

Wellbeing Update

Revd Will Gibbs & Revd Canon Tim Lomax

Mission & Ministry
DEPARTMENT

Background

Building on the excellent work of the previous Wellbeing Group, in March 2021 Diocesan Synod adopted General Synod's 'A Covenant for Clergy Care and Wellbeing' and decided the following in response:

Actions:

- Clergy wellbeing is important but our commitment is to the wellbeing of all our ministers (lay and ordained).
- That opportunities for theological reflection be provided through the Continuing Ministry Development Programme.
- That training for conflict management and change-management be enhanced.

Actions (continued):

- That the Diocesan Dispute Advisory Service be promoted.
- That healthy expectations for ministry be addressed in IME 2, parish profiles, role descriptions, licensing services and Church Warden training.
- That the 'How Clergy Thrive' and 'Flourishing Ministry' booklets be distributed.
- That a Diocesan Wellbeing Group be formally established.

Progress on the Diocesan Wellbeing Group

Revd Will Gibbs (Chair)

Clergy Wellbeing Survey

Earlier this year we conducted the first annual clergy wellbeing survey. The results will be reported back to clergy soon.

Clergy Wellbeing Survey

Two main findings to address:

1. Supporting the taking of days off / retreats / time for reading, prayer and reflection.
2. Finding volunteers.

Priorities for the Wellbeing Group Over the Coming Year:

- Provide feedback on the Clergy Wellbeing Survey.
- Address the two main issues highlighted in 2022 survey.
- Plan for the 2023 survey.
- Draw up an achievable vision and strategy for wellbeing.
- Survey provision made in other Dioceses to ensure we are making the best offering to support ministerial wellbeing

Discussion

1. What do you see as the main challenges to the wellbeing of our ministers (lay and ordained)?
2. What more can be done to support the wellbeing of our ministers?