

NOTICE
Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011
Draft Pastoral Scheme

22/2/22

The Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee have prepared a draft Scheme in respect of proposals sent to them by the Bishop for:

the dissolution of the benefice of Accrington Saint James and Saint Paul; and the benefice of Saint John, Baxenden; the union of the parish of Saint John Baxenden, being the parish which comprises the area of the benefice of Saint John, Baxenden, and the parish of Accrington Saint Paul, being one of the two parishes which comprise the area of the benefice of Accrington Saint James and Saint Paul, for the parish churches of the said parishes to be parish churches of the new parish; the creation of a new benefice of Baxenden Saint John the Baptist and Accrington Saint Paul, its area comprising the new parish of Baxenden Saint John the Baptist and Accrington Saint Paul, for the appointment of the first incumbent of the new benefice, her place of residence and for the future patronage arrangements for the new benefice; the creation of a new benefice of Accrington Saint James, its area comprising the parish by the same name, for the parsonage house of the benefice of Accrington Saint James and Saint Paul to be the parsonage house of the new benefice and for the future patronage arrangements for the new benefice; all in the diocese of Blackburn.

A copy of the draft Scheme may be inspected at the parish churches of all the parishes of the above mentioned benefices.

You may also inspect the scheme on the draft Scheme on the Commissioners' website www.churchofengland.org/consultation or you may obtain a copy from me. Large print and/or audio copies are available on request.

Anyone may make representations to the Commissioners **for** or **against** all or any part or parts of the draft Scheme (please include the reasons for your views) in writing or by email to reach them no later than **11 April 2022**.

Please send your representation marked for the attention of James Davidson-Brett, Pastoral Division, Church Commissioners, Church House, Great Smith Street, LONDON SW1P 3AZ (e-mail: james.davidson-brett@churchofengland.org).

If they have not acknowledged receipt of your representation before this date, please ring 0207 898 1687 or e-mail them to ensure it has been received. For administrative purposes, a petition will be classed as a single representation and the Commissioners will only correspond with the sender of the petition, if known, or otherwise the first signatory – “the primary petitioner”.

When making a representation, please indicate the nature of your interest in the proposals (e.g. parishioner, member of parochial church council, etc) and whether you would like an opportunity to speak to the Commissioners regarding your representation if they decide a

hearing should be held regarding the case.

If the Commissioners receive representations against the draft Scheme, they will send them, and any representations supporting the draft Scheme, to the Bishop whose views will be sought. Individual representors and the primary petitioner will then receive copies of the correspondence with the Bishop (including copies of all the representations) and will be told whether a hearing is to be held. They and individual petitioners may comment further to the Commissioners. Copies of all of the representations received and associated correspondence will be published on the Commissioners' website if the matter needs to be considered by the Commissioners.

If a hearing is held, anyone may attend the meeting of the Mission and Pastoral Committee that considers the case and representors may have an opportunity to speak to it. Otherwise, if a hearing is not to be held, the case will be considered in private and you will be informed accordingly.

When the Commissioners acknowledge representations they will let individual representors (and the primary petitioner) know the next few dates of the Committee's meetings. They will confirm the actual date if a hearing is to be held nearer the time.

The Committee will decide if the draft Scheme should proceed when it considers all the representations on the basis of a paper prepared by the Commissioners' staff and any points raised at the meeting. The Commissioners will notify all representors of their decision and give a statement of the reasons for it.

If the Commissioners so decide the Scheme should proceed, any representor or petitioner against the draft Scheme may seek leave from the Privy Council to appeal against the decision.

Please see www.churchofengland.org/consultation for further information about the procedure.

Mr Dave Champness
Interim Pastoral Secretary
Dave.champness@blackburn.anglican.org
07342 881788

Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011
Diocese of Blackburn
The Benefice of Saint John Baxenden
and
The Benefice of Accrington Saint James and Saint Paul

22/2/22

The Bishop of Blackburn has asked us to prepare a draft Pastoral Scheme in respect of pastoral proposals affecting these benefices.

I attach a copy of the draft Scheme and a glossary of terms used together with the Notice. I am sending a copy to all the statutory interested parties, as the Mission and Pastoral Measure requires, and any others with an interest in the proposals.

Anyone may make representations **for** or **against** all or any part or parts of the draft Scheme (please include the reasons for your views) by post or, preferably, by email to the Church Commissioners at the following address no later than midnight on **Monday 11th April 2022**.

James Davidson-Brett
Church Commissioners
Church House
Great Smith Street
London SW1P 3AZ
Email: james.davidson-brett@churchofengland.org (tel 020 7898 1687)

If they have not acknowledged receipt of your representation before this date, please ring or e-mail them to ensure it has been received. For administrative purposes, a petition will be classed as a single representation and they will only correspond with the sender of the petition, if known, or otherwise the first signatory for whom they can identify an address – “the primary petitioner”.

If the Commissioners do not receive representations against the draft Scheme, they will make the Scheme and it will come into effect as it provides. A copy of the completed Scheme will be sent to you together with a note of its effective date.

If the Commissioners receive any representations against the draft Scheme, they will send them, and any representations supporting the draft Scheme, to the Bishop whose views will be sought. Individual representors and the primary petitioner will then receive copies of the Commissioners’ correspondence with the Bishop (including copies of all the representations). They and individual petitioners may comment further. Copies of all of the representations received and associated correspondence will normally be published on the Commissioners’ website if the matter needs to be considered by them.

Those making representations should indicate whether they would like an opportunity to speak to the Commissioners regarding their representations in the event the Commissioners decide a hearing should be held. Their meetings are normally held at Church House, Westminster, but during the current circumstances they may need to be held virtually via ‘Zoom’. If a hearing is held, they will let you know the arrangements for

attending (in person or virtually) and details will also appear on their website. Otherwise, if a hearing is not to be held, the case will be considered in private and you will be informed accordingly.

When the Commissioners acknowledge representations they will let individual representors (and the primary petitioner) know the next few dates of their Committee's meetings. They will confirm the actual date of any hearing nearer the time. The Commissioners will decide if the draft Scheme should proceed when they consider all the representations on the basis of a paper prepared by their staff and any points raised at the meeting. If the Commissioners do so decide, any representor or petitioner against the draft Scheme may seek leave from the Privy Council to appeal against the decision.

You will be informed of the Commissioners' decision and the reasons for it.

Please see www.churchofengland.org/consultation for further information about the procedure.

PCC Secretaries, incumbents/priests-in-charge/Area Deans, persons taking services during the Notice Period and local planning authorities should refer to the relevant notes below for important additional information concerning them.

Dave Champness - Interim Pastoral Secretary

Notes

1. PCC Secretaries

The draft Scheme is sent to you as PCC Secretary. Please ensure that it is drawn to the attention of the other members so the PCC as a body is able to make any comments on the draft if it wishes.

You are required as soon as possible to:

- i) print and display the Notice(s) (**to avoid spread of Covid-19, please display single-sided**) at or near the main door of every parish church, chapel of ease or licensed place of worship in your parish; (whether or not they are currently open for individual prayer or services); if you are unable to print the Notice(s) please get in touch with me and I will make arrangements for copies to be sent to you for display;
- ii) make arrangements for the Announcement (see 2. below) to be made at as many services as possible at every parish church, chapel of ease or licensed place of worship in your parish where a service is held during the notice period (including any that are 'streamed').

Please e-mail or telephone me confirmation as soon as you have displayed the Notice(s) and made arrangements for the announcements to be made. Do not wait until the end of the notice period before confirming this.

Although the following are not legal requirements, to ensure that as many of those who habitually attend public worship, as is practicable, are aware of the contents of the Notice, you are also encouraged to take (or make arrangements for), where possible, such of the following steps as is appropriate in your parish:

- i) arrange for copies of the Notice to be posted to members of the worshipping community who are shielding or self-isolating (in accordance with the general advice to parishes this should be by the postal service and not hand delivered);
- ii) insert the Notice in the parish magazine or newsletter;
- iii) use Facebook/social media posts;
- iv) send emails; and
- v) spread by word of mouth, including pastoral telephone calls.

Please make a note of what you have been able to do regarding steps i) to v) above in case the consultation process is queried.

If you are no longer the PCC Secretary, please pass this communication to the current Secretary and let me have a note of his or her name and email/postal address.

2. The Announcement

Anybody taking services (including those that are 'streamed') during the Notice Period should ensure that the following announcement is made.

“A Notice giving the objects of proposed pastoral reorganisation affecting this parish has or will be displayed near the main door and on the Church of England website. The Notice includes the last date by which representations regarding the proposed reorganisation may be made to the Church Commissioners.”

PCC Secretaries – please note that it is essential that:

- i) Notices are displayed; and
- ii) arrangements are made for Announcements.

3. Incumbents/priests-in-charge/Area Deans

Please ensure that the required Notices are displayed and Announcements made.



If a PCC Secretary is not able to carry out these requirements, please could you arrange for these matters to be dealt with as soon as possible. Please also let me know if there has been a recent change of Secretary in any of the parishes.

SUMMARY OF MAIN PROVISIONS OF DRAFT SCHEME (NOT PART OF THE DRAFT SCHEME)

This draft Scheme provides for:

- *the dissolution of the benefice of Accrington Saint James and Saint Paul; and the benefice of Saint John, Baxenden;*
- *for the union of the parish of Saint John Baxenden, being the parish which comprises the area of the benefice of Saint John, Baxenden, and the parish of Accrington Saint Paul, being one of the two parishes which comprise the area of the benefice of Accrington Saint James and Saint Paul, for the parish churches of the said parishes to be parish churches of the new parish;*
- *the creation of a new benefice of Baxenden Saint John the Baptist and Accrington Saint Paul, its area comprising the new parish of Baxenden Saint John the Baptist and Accrington Saint Paul, for the appointment of the first incumbent of the new benefice, her place of residence and for the future patronage arrangements for the new benefice;*
- *the creation of a new benefice of Accrington Saint James, its area comprising the parish by the same name, for the parsonage house of the benefice of Accrington Saint James and Saint Paul to be the parsonage house of the new benefice and for the future patronage arrangements for the new benefice;*

all in the diocese of Blackburn

DRAFT

PASTORAL SCHEME

This Scheme is made by the Church Commissioners this day of
20 in pursuance of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011, the Right Reverend Julian,
Bishop of Blackburn, having consented thereto.

Dissolution of benefices

1. The benefice of Accrington Saint James and Saint Paul and the benefice of Saint John, Baxenden in the diocese of Blackburn shall both be dissolved.

Creation of new parish of Baxenden Saint John the Baptist and Accrington Saint Paul

2. (1) The parish of Saint John, Baxenden, being the parish which comprises the area of the benefice of Saint John, Baxenden, and the parish of Accrington Saint Paul, being one of the two parishes which comprise the area of the benefice of Accrington Saint James and Saint Paul in the said diocese shall be united to create a new parish which shall be named "The Parish of Baxenden Saint John the Baptist and Accrington Saint Paul".

 (2) Both the parish churches of the parishes referred to in clause 2(1) hereof shall be parish churches of the new parish.

 (3) The new parish shall belong to the archdeaconry of Blackburn and the deanery of Accrington.

(4) The Bishop may by Instrument under his hand make provision for ensuring that the congregation of every church or place of worship in the new parish of Baxenden Saint John the Baptist and Accrington Saint Paul will have its own elected representatives of the laity on the parochial church council of that parish.

Creation of new benefice of Baxenden Saint John the Baptist and Accrington Saint Paul

3. (1) A new benefice which shall be named "The Benefice of Baxenden Saint John the Baptist and Accrington Saint Paul" shall be created in the said diocese, and the area of the new benefice shall comprise the new parish of Baxenden Saint John the Baptist and Accrington Saint Paul created pursuant to clause 2(1) hereof.

(2) The new benefice and its constituent parish shall belong to the archdeaconry of Blackburn and the deanery of Accrington.

(3) If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation the Reverend Amanda Jane Marshall holds an ecclesiastical office in either of the benefices referred to in clause 1 hereof she shall be the first incumbent of the new benefice.

(4) The parsonage house of the benefice of Saint John, Baxenden (known as 2, Langford Street, Accrington, BB5 2RF) shall without any conveyance or other assurance be vested in the incumbent of the new benefice in her corporate capacity as her official residence.

(5) The patronage of the new benefice shall be vested in the Bishop of Blackburn in his corporate capacity.

Creation of new benefice of Accrington Saint James

4. (1) A new benefice which shall be named "The Benefice of Accrington Saint James" shall be created in the said diocese, and the area of the new benefice shall comprise the parish of Accrington Saint James.

(2) The new benefice and its constituent parish shall belong to the archdeaconry of Blackburn and the deanery of Accrington.

(3) The parsonage house of the benefice of Accrington Saint James and Saint Paul (known as Saint Paul's Vicarage, Barnfield Street, Accrington, BB5 2AQ) shall without any conveyance or other assurance be vested in the incumbent of the new benefice of Accrington Saint James in his or her corporate capacity as his or her official residence.

(4) The right of presentation to the new benefice shall on each occasion be exercised jointly by the Bishop of Blackburn in his corporate capacity; and the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Patronage.

Assistant curates: consequential provision

5. If immediately before this Scheme comes into operation any person holds an office of assistant curate (however described) in either of the benefices and/or parishes referred to in clauses 1 and 2(1) hereof he, she or they shall as a consequence of the dissolution of benefices and certain parishes effected by this Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in the new benefice and/or parish of Baxenden Saint John the Baptist and Accrington Saint Paul and/or the new benefice of Accrington Saint James as the Bishop shall direct.

Coming into operation of this Scheme

6. This Scheme shall come into operation upon the first day of the month following the date of it being made by the Church Commissioners.

sought. Individual representors will then receive copies of the Commissioners' correspondence with the Bishop (including copies of all the representations) and they may comment further in writing to the Commissioners in light of the diocesan response if they so wish.

If there are no representations against the draft Scheme, the Commissioners will make the Scheme and arrange for it to be brought into effect.

Clause 5

The above clause has been included to ensure that any person holding an office of assistant curate (however described) shall as consequence of the dissolution of the benefices and certain parishes effected by the Scheme hold such office or offices subject to the same terms of service in the new benefices and/or parish as the Bishop shall direct. Although there is currently no such unnamed office holder in post, this clause is included in case any such office holder is appointed before this Scheme comes into operation.

Churches etc

This Scheme does not alter the existing status of any of the churches, chapels of ease or licensed places of worship in the affected parishes.

Clause 2(4)

The Mission and Pastoral Measure stipulates that any provision for the representation of the laity shall cease to have effect not later than five years from the date on which this Scheme comes into effect. It would, however, be possible under the Church Representation Rules to make a similar provision for an unlimited period.

A fuller version is available in the Code of Recommended Practice to the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/parish-reorganisation-and-closed-church-buildings/mission-and-pastoral-measure-2011-and-code#na>

Archbishop	Senior bishop with authority over a Province - of Canterbury and of York.
Archdeacon	An office held by a senior clergyman appointed by the bishop with an administrative responsibility over an archdeaconry. Some of his duties are laid down by law but in other respects his duties vary according to diocesan practice: they include care for church property.
Archdeaconry	Sub-division of the diocese over which an archdeacon has administrative responsibility.
Benefice	An ecclesiastical office carrying certain duties. An incumbent's benefice is therefore not a geographical area (see parish) but the office to which (s)he is appointed and may comprise one or more parishes. A benefice may be a rectory or vicarage from which the incumbent is called rector or vicar.
Bishop	In the Church of England the bishop is the central focus of organisation and ministry within his diocese. He is the chief pastor and authority and shares the cure of souls with all the incumbents of that diocese. He is also, in his own person, the chief representative of the diocese in the work of the wider church. He may be assisted by suffragan or assistant bishops.
Common Tenure	The basis on which all Church of England offices will eventually be held under the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Measure 2009. Existing holders of freehold offices may decide not to opt-in to Common Tenure but new office holders will be on Common Tenure.
Chapel of Ease	A consecrated church that it is not a parish church but is within a parish that does have a parish church. Originally for the ease of parishioners who could not attend the parish church.
Church Representation Rules	Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 but updated as a separate booklet. They contain the mechanism for the setting up of representative bodies in the Church of England from parochial church councils to the House of Laity of the General Synod.
Cure of Souls	'Cure' means 'care'. The bishop has the universal cure of souls in a diocese but, subject to this, the incumbent of a benefice (or team rector and team vicar(s) in a team ministry) has the exclusive cure of souls within his or her parish or parishes. The expression should not be confused with the more general phrase 'pastoral care'.
Deanery	A sub-division of an archdeaconry usually comprising between 10 and 20 parishes.
Declaration of closure for regular public worship	The act of closing a church for public worship under the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.
Diocesan Board of Finance	A company constituted by the diocesan synod and regulated by the Companies Acts. A board of finance holds property for Church of England purposes, transacts business in that connection and acts as a committee of the diocesan synod. It normally also acts as the diocesan trust.
Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee	Statutory Committee established by the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011. Its duty is to review the arrangement for pastoral supervision in the diocese and, as appropriate, to make recommendations to the bishop.
Diocese	One of 41 main territorial units of the Church of England over which a bishop has responsibility. Divided into archdeaconries, deaneries and parishes.
District Church Council	If a parish comprises two or more places of worship or churches then individual councils can be set up for the districts in which each place of worship or church is situated to exercise such functions as may be delegated by the parochial church council.
Glebe	Land or buildings vested in the Diocesan Board of Finance that either provides a rental income to augment the Diocesan Stipends Fund or provides housing for those involved in the cure of souls.
Group Council	Where a group ministry is established the parochial church councils of the individual parishes can form a group council to act in the area as a whole in such matters as the individual PCCs together decide.
Group Ministry	An arrangement, authorised by the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 whereby the clergy of two or more separate benefices can assist each other to make the best possible provision for the cure of souls in the area as a whole.

Incumbent	Holder of a benefice (which can be either a freehold or a Common Tenure office) – and can be either a rector or a vicar - with responsibility for the cure of souls. May be assisted by curate, deacon, licensed lay worker, retired priest etc.
Interested Party	One of the statutory persons or bodies that the Diocesan Pastoral Committee is required to consult in accordance with s.6 / 21 of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.
Joint Parochial Church Council	Where a benefice comprises two or more parishes the parochial church councils of the individual parishes can form a joint parochial church council to act in the benefice as a whole in such matters as the individual PCCs together decide.
Leave to Appeal	Any person who makes a representation to the Commissioners against a pastoral scheme has a right to apply for leave to appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council against a decision of the Commissioners to proceed notwithstanding that representation.
Members ('Other') of a Team Ministry	May be clerical or lay (see s.34 of Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011). They share the pastoral care of the area with the team rector and team vicars, but NOT the cure of souls.
Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011	The Measure of the General Synod which authorises changes in pastoral reorganisation. Designed to "make better provision for the cure of souls". Part of the law of the land and equivalent to an Act of Parliament.
Mission, Pastoral and Church Property Committee	A Committee of the Commissioners' Board of Governors which makes decisions on representations on pastoral, church buildings, houses and glebe matters. It is chaired by the Third Church Estates Commissioner.
Parish Centre of Worship	An unconsecrated Place of Worship designated by the bishop under s.43 of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 whereupon for most purposes (other than marriage) it is regarded as a parish church.
Parish Church	A consecrated building in a parish in which, subject to canon law, the statutory services must be held. Parishioners have a right to be married, baptised etc. in the parish church. S.41(2) of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 requires that any new church or existing building which is to become a parish church must be approved by the bishop, subject to the bishop having consulted both the Diocesan Pastoral Committee and the Diocesan Advisory Committee.
Parochial Church Council	Representative body of parishioners elected from those on the electoral roll in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. Usually chaired by incumbent.
Parsonage House	The official place of residence of an incumbent of a benefice. The house belongs to the incumbent in right of his or her office.
Pastoral Order	A document which effects changes in pastoral reorganisation made under the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011. Differs from a pastoral scheme mainly in that it deals with lesser matters.
Pastoral Scheme	A document which effects more complex changes in pastoral reorganisation made under the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.
Patron	The person or body owning an advowson (i.e. right to present a priest to a benefice) who may be a private individual or a corporation (ecclesiastical or lay).
Plurality	The holding of two or more separate benefices by one incumbent who then has the freehold of all the benefices. This can only be authorised by a scheme or order under the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.
Priest in Charge	A priest given charge of a benefice by licence of the bishop. (S)he has not been presented and is not the incumbent but holds office under common tenure.
Representations	The Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 requires that any draft scheme or order be published and made available to the public. Any person can make written representations to the Commissioners either for or against what is proposed.
Team Council	Where a team ministry is established a team council can be established, either under the authority of a scheme or under the Church Representation Rules. Such a council is similar to a joint parochial church

council and provides a formal structure for all the parishes in the team to discuss matters of mutual concern.

Team Ministry	A special form of ministry whereby a team of clergy and possibly lay people share the pastoral care of the area of a benefice. Can only be established by a pastoral scheme.
Team Rector	The priest in a team ministry who heads the team and owns the property of the benefice. (S)he shares the cure of souls with the team vicars.
Team Vicar	A priest of incumbent status in a team ministry, other than the team rector. (S)he shares the cure of souls with the team rector and other team vicars.