

LLF IMPLEMENTATION WORKING GROUPS

Terms of Reference



INTRODUCTION

The LLF working groups are made up of episcopal and non-episcopal members. All members of the group support the work, contributing ideas and perspectives from their own experience and expertise. Each Working Group has assigned NCI staff members to support and advise on the work.

The Working Groups commit to working together accordance with the [Pastoral Principles](#): acknowledge prejudice, cast out fear, speak into silence admit hypocrisy, address ignorance and pay attention to power, and the LLF Course Commitments.

The working groups are not representative but are inclusive of a range of expertise from those engaged in the LLF process. They are not decision making bodies but will do the work of setting out options for the *Prayers of Love and Faith*, *Pastoral Guidance* and *Pastoral Reassurance* to be considered by the House and College of Bishops.

While each Working Group will have clear areas of focus, there is a significant amount of interconnectivity between the groups, and it will be essential to the work of all the groups to update one another and that relevant information is shared through Co-Chairs and staff members.

STEERING GROUP

The Steering Group will be co-chaired by Bishop Sarah Mullally and Bishop Philip Mounstephen and will be made up of the episcopal chairs of the other working groups.

Its role is:

- To establish an overarching timetabled plan of work;
- To ensure the groups are delivering to plan;
- To ensure that the work of the three groups is coordinated;
- To engage with and report to the College and House of Bishops.

The group will be supported by Bishop Mark Wroe, Mark Betson (Faith and Public Life) and Georgina Morgan (Office of the Archbishops).

PASTORAL GUIDANCE

The Pastoral Guidance group will be responsible for drafting the *Pastoral Guidance*. It will need to translate the mind of the College into more detailed, practical outworking as well as articulating in summary form the biblical, theological and legal basis for the guidance.

Much of the *Pastoral Guidance* will relate directly to clergy and lay leaders, and those involved in vocational discernment processes. However, it will also offer a pastoral framework for the ministry of clergy and lay leaders in the wider church.

The task of this group is:

- To identify what the *Pastoral Guidance* needs to contain in the light of the College of Bishops' work and the feedback from General Synod;
- To structure and present the *Guidance* in an appropriately accessible way;

- To identify in which order the different elements of the *Guidance* need to be developed – taking account of the urgency of some aspects in relation to the ministerial vocations discernment cycle;
- To develop the different components, taking into account consultants' feedback;
- To identify past statements and guidance produced by the Church and consider their status once the new *Pastoral Guidance* has been approved.

The group will be supported by Isabelle Hamley (Theological Adviser to the House of Bishops), Joy Gilliver (Head of Discernment, Ministry Development), Mark Betson (Faith and Public Life) and Georgina Morgan (Office of the Archbishops).

PRAYERS OF LOVE AND FAITH

The tasks of this group are:

- to refine the current form of the Prayers of Love and Faith, with reference to the discussions of the College of Bishops and the feedback from the General Synod;
- to recommend the means by which the Prayers will be ratified and made available for use;
- to produce rubrics and introductory material which will give advice for good practice in a variety of situations, and to work closely with the Pastoral Guidance Working Group to identify contexts in which the Prayers may be used.

The group will be supported by Matthew Salisbury (Liturgical Adviser), Mark Betson (Faith and Public Life) and Isabelle Hamley (Theological Adviser to the House of Bishops); Alexander McGregor / Louise Wills (Legal)

PASTORAL REASSURANCE

The purpose of this group is to provide options for the House and College of Bishops for pastoral reassurance relating specifically to the Prayers of Love and Faith.

The work of this group is focused on

- what will be required in order to ensure freedom of conscience for clergy (including archdeacons);
- considering the implications of freedom of conscience for bishops;
- considering the implications for laity, including those who are licensed or in positions of leadership;
- guidance for deaneries, multi parish benefices, cathedrals and churches about a) how to determine their approach to the Prayers of Love and Faith and b) how best to implement transparency regarding offering couples the Prayers of Love and Faith;
- guidance for TEIs, DDOs, people in the discernment process and ordinands
- considering a variety of approaches to pastoral reassurance (including informal and more formal options) and articulating a range of possibilities for the Bishops.

The co-chairs are responsible for the draft paper/s produced by the working group, which will go to the House and College of Bishops.

The group will be supported by Malcolm Brown (Faith and Public Life), Alex McGregor | Louise Wills (Legal Office), Helen Fraser (Ministry Division), David Porter (Office of the Archbishops) and Mark Betson (Faith and Public Life).