



To: Diocesan Bishops,

12th October 2012

Dear Colleagues

The Selection of Readers in Dioceses

We have pleasure in sending to you the enclosed documents which are intended to help encourage and ensure good practice in the selection of Readers. They are offered in the knowledge that Reader ministry differs across dioceses both in practice and understanding of its place in the wider ministry of the church. We hope that, nonetheless, you will find the advice helpful in shaping your diocesan selection process for this significant ministry.

The documents arise from a project funded by Ministry Division and carried out in close liaison with the Central Readers Council (CRC). Dr Nick Daunt has led the project and we are grateful to him for his thorough and careful work of research and writing over the past two years. Of the four enclosed papers, “**Mapping the Contours**” and “**What is Reader ministry?**” provide the background and offer a good survey of the varied picture across dioceses as well as a view about the particular features of the ministry of Readers.

The remaining two papers, “**The Selection of Readers in Dioceses; Identifying Best Practice in Content and Process**” and “**Encouraging and promoting the Vocation of Readers**” are offered to you for use in reviewing current practice and establishing good and positive ways to proceed with vocations work and selection.

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The Archbishops' Council is a registered charity (number 1074857).

Copies of the papers have been sent also to your Warden of Readers and Director of Ministry (or equivalent) so that they are in a position to advise you about what action is needed. The papers have been approved by Ministry Council and we commend them warmly for use in this important aspect of the Church of England's ministry.

Yours sincerely

+ *Chris Norrie* : + *Robert Sodor as Mannin* .

Copy: Directors of Ministry
Wardens of Readers