

Ministry Division: Quality in Formation Panel

Criteria for evaluating new training provision for IME 1 stage of ordination training

The Ministry Council is inviting proposals for the establishment of new training provision for those training in IME 1 from September 2017. These new pathways could take the form of:

- Cohorts of students pursuing a new pathway for ministry within an existing formational programme
- An entirely new pathway for a new cohort of students within a TEI
- A pathway which is effectively part of a new form of an institution.

The Council would welcome applications which contribute entrepreneurial vision and fresh thinking. In the light of the new ecology of training proposed under Resourcing Ministerial Education, these new guidelines for the approval of training pathways have been drawn up. They are shaped in the form of criteria against which the application will be judged.

THE APPROVAL PROCESS

Those proposing new training provision are strongly encouraged to make contact with the Ministry Division at an early stage of their thinking to discuss their proposals and the procedure for application.

The approval procedure is in three stages:

- (a) in principle agreement:** an outline proposal should be submitted to the Ministry Council **by 1st September** setting out the proposal with reference to the criteria and by completing the application pro-forma. The consultation will inform the in principle agreement stage. This application needs to be submitted on the understanding that under Common Awards, permission for the pathway also needs to be given by the University.
- (b) approval,** to include detailed scrutiny of curriculum, governance and finance proposals where these are needed. The documentation required will be advised by the Quality in Formation Panel but may include validation approval from Durham University, a business plan and (for new institutions) an explanation of the governance arrangements.
- (c) review after three years:** approval will normally be given for a three year initial period. At that stage the provision will be reviewed and will either be confirmed or approval withdrawn.

The consultation process

With regard to consultation the Ministry Division will be contacting the affected dioceses, training institutions and RTPs. In addition, it will put up a page on its website to give access to a summary of any current proposals. In practical terms this will mean a period of consultation will need to be built in to the process for considering new proposals. In the normal working periods of the year, this will mean a two month period for comment and some time to evaluate those comments. The results of the consultation will then be fed into the decision making process of the Ministry Council.

Criteria:

- 1) **Collaboration:** New applications will be required to demonstrate that the pathway is the result of a collaborative partnership between Dioceses and TEIs to ensure that the pathway meets the needs of the wider church. In addition, wherever possible, it will be hoped that pathways will be developed through the efficient sharing of resources between TEIs in order to promote the good practice of collaboration.
- 2) **Contribution to the development of training and ministry**
 - added value above existing provision of training
 - contribution to new patterns of ministry

3) Education

In relation to 4 below:

- broad based theological and ministerial programme which will enable the candidate to achieve the learning outcomes
- structured programme which enables candidates to complete level 5 (DipHE or equivalent), or above, by the time of ordination
- viable cohort size of ordinands (normally a minimum of 8-10) to enable a good exchange of views, perspectives and knowledge
- an approach to learning and formation which will instill good habits of continuing learning and development

4) Formation

In addition to 3 above:

- how does the pathway meet the formational criteria at the end of IME 1?
- a pattern of life and worship (communal and individual) which will deepen Christian discipleship and prepare candidates for the beginning of a representative ordained ministry
- appropriate use of residence or gathered time to enable these aims
- viable cohort size of ordinands (normally a minimum of 8-10) to enable a good exchange of views, perspectives and knowledge
- continuity of group life, and focus on formation of group life or other forms of corporate life, to enable candidate to experience and interact with a range of views and of expressions of church
- a variety of contextual and placement experience to enable candidate to be equipped for a ministry within the wider church

5) Institutional Sustainability and Governance

- realistic staffing and costing of the proposal
- outline of risks and how they might be mitigated
- demonstrating how connections are being made between the TEI and those Dioceses with whom it is in partnership
- where applicable, demonstration as to how the pathway and TEI fit within a robust Common Awards Management Board structure which allows for transparent and clear lines of responsibility between the TEI and Durham University.

6) Cost to the national church

- Under RME, the costs of training pathways are to be met by the Dioceses so evidence will need to be shown for Diocesan support for this new training pathway.
- costs to be in line with comparable provision according to focus of ministry (potential incumbent, assistant minister, pioneer minister, locally deployed)
- cost to be affordable within the limits of the age banded funding

7) Consultative process

- In considering new proposals the Ministry Council should seek the views of stakeholders in a way which informs but does not necessarily determine the outcome.

Application form

Please address the criteria (in bold) with regard to your proposed training programme and fill in the attached form. The full criteria are reproduced in the Quality Assurance and Enhancement handbook.

Contribution to the development of training and ministry: How will the programme add value to the existing provision of training across the church? Will it contribute to new patterns of ministry?

Education: please give a brief educational rationale for the proposal. Explain how it aims to ensure breadth of study, outcomes consistent with the needs of the sponsoring church, and will instill good habits of continuing learning and development. The T11 documentation will need to be submitted so that the pathway can be seen to meet the formational needs of the church.

Formation: Please give the programme's formational rationale. How will it help to develop trainees' pattern of life and worship (communal and individual) so as to deepen their Christian discipleship and prepare them for ministry? Patterns of residence, group life and continuity, contextual and placement experience will be relevant here. A document outlining how the pathway meets the formational criteria at the end of IME 1 will need to be submitted.

Sustainability: in terms of viability, how do you see the immediate and likely longer-term take up for this training programme and the prospects for its development? Evidence will need to be submitted here with regard to wider partnerships and Diocesan connections

Cost to the national church: please state how this proposal relates to current national rates for college type or course type training. If you expect this course to attract other than standard funding (tuition **and** maintenance) for this kind of pathway, please explain why. You will need to show how your proposal has the support of local Dioceses and their own budget processes.

Consultative process: what views, if any, have you had on the proposal from existing providers within the RTP area and elsewhere? How will this proposal sit within any local regional training partnership governance and working arrangements? (Ministry Division will seek the views of sponsoring bishops and of training institutions in the evaluation of your proposal.)

If desired, give your own SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) of the proposal.

Please also provide a 250 word summary of the proposal which can be posted on the Ministry Division website as part of the consultation exercise.

Analysis of new training proposal	
1. Ministry/ies trained for	
i. For which ministerial role(s) is training offered? As a general indication, please use the standard selection categories: assistant minister, potential incumbent, pioneer minister, Reader, etc.	
2. Programme design	
i. Duration of training programme state whether p/t or f/t or both	
ii. Outline of learning structure: number of years; and length of year including length/hours of block placement(s) and attachment type placements, hours of tuition contact time per week, daytime and evening commitment, hours of private study expected.	
iii. Residential periods and locations	
iv. Length, location and nature of context-based elements if applicable	
v. Expectations about ministry concurrent with training if applicable, eg a number of days a week, paid or unpaid, in a ministry context	
3. Curriculum content and award	
i. Curriculum design: module content, credits and routes through the validated programme	T11 form
ii. Academic award(s)	
iii. HE validating institution	
4. Resources	
i. Staff delivering the training programme (name and brief CV for each)	T9 for Common Awards
ii. Time commitment from each staff member (Number of courses/modules taught by each person)	
iii. Other resources eg resources for distance-learning (dvd/study packs/VLE) and library/digital resources available to students on the programme	
5. Viability (market and cost)	
i. Number of students enrolled/expected in first year of delivery by category: ordinand, Reader, other students	
ii. Approximate group profile – age mix, gender, home location (ie, from how far afield does the programme aim to recruit?)	
iii. Hoped for numbers in subsequent years	
iv. Expected cohort size, and make up as between different types of ministerial trainee.	
v. Estimated cost per student: What tuition fee is expected? What level of maintenance fee is expected for students?	