Developing Our Strategy

Diocesan Synod
11th March 2023
Refreshing our Strategy – 2020 onwards

Diocese of Canterbury
CHANGED LIVES → CHANGING LIVES

Timeline
2020
2021
2022
2023

Start here!
Postcards from a Flourishing Future – early 2020

Archbishop’s Council
Area Deans & Lay Chairs
Diocesan Synod

Vision
Strategic Themes

Timeline
2020
2021
2022
2023
Listening & Discernment – Autumn 2020

What are we noticing of God's movement at this difficult time?

What are we learning as we reflect on how God seems to be moving?

What might we let go of or allow to die so that we may enter a new future with God?
Towards a Flourishing & Sustainable Future

- The challenges we face
- A short term financial plan
- A blueprint of what our strategic themes might look like
- Deanery plans for all 15 deaneries

Timeline

2020
2021
2022
2023

ABC – April 2021
Synod – July 2021
### Deanery Plan Template introduced

To help deaneries capture (and monitor) the key initiatives
- To link the initiatives with the strategic themes
- To enable the plans to be aggregated to see where support is needed
- To help develop the strategic themes

### Tracking Progress

6 received back so far – target for completion is September

### Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Archdeaconry</th>
<th>Deanery</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What do you plan to do?</td>
<td>What are you hoping to achieve?</td>
<td>Measures of Progress</td>
<td>Who is doing it?</td>
<td>Support needed</td>
<td>Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Theme</td>
<td>Additional Theme</td>
<td>Desired Outcome</td>
<td>Choose from the drop-down menu</td>
<td>Choose from the drop-down menu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For help with this template please contact Colin Evans (cevans@diocant.org) or Simon Marsh (smarsh@diocant.org)

**Changed Lives → Changing Lives**

**Towards a Flourishing & Sustainable Future**

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**Towards a Flourishing & Sustainable Future**
New investment announced for the next 9 years to support delivery of the vision & strategy.
Our Three Bold Outcomes by 2030

- Doubling the number of children and young disciples
- 200 new Christian communities
- *Every* church parish, church and benefice revitalised

Co-designed by:
- Episcopal Staff Team
- Strategic Programme Board
- Area Deans & Lay Chairs

Endorsed by Archbishop’s Council

Commended to Synod for adoption

Timeline:
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- 2023

Designed by:
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Doubling the number of children & young disciples

Why?
The number of children & young people attending our churches has shown a sharp decline. Numbers have not recovered as well as adults after the pandemic. Our congregations are generally aging, often with few/none under 60. A church where children and young people are welcome and cared for will also attract families.

What?
A demonstrable increase of new children and young people engaging in worship and discipleship through our churches. Attendance at school assemblies won't be included - but new faith-based activities in and with schools might.

How will we measure?
National measurement framework will help. Probably include a basket of measures: e.g. USA, AWA, October Count, Worshipping Community. Young is under 16 but we could do with tracking 16-24 age group too.
200 new Christian communities

Why?
We need to grow and to become younger and more diverse to flourish. The establishment of new Christian communities will enable us to minister with and to people who might not ordinarily be found in our churches.

What?
This can't simply be the same church members meeting in a different format - those who come along should be 'new' people - and Christian content is key. This will include new church plants and fresh expressions, but also more modest expressions of church, such as discipleship groups or Messy Church. George Lings’ 10 criteria for a fresh expression from 2011 may be helpful.

How will we measure?
National measurement framework will help shape our thinking. We want a measure that encourages rather than one that excludes – so may need a local definition. Could measure through Stats for mission? Articles of inquiry? Diocesan surveys? Collation through deaneries?
Every church, parish and benefice revitalised

Why?
Our goal is to be a flourishing and sustainable diocese. We will only truly be successful if we are all successful. We don’t want to leave anyone out!
Expectation that every church etc. will explore revitalisation. No opt out!

What?
We are looking for 'signs of new life' that fit with the contexts and needs of our parishes. These could be closer working with schools, EcoChurch/Net Zero etc, restructuring number/type of services
National investment will help but is not the only answer.

How will we measure?
A broad questionnaire with some specifics but allowing for stories and diverse examples.
Collation through deaneries?
Discussion & Feedback

• In table groups discuss (20 mins)
  o What do you like about the three bold outcomes?
  o Is there anything you think could be improved?
  o Is there anything that is missing?

• Appoint someone in the group to offer short feedback to Synod at the end of the discussion (15 mins)

• There will be someone at each table taking notes on the key discussion points to help with further work
Diocesan Synod adopts the three bold outcomes for 2030:
• Doubling the number of children & young disciples
• 200 new Christian communities
• Every church, parish and benefice revitalised