SUMMARY PAPER OF THE FEEDBACK TO THE RENEWING HOPE REVIEW- THIS PAPER WENT TO THE BISHOP'S COUNCIL IN JULY 2019

BISHOP JOHN GLADWIN'S "RENEWING HOPE" CONSULTATION REPORT - CONSOLIDATED RESPONSES ARISING FROM FEEDBACK

87 pages of feedback were received in response to Bishop John Gladwin's report. If you would like to read all the responses please contact fiona.torrance@salisbury.anglican.org to receive a copy by email. Also if you would like a copy of all the feedback identifying priorities (11 pages), please contact Fiona.

The tables below provide a summary of the points most frequently affirmed by respondents and those areas most often identified as priorities for action by Bishop's Council.

What do you affirm in the report?

Top 10 things that people affirmed as expressed in the report	Number of respondents mentioning this
Single PCC benefices	25 <u>against</u>
Simplify processes and streamline administration both centrally and in parishes (incl safeguarding and DAC)	21
Going local	20
Travelling light	19
Numbers – shift focus from current measures	19
Affirm, continue, refresh Renewing Hope	17
Affirm, develop, empower deaneries	17
Work collaboratively	17
Review, reduce, lighten governance and management both centrally and in parishes (incl DAC)	16
Reach out to the wider community (schools, cafes, etc)	11

Many of these points are related. Thus empowering deaneries and reaching out to local communities are expressions of Going Local. Lightening governance, streamlining administration and working collaboratively are aspects of Travelling Light.

What do you consider to be the priorities for follow up action by Bishop's Council and why?

Top 13 priorities for action by Bishop's Council	Number of respondents mentioning this
Review tasks, roles and responsibilities (local and organizational) - streamline	10

Work across parishes, go local, grass roots	7
Focus on and resource prayer and faith	6
Review numbers, measures, statistics	6
Pray, Serve, Grow – continue, renew	5
Communications (better, aid transparency, resources)	5
Deaneries (energise, develop, set up radical pilots)	5
Reduce spending, balance budget	4
Widen training and knowledge sharing – equip laity for ministry and mission	4
Review Share	4
Serve and engage with the wider community	3
Clarify vision and objectives	3
DAC - improve/simplify faculty and provide more help	3

Again, many of these priorities are related. Developing deaneries, working across parishes and the church serving the wider community are all aspects of Going Local. Reviewing measures, reviewing Share and balancing the budget are likewise interconnected.

What action can you take in your own sphere to implement changes/where do you need the involvement of others?

Several groups and individuals described what they are currently doing or plan to do. A much smaller number highlighted a need for the involvement of others either locally or from the diocesan administration; comments in this second category were:
- Improved resources are required to promote and support volunteerism – this after all is how the church at a local level chiefly functions.
- To be honest, while we can always do our bit, I think we need the culture and other institutional changes to come first – or at least be flagged up – then we can implement and encourage.
- I think it is important that the larger churches become a resource to support the initiatives that emanate from other churches across the deanery. I believe the diocese supported by the deanery should be encouraging local churches to equip and train members of the local congregations to evangelise and share their faith in the community where they're based.
- Deaneries to share skills, facilities, ideas, but in the parishes that ask for help…….. Could a youth friendly church organize a youth event in a parish?
- What does a life of discipleship look like in the 21st Century – how can our parish and others dream dreams as well as functioning – how can the diocese support this need and encourage us to be a prophetic church?

- Think laterally about role of churches in our communities – meeting current needs, trying out new approaches, rethinking what it means to "serve". This would benefit from broader lay participation.
- I think that, for the initiated, a standard Anglican service is quite difficult to follow which is intimidating – people are shy and do not want to be made to look foolish because they do not know what to do so anything we can do to make it simple and easy to follow (without losing the ritual that is familiar for so many) would be useful. This is a tough one but technology could help here too – perhaps the church could create an app which could download the service when visiting the church so we don't have to have service sheets which have Eucharistic prayer A-H! There's so much more we could do with technology – but to do it well does take careful thought, planning and trial and error (with willing helpers).
- We need involvement of others in helping Northreach (extension project).
- How can the Diocese help parishes to creatively and efficiently centralize or share the administrative burden across parishes/deaneries to make them not only cost effective but also so that they do not "suck the life" out of the faithful that turn up at church and also so willingly contribute to the parish share?
- Developing "innovative" ministries. We are developing new forms of worship that are drawing in disaffected or dechurched locals. We could do with prayer support for these new ventures.
- ….finding creative ways to encourage and deepen prayer across the wider church must be a good thing. One response to this challenge may be to consider how to better equip church leaders to nurture a richer culture of prayer as well as a practical ministry of prayer within the church they oversee.
- Please publicise which churches in the diocese have grown in the last 5 years and arrange opportunities for declining churches to visit and learn from them.
- We should call on all suitable diocesan resources to assist us in our work.

mjl
16.7.19