

ST ALBANS DIOCESAN SYNOD

15 JUNE 2019

QUESTIONS – FIRST NOTICE PAPER

- 1) The Reverend Peter Kay (Sharnbrook Deanery) to ask Mr John Butler, the Chairman of the Property Committee:

“Based on their Energy Performance Certificates what are the Energy Efficiency Ratings for the diocese's parsonages, broken down by current rating and by potential rating? For instance, on current ratings how many are graded A, how many B, how many C etc - and if each were upgraded to maximise efficiency how would those figures change?”

Mr John Butler will respond:

“I thank the Reverend Kay for his question.

The energy survey needed to produce an EPC is performed by an assessor who visits the property, examines key items such as loft insulation, domestic boiler, hot water tank, radiators, and windows for double glazing. The Board does not as a matter of course undertake energy performance assessments on its properties: to do so would likely cost in excess of £20,000 and any recommended work would relate only to the property concerned rather than reflect priorities across the total portfolio of properties.

The Board has instead focused resources where they are needed most, notably the substantial programme of improvements to insulation across the Diocese.

The most recent figures indicate as follows:

- 92.5% of the houses the Board is responsible for have between 250mm and 300mm loft insulation. The remainder have not had upgraded loft insulation for practical reasons, e.g. they have flat roofs, the top floor rooms are built into the loft, or upgrading work is awaiting the next vacancy.
- 91.5% have cavity wall insulation. The remainder have not had cavity wall insulation added for practical reasons, e.g. they have solid main walls, timber-framed main walls or cavities unsuitable for filling.
- 96% have either full double glazing or full secondary glazing to windows. Of the remainder, five have part double or secondary glazing and five have neither double nor secondary glazing.
- 96.5% have thermostatic radiators throughout.

Further energy savings will be achieved through the replacement of inefficient boilers which the Board undertakes on the advice of its plumbing contractors and in consultation with clergy. The Property Committee commits to budget annually for energy conservation underlining its commitment to this issue.”