

COUNCIL FOR DISCIPLESHIP AND MINISTRY

Diocesan Provision: Established by Resolution of Diocesan Synod on 7th June 1997 as the Board for Christian Development. Constitution amended by Resolution of Diocesan Synod on 10th June 2000 and further amended by Resolution of the Diocesan Synod 12th March 2011

Task

The task of the Council is to propose and steer policy in Christian discipleship, ministry development and learning for the Diocese. In particular, the Council is concerned with adult learning, recruitment to ministry, ministerial training and appraisal, work with children and young people and stewardship.

Responsibility and reporting

Responsibility for policy lies ultimately with the Bishop and Diocesan Synod, generally mediated through the Bishop's Council. It is the responsibility of the Council to initiate, shape and steer policy in the light of the overall strategy of the diocese. It is the responsibility of the Chair of the Council to communicate with and consult the Bishop on issues of significance and to report regularly to the Bishop's Council.

Operation of the Council

The Council is to meet at least three times a year. Five members, including at least two elected members, constitute a quorum.

The Council may set up working groups in order to achieve particular tasks, at the same time deciding on a date when the group in question is to cease its work.

The Council may authorize support/advisory groups for the officers working in the area of its concerns. The Council's approval is to be sought for the membership of such groups and the membership is to be reviewed at the outset of each triennium.

Review of the Council's work

The work and policy of the Council are reviewed by the Bishop's Council every three years and the Council reports annually to the Diocesan Synod. The Council is to carry out an annual review of policy implementation in all areas of its own work.

Membership of the Council [maximum of 15 members]

The Council's membership consists of:

Chair: appointed by the Bishop

One Archdeacon: ex-officio

B10

Nine members elected by the Diocesan Synod (who need not be members of the Synod): three from each Archdeaconry, at least one clerical and one lay.

One member (who need not be a member of the Synod) nominated by the Bishop's Council

Up to three members (who need not be members of the Synod) co-opted by the Council. In exercising its power of co-option, the Council is to have regard to the balance of its membership and to ensure that at least three members of the Council are members of the Diocesan Synod. The members will serve for a term of three years.

Relationship with officers

The Archdeacon is the link between the Bishop's Staff and the Council. The officers work to the policy of the Council. The work of the Council is organized into three teams: Vocations; Ministerial Development; and Parish Development. The leader of each of these teams will represent the officers on the Council. Other officers attend meetings of the Council when requested to do so. Officers may request to attend the Council in consultation with their Team Leader, who will first consult the Chair.

There shall be a lead officer of the Council called the Director of Ministry, who will be appointed by the Bishop from the three team leaders after consultation with the Chair and the Archdeacon, who shall consult the Council and the officers. The Director of Ministry will attend the Bishop's Council.

Servicing of the Council

There shall be an Executive Committee of the Council, which shall meet between Council meetings to review action items, engage in strategic planning and set the agenda. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chair, Vice Chair, Archdeacon, Director of Ministry, the team leaders and one other lay member of the Council as nominated by the Council. Secretarial services, including minute-taking, are provided by a secretary working in the area of the Council's concern.

March 2011