

Diocesan Deliverance Ministry Team Terms of Reference

The Diocesan Deliverance Ministry Team (DDMT) will:

- Follow the House of Bishops' guidelines on deliverance ministry;
- Advise and make recommendations to the diocesan bishop and senior leadership team on the delivery, development and effectiveness of deliverance ministry;
- Offer support, advice and guidance to clergy and laity in the diocese on matters of deliverance;
- Provide suitable training to clergy in the diocese on the process of engagement with deliverance ministry;
- Monitor and review cases in the diocese to ensure continuing development in best practice;
- Contribute to the diocese's strategy for the healing ministry;
- Follow the diocesan safeguarding practices and procedures;
- Liaise with the DSA on matters of safeguarding;
- Engage in continuing ministerial development in the area of deliverance ministry and related areas.

When undertaken by team members, deliverance ministry will be:

- Done in the context of prayer and sacrament;
- Done with relevance to safety and the diocesan safeguarding guidelines;
- Done with the relevant authorisation and permission from the diocesan bishop and the parish priest;
- Done with more than one person present, not undertaken alone;
- Done with relevant training and supervision;
- Done with regard to competence and boundaries, including issues of consent, data and spiritual fitness (a time of recovery may be required after some cases). Professional boundaries to be observed;
- Done with careful attention to personal conduct – courtesy, language, touch and body language. No one should be ministered to against their will;
- Done with careful attention to record keeping, public statements and confidentiality, guarding the privacy and dignity of enquirers;
- Carried out by accredited ministers and with accredited counsellors, psychiatrists and psychotherapists as needed;
- Done with the assurance of continuing pastoral care;
- Done with a multi-disciplinary approach and collaboration with healthcare services;
- Never undertaken with the purpose of changing a person's sexual orientation, even if they ask for it. Each individual will be treated with compassion, courtesy and referred to appropriate support.

Membership

The DDMT should consist of:

- The convenor or chair of the team;
- Ordained team members;
- Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor;

And where possible:

- A bishop or member of bishop's staff;
- Counsellor/psychotherapist;
- Psychiatrist.

Appointments

- The appointment of panel members is the responsibility of the diocesan bishop in consultation with the convenor/chair.
- All appointments to the team should follow the House of Bishops' safer recruitment practice guidance where relevant.
- It is recommended that the initial appointments should be for a term of three years with an additional term of appointment possible for a further three years after the initial term, following a review of commitment and contribution.
- Team members will have an annual appraisal carried out by the chair with the chair's appraisal carried out by the diocesan bishop or a member of bishop's staff designated by the bishop.

The DDMT should aim for a balanced membership, with representation from the diocese's senior staff team, clergy, DSA, Director of Communications and relevant healthcare professionals. All laity involved should have relevant working knowledge of deliverance ministry in the Church of England.

All members should have an induction which includes the purpose and function of the team, their role and responsibilities, national Church of England deliverance ministry training, and current training at the appropriate level to their role.

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The Diocese of Chester is the Church of England primarily in Cheshire – but also covers some areas outside the county. Chester Diocesan Board of Finance is a company limited by guarantee registered in England (no. 7826) and a registered charity (no. 248968)

Chester Diocesan Board of Finance, Church House, 5500 Daresbury Park, Daresbury, Warrington WA4 4GE.
Telephone: 01928 718834