

Pioneer Assessment Panel

What Happens At the Panel?

1. What does the Pioneer Panel do?

The Pioneer Panel assesses whether you are called, and have the potential and capacity to be a pioneer in the Church of England.

2. Who decides when you are ready to go to a Pioneer Panel?

Your DDO decides when you can go to a pioneer panel on behalf of the Bishop

3. Who is on the Panel?

The Panel consists of a number assessors who are experienced pioneer ministry practitioners chaired by Mike Harrison, Bishop of Dunwich.

4. What Paperwork do I need for the Panel?

Prior to your Panel, you will need to provide the following paperwork for your DDO to send into David Male, the National Advisor for Pioneer Development by email. (They will know when this has to be received by.)

- A Pioneer Panel Registration Form (PDF in emailable form)
- Written references from: (i) your DDO;
- (ii) some one of your choosing in which the person tells us something from their personal experience about your pioneering abilities.

5. What happens during the day at the Panel?

The Panel takes place from 11am-3.45pm. The assessment consists of

Interviews There will be two individual interviews with assessors of 45 minutes each which will explore the missional qualities and personal qualities from the Pioneer Criteria

Case study scenario. In small groups you will work together on a case study about how you might start a fresh expression. There will be 20 minutes to work together on what you would do, ten minutes for the group to make a presentation followed by 15 minutes of questions.

You will be sent the scenario before you attend the panel

Whole group discussion. This will be on a particular issue linked to pioneering, with both practical and theological issues to think about. You will not be told what this issue is before the day.

6. What happens after the interview process?

After you have left the assessors will remain to discuss the various candidates for pioneering ministry against the Criteria for Pioneer Ministry. They will decide if each candidate has the potential and capacity for pioneering ministry in the Church of England.

The Chairman of the Panel will then write to your Bishop recommending as to whether or not you have the potential and capacity to be a pioneer in the Church of England. Your Bishop will write to you with their decision (copying in your DDO, the Chair of the Panel and the National Advisor for Pioneer Development.)

(If your vocation is to ordination, your DDO will decide on the best time for you to go to a Bishops' Advisory Panel and you will be sponsored in the normal way by your Bishop.)