

Review of the Mission & Pastoral Measure 2011

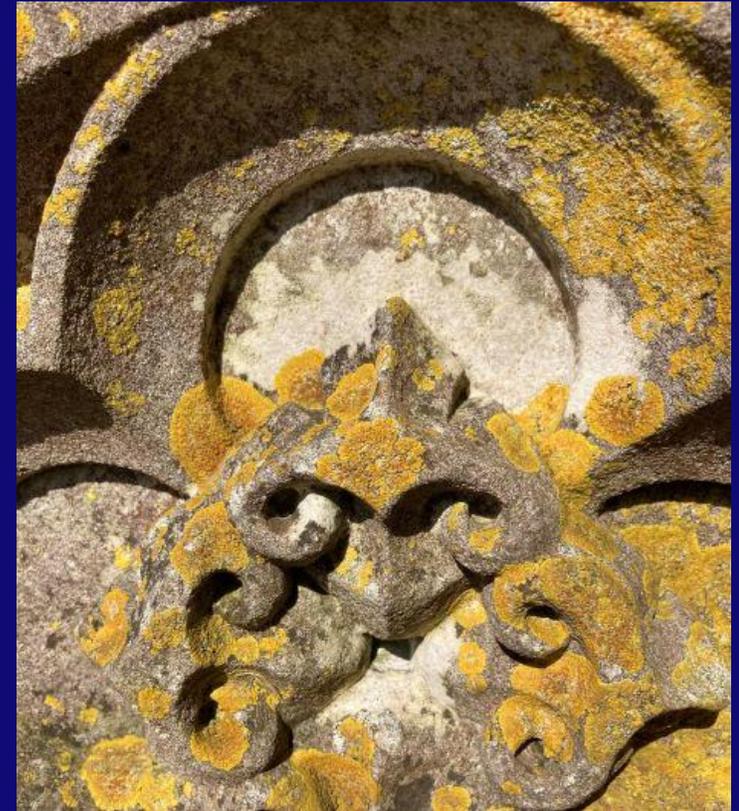
General Synod Fringe event – 8 February 2022

Wendy Matthews, Church Commissioners



introduction

- timeline
- GS Misc. 1312
- consensus & contested
- context for the next stage
- group discussion session



timeline so far...

- October 2020 – review signed off by Legislative Reform Committee
- October – June – developing the evidence base
- July 2021 – *Mission in Revision* published
- July – October - period of public consultation
- October – December - analysis of results
- February 2022 – consultation analysis – GS Misc. 1312



GS Misc. 1312

- over 1,600 responses to the consultation paper
- strong voices against change – often rural
- but, a more mixed picture when it came to considering individual questions
- but, were parts of the Church we did not hear from – young people, urban, suburban, resource churches/Fresh Expressions etc.
- fewer clergy than lay people



GS Misc. 1312 cont....

what we heard – a Measure which could:

- be more equal partners in consultation
- take a more “co-design, co-production” approach to pastoral reorganisation
- work in different geographies – e.g. urban and rural, north and south
- give more autonomy to PCCs and local church communities
- protect the rights of consultation and representation
- protect the traditions and characteristics of parishes



areas of consensus - legal

support for:

- splitting the legislation into primary and secondary – as long as strong oversight mechanisms, and key rights enshrined in primary legislation
- retaining the right of appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council
- the retention of the Commissioners' appellate/decision making function
- reducing the number of legal schemes and orders
- support for technical changes to the finance processes
- no changes to parsonages legislation



areas of consensus – pastoral & buildings

- parish governance is a concern
- the pastoral conversation could be managed in a more pastoral way
- improvements could be made in dealing with clergy dispossession, but not necessarily by a new route of appeal
- a desire for greater clarity on the use of suspension of presentation
- the importance of heritage advice as part of the processes around buildings
- a more flexible approach to leasing and community use



areas where less agreement/contested

- simplification – value and rationale
- whether or not systems should be more flexible or quicker
- how can we be a Christian presence in every place, and the role church buildings play in that presence
- removing sequestration – and what would replace it



MEANING	SIGNAL
FIRE IN C.W.R.	AUDIBLE BLASTS OF WHISTLE
AIR RAID WARNINGS	NOTE (SIREN OUTSIDE)
ALERT (RED)	NOTE (SIREN OUTSIDE)
ALL CLEAR (GREEN)	ELECTRIC BELL INTERMITTENT RINGING
IMMINENT DANGER OVERHEAD	ELECTRIC BELL CONTINUOUS RINGING
IMMINENT DANGER OVERHEAD, PASSED	
(GAS) ALARM	RATTLES
CLEAR	HAND BELLS
GROUND ATTACK FROM OUTSIDE OR INSIDE THE BUILDING.	
ATTACK BEING MADE	KLAXON-CONTINUOUS SOUNDING FOR TWO MINUTES DURATION.
ALL CLEAR	MESSAGE BY TELEPHONE.

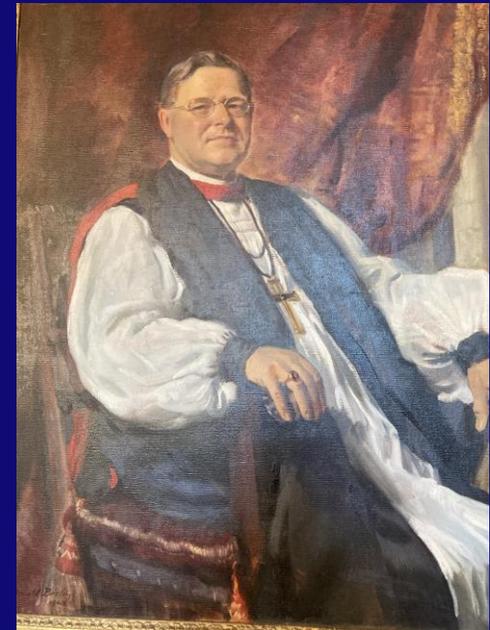
context & looking ahead

Church

- Vision and strategy – translating the mixed ecology into the legislative framework
- Governance review
- Transforming effectiveness – a better service offer
- Dioceses Commission
- Consultation on the role of Bishops

social/pastoral

- post-Covid – recovery and pastoral opportunity



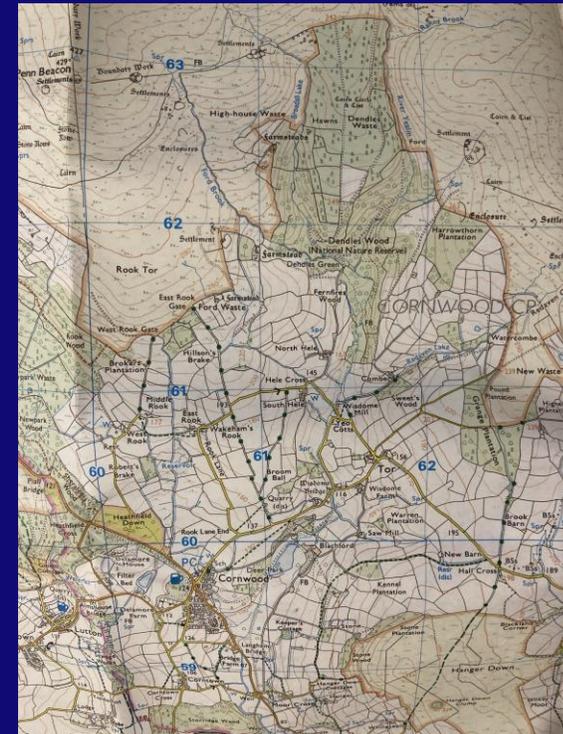
context cont....

financial

- post-Covid impact
- financial deficit across dioceses
- pressures on parish finance

political

- Levelling Up agenda and government white paper
- future of planning reforms
- DDCMS – future funding for church buildings



group discussion session

questions to consider

please nominate one person to feedback
– 3 points

- 1. Reflecting on GS Misc. 1312 –
what is your response to the feedback?**
- 2. Can you identify areas of the current MPM which
work well and are valued?**
- 3. Can you identify areas of the current MPM
which do not work so well and which could be
improved?**

