

Navigation team meeting



Date: 25/02/2026

Attendance

Attendees: Rev Martin Cox (Chair), David Clifton, Rev Martin Fuller, Lisa Gilligan (Change Facilitator), Paul Hancock, Kath Pennington, Rev Chris Stafford, Liz Thomas, Kim Stanley (Diocese Mission and Pastoral Officer)

Apologies: Fiona Glover, Fr Michael Vyse

	Action summary from the previous meeting (18/02/2026)	By whom	By when
1.	Martin to ask AD Simon to record sermon, and to liaise with Dan Coole (Comms Manager)	Martin C	Completed
2.	Martin to discuss with AD Simon how we might keep the door open for All Saints, Newton	Martin C	Ongoing
3.	Martin and others to ask PSOs if they took away the same message re: safeguarding	Martin C	Completed
4.	Martin will contact additional volunteer about joining the navigation team, outlining the current progress and the plan for a review of the whole team to take place in September.	Martin C	Ongoing
5.	Lisa will contact the buildings team to arrange a buildings information evening that everyone in the deanery is invited to attend.	Lisa G	Completed
6.	A review of the transition team will take place in September, to discuss what skillsets may be missing and who feels they may be better suited elsewhere	All	Ongoing

Minutes of the meeting

Agenda item	Summary of the discussion	Actions agreed
1. Action point review	<p>Martin has spoken to AD Simon who was already in conversation with Dan from the comms team and is eager to record a sermon.</p> <p>Martin spoke to the PSOs and they had positive feedback about the safeguarding meeting. The Navigation team is confident that no other PSOs left the meeting with the wrong information.</p> <p>Martin has been in touch with additional volunteer, but is awaiting a reply to discuss the position on the navigation team.</p> <p>Lisa has arranged a buildings session with Craig for March 14th. The venue needs to be confirmed. Lisa has also spoken to the support services offer and has pencilled in a session on this sometime in May, with a session on cultivate to be arranged in April.</p>	

<p>2. Pastoral scheme timeline and process</p>	<p>Kim Stanley (Mission and Pastoral Officer) introduced herself and advised that a document of the information she will be giving will be circulated after the meeting.</p> <p>Pastoral reorganisation:</p> <p>Pastoral reorganisation: how the church responds to changes in pastoral needs. Every diocese must have a diocese mission and pastoral committee (DMPC), of which Kim is the secretary.</p> <p>Kim introduced the key definitions surrounding pastoral reorganisation which can be found in full on the meeting's accompanying slides.</p> <p>It emerged that a joint council was previously established between the Culcheth group, but it doesn't currently function. Nevertheless, it will have to be addressed in any pastoral reorganisation as often, some PCC responsibility is delegated to this group. Martin will pick this up with relevant PCCs.</p> <p>The different methods of pastoral reorganisation were introduced. Kim confirmed that 'alter areas' in the slides refers to changing parish boundaries.</p> <p>No one in Liverpool has been dispossessed through FfM and there is no intention to do so.</p> <p>Parish bureaucracy:</p> <p>Creating a new parish is the only opportunity to change the number of churchwardens required. The churchwardens' team will be exploring their legal responsibility and the requirements of the role, opening a discussion for what churchwarden structure is required across the LSP.</p> <p>Kim introduced potential meeting structures on the slides.</p> <p>Kim will share a copy of the joint council scheme as some circumstantial confusion arose surrounding this.</p> <p>Deanery plans:</p> <p>Kim introduced the content of a deanery plan and the process of drafting it.</p> <p>The Winwick draft was not ready to be introduced in this meeting.</p> <p>A query was raised on who holds responsibility for drafting the deanery plan. Kim advised that herself and AD Simon will draft this then it will be reviewed by the</p>	<p>MC</p> <p>KS</p>
--	---	-----------------------------------

	<p>navigation team and deanery synod before going to the DMPC.</p> <p>All legally interested parties are consulted on the plan, including readers, PCCs, officers etc. Queries and concerns will be responded to by Kim with support of the navigation team. A public consultation follows, with all responses encouraged as the positive and negative representation will be weighed against each other and considered by Church Commissioners</p> <p>St Helens held joint meetings with the navigation team and DMPC to help draft the plan due to complexities surrounding how the plan accounts for the churches in and out of FfM.</p> <p>A full potential timeline was presented, which is also on the meeting slides.</p> <p>There is a series of decisions that need to be made for the deanery plan, such as parish name and number of team vicars, which will all need evidence of how they were made in preparation for any representations against.</p> <p>Kim distributed the Toxteth and Wavertree deanery plan and patronage proposal as an example.</p> <p>The plan will not implement anything from the right buildings proposal. They are entirely separate.</p> <p>The deanery plan confirms that all churches will have autonomy to decide their own theological practises and ways of worship.</p> <p>Kim advised that any queries regarding pastoral responsibilities should be shared with the archdeacon.</p> <p>Martin and AD Simon have been working on a document that will be shared by the next meeting (March 4th) that outlines the decisions to be made regarding stipendiary allocation across Winwick deanery.</p> <p>Patronage proposal</p> <p>Patrons are involved in the appointments and have property right to the parish. There can be a patronage board that appoints both the team rector and team vicars, or two separate teams. The team rector designate will need to be decided in the next year as they are named in the proposal.</p> <p>Kim will share all the documents referenced in this meeting with the team.</p>	<p>MC</p> <p>KS</p>
--	---	---------------------

<p>3. Budgets and funding opportunities</p>	<p>Clarification was provided regarding the two separate funding streams: Fit for Mission, and DIP funding.</p> <p>DIP funding is available after the FfM process when the Larger Single Parish is legally established.</p> <p>FfM funding is specifically for facilitating the transition to an LSP. This covers costs such as: residential, coaching, communications, support services set up costs, MFAO and churchsuite subscriptions, administrator support. This also includes funding for the first year of Support Services salaries, which covers a manager and four additional staff members, but this can be redistributed. The Support Services Oversight Team will propose the support services team structure.</p> <p>The second branch of funding available after transition is the DIP funding. This is available over four years, benefiting the entire deanery but channelled primarily through the LSP. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The resources hub (for which it funds 80% of the costs). This also serves the whole deanery, with the services available to non LSP churches for a cost. • Children and youth hubs. Everyone in the deanery may collaborate on these. • Scholarships. These will be interns at Emmanuel College who work within the LSP, supporting youth work. They will be employed by the LSP. • Worshipping communities set up costs, including school worshipping communities. • Resource church funding, where relevant, such as Penny Lane. <p>Lisa emphasised that the language around this funding should focus on the LSP rather than FfM to avoid confusion, as it is important for there to be a clear understanding of the difference between transition funding and DIP.</p> <p>There will be a quarterly dashboard of church data managed by the project administrator which is shared with the church commissioners. There are also regular meetings between the delivery teams, including deep dives and regular meetings with AD Simon, keeping an understanding of capacity.</p> <p>The priority for both funding streams is to ensure that all parishes are financially and spiritually sustainable for the future.</p>	
<p>4. AOB</p>	<p>A concern was raised about communications surrounding buildings, with clear updates needed from incumbents. Going forward, Georgina will ensure all incumbents are included in emails organising buildings visits. Lisa will contact Bob to apologise for lack of clarity in this.</p>	<p>GA/LG</p>

	<p>Buildings reviews were paused this week due to Craig being unwell.</p> <p>In a future agenda, it was raised that discussions surrounding navigation team responsibility in supporting other meetings should be had.</p> <p>Churchwardens will be meeting on March 7th.</p> <p>An appointment has been made for the New Parish Administrator. This is a part time role, funding by FfM providing administrative support to the deanery as we form the LSP. Further details to follow once HR process has been completed.</p>	
<p>5. Action point summary</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kim will share a copy of the joint council scheme so that the team can clarify how the delegated parish share, as some circumstantial confusion arose surrounding this. • Kim will share all the documents referenced in this meeting with the team. • Martin and AD Simon have been working on a document that will be shared before the next meeting (March 4th) that outlines the decisions to be made. • Going forward, Georgina will ensure all incumbents are included in emails organising buildings visits. Lisa will contact Bob to apologise for lack of clarity in this. 	<p>KS</p> <p>KS</p> <p>MC</p> <p>LG/GA</p>

Future Navigation Team Meetings:

Wednesday 4th March 2.30 – 4.30pm, St Oswald’s Parish Hall