure an appropriate system operates in each Archdeaconry.