

Towards a three-year strategy

Ambitions for justice, peace and care of creation

Strand 1: Formation for missionary disciples

With the people of God in the diocese, we are called to be salt for the earth. Together with them, and nourished by church teaching, we will grow in gospel life through learning, reflection and action. Our publications (online and in print) and events will provide opportunities for collaborative formation.

We will:

- 1.1. Undertake a comprehensive **review of our communications**:
 - 1.1.1. establish new social media platforms, and refresh our branding and marketing
 - 1.1.2. develop and recruit to a new contact database to replace the existing email address book
- 1.2. Publish a '**prospectus**' to equip individuals and parishes with formation in Scripture and Catholic Social Teaching, theology, spirituality, practical skills, knowledge and confidence
 - 1.2.1. Continue organising an Annual Assembly
 - 1.2.2. Pilot County and/or Deanery workshops
 - 1.2.3. Train, authorise and support individuals as Parish animators for justice and peace
 - 1.2.4. Offer peer-support networks to representatives, animators and others engaged in specific topics

Strand 2: Engagement and transformation

In our culture and society, we are called to be light for the world. We will equip the people of God to promote gospel values in the public square, working with relevant civil authorities within the diocese and with other Christians and national agencies. The critical issues which concern us are set out under Strand 3.

We will:

- 2.1. Update and publish our **Building Peaceful Communities** pack online, promote it to other dioceses and evaluate take-up
- 2.2. Authorise, train and support individuals as local **representatives to civil society** agencies, partnerships and forums, particularly regarding:
 - 2.2.1. Modern slavery (including Leicester and Leicestershire)
 - 2.2.2. Hate crime (including Nottinghamshire)
 - 2.2.3. Poverty and inequality
 - 2.2.4. Support for asylum seekers and refugees
- 2.3. Support and encourage individuals to contribute to **local ecumenical partnerships**, Christian and interfaith, for justice and peace.

Strand 3: Prophetic mercy

Where we discern the greatest risk of harm, we will reach out as peace-makers and prophets, seeking to reconcile humanity to each other and the earth.

Our particular concerns at the current time are for:

- 3.1. **the Earth**
 - 3.1.1. Apply to be represented at COP24 as part of the CAFOD delegation

- 3.1.2. Contribute to preparations for the **2020 NJPN conference**
- 3.1.3. Consult on and draft a **diocesan environmental policy**
- 3.2. those excluded by poverty and inequality**
 - 3.2.1. Identify local anti-poverty partnerships
 - 3.2.2. Investigate feasibility of local **Poverty Hearings**
 - 3.2.3. Promote the **Real Living Wage**, authenticated by diocesan example
 - 3.2.4. Evaluate outcomes of local elections and for any action necessary to promote social cohesion and respect
- 3.3. asylum seekers and refugees**
 - 3.3.1. Produce **posters** with local volunteers to help parishes respond to the needs of asylum seekers and refugees
 - 3.3.2. Assist with development of diocesan support for **Community Sponsorship** of Syrian Refugees
- 3.4. those touched by trafficking and slavery**
 - 3.4.1. Develop a **project** and seek funding to enable the diocese to work with others in confronting modern slavery and supporting those caught up in it.

Strand 4: Advice and representation

We will support the leadership of the diocese in fulfilling the church's call to pastoral care, evangelisation and mission. We will help to renew the church and let loose the Spirit's gifts, so that signs of God's kingdom may break through into our time and place.

We will:

- 4.1. Make an active contribution to the **Diocesan Pastoral Forum**
 - 4.1.1. Map shared aspirations with individual Forum members and improve ongoing collaboration to promote them and foster the Forum's effectiveness
- 4.2. Assist with the Bishop's **review of parish outreach**, and review potential contribution to mission planning
- 4.3. Offer contributions to **clergy formation**, drawing on external expertise where appropriate, particularly regarding:
 - 4.3.1. Care of creation
 - 4.3.2. Modern slavery
- 4.4. Participate in the **Caritas journey** with Caritas Social Action Network, and identify opportunities for development in the diocese

Strand 5: Wise stewardship

As a Commission, we are called to invest wisely the talents of money, time and skills available to us, so that they may yield a rich return for the gospel.

We will:

- 5.1. Develop a framework for **demonstrating and evaluating our impact**
 - 5.1.1. Report every six months to stakeholders
- 5.2. Recruit **key volunteers** and with appropriate support, networking and accountability:

- 5.2.1. Commission Treasurer
 - 5.2.2. Administrative volunteer(s)
 - 5.2.3. Parish animators
 - 5.2.4. Local representatives to civil society
- 5.3. Establish **support for Commission members** through:
- 5.3.1. spiritual and apostolic formation
 - 5.3.2. mutual understanding, including awareness of members' calling and skills
 - 5.3.3. management of, and access to, the knowledge necessary for an effective Commission
- 5.4. Develop **succession planning**:
- 5.4.1. Diversify the age and social profile of Commission membership
 - 5.4.2. Develop a strategy for identifying, recruiting and inducting future members and office holders
- 5.5. Refocus **Commission meetings** by:
- 5.5.1. Rotating venues for meetings around the diocese
 - 5.5.2. A sharper strategic focus for meeting agendas
- 5.6. Establish a **long-term strategy** for the Commission's work:
- 5.6.1. Convene and draw recommendations from a focus group with younger adults
 - 5.6.2. Contribute to the development of a Caritas-type function in the diocese
 - 5.6.3. Anticipate and plan for future funding scenarios and opportunities in consultation with Bishop and Curia.