

DIOCESAN BOARD OF FINANCE

Visiting Clergy/Ministers

Cover Sheet

Paper Reference	14.2
Title	Policy for Visiting Clergy and Ministers
Meeting and Date	Bishop’s Council 22 nd July 2021
Paper submitted by	On behalf of Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel (DSAP)
Last considered by this meeting on (if applicable)	Replaces existing Policy on Visiting Clergy which was approved by DSMG (now DSAP) 10 May 2016 and last reviewed/updated March 2020
Background including any previous outcome(s)	This revised policy has been prepared by Gavin Foster after he was asked for advice when the national Church issued new guidance in February 2021 on the requirement for PtO for clergy ordained overseas.
What is required of this meeting? Note/Receive/Decision/Action	Approve

Policy Summary

Generally, a minister may only officiate after receiving authority from the bishop of the diocese to do so – Canon C 8.2. However, there may be an exception to the general rule where a minister visits the Diocese of Salisbury. This document sets out the requirements for an incumbent or priest-in-charge hosting a visiting minister.

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1. If the visiting minister is authorised to minister in another place within the Diocese of Salisbury (by being beneficed, licenced or holding PTO), the visiting minister is already authorised by the bishop and there is no need for the bishop to be consulted.
2. If the visiting minister is authorised to minister in another diocese in the Church of England:
 - the visiting minister may officiate for a period of no more than seven days within three months, but only if:
 - the minister having cure of souls in the place being visited is satisfied that the visiting minister is “of good life and standing, and has authority to officiate” in another diocese. See Canon C 8.2(a)

If the incumbent or priest-in-charge **will be present** at the service when the visiting minister will officiate, then the bishop is content for the incumbent or priest-in-charge to satisfied themselves that the visiting minister is of good life and standing and has authority to officiate in another diocese.

If the incumbent or priest-in-charge **will not be present** at the service when the visiting minister will officiate, the incumbent or priest-in-charge must contact the Bishop’s Chaplain at South Canonry to enable checks about the good standing and authorisation of the visiting minister to be made with their home diocese. Enquiries should be made as soon as possible to allow these checks to be made.

3. If the visiting minister was ordained overseas within the Anglican Communion, the visiting minister will require both:
 - permission from the Archbishop of Canterbury to minister in this province; and
 - authorisation from the Bishop of Salisbury to officiate in this diocese (usually a PTO).

The process also involves an assessment of safeguarding risks and requirements. Advice should be sought from the Bishop’s Chaplain as early as possible to allow time for the various processes to be completed.

If the visiting minister is only to preach or to perform a role which a lay person could ordinarily perform in the service, it may not be necessary for them to be fully authorised to officiate. Please contact the Bishop’s Chaplain for advice.

4. If the visiting minister is from a church with which the Church of England has an ecumenical relationship, the permission required will depend on the role they will be playing in the service. safeguarding checks with an appropriate ecumenical authority will usually be required. Please contact the Bishop’s Chaplain for advice.

These requirements apply equally to the Cathedral and to non-parochial ministry.

They reflect both the requirements of the Canons and safeguarding guidance; failure to follow them may result in disciplinary action.

Approve and Review

Policy applicable to:	Visiting clergy and ministers
Approved by:	Bishop's Council
Approved date:	
Policy owner (Director title):	Diocesan Secretary / Safeguarding
Next review date:	March 2024
Previous review date:	5 March 2020

Revision History

Version No.	Revision Date	Previous Revision Date	Summary of Changes
	March 2021	March 2020	National Church issued new guidance in February 2021 on the requirement for PtO for clergy ordained overseas.