

DIOCESAN READER REVIEW Questionnaire for individual Reader responses.

As you know at the February 2006 group of sessions after a debate initiated by a Reader, the General Synod invited the Archbishops' Council to conduct a review of Reader Ministry, particularly in the light of a range of new expressions of lay and ordained ministry. The Council, through the Bishops' Committee of Ministry, has convened a working party under the chairmanship of the Bishop of Carlisle to address these issues and to report back to the Synod in July 2007. In order to have a clearer picture of the Reader Ministry on the ground, the group (with the assistance of the Research and Statistics department) has compiled a questionnaire for those involved in leading and overseeing Reader Ministry in each diocese to complete. This slightly altered questionnaire is available for Readers themselves to complete through the Reader website. The contents of each particular questionnaire will remain confidential to the research team. Our timescale for this work is tight and we would be grateful for a response by the time indicated at the end of the form.

**+Graham Carlisle
(Chairman)**

**Alan Wakely
(Secretary to the CRC)**

**Christopher Lowson
(Director of Ministry)**

Diocese (insert)

Reader ministry in your diocese

1. What functions do you exercise in your area of ministry in addition to leading public worship, preaching and teaching?

- liturgical
 - pastoral
 - funerals
 - baptism preparation
 - activities with children
 - activities with young people
 - Other (please state)
 -
- tick as appropriate*

2. What is your understanding of the policy in your diocese concerning Readers officiating at public services of Holy Communion by Extension? (Describe)

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3. Do you think you should be able to baptise at public services? **YES/ NO**
(delete as appropriate)

4. Would you like to be permitted to receive fees for **YES/ NO**
occasional services? *(delete as appropriate)*

Reader selection and initial training

5. What, if anything do you feel is distinctive about Reader training in your diocese? (Describe briefly)

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Reader review and Continuing Ministerial Education (CME)

6. (a) Have you found it possible to participate in regular ministerial review, if such a scheme exists in your diocese?

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(b) Do you think Readers should be deployed outside their home parish because of any particular abilities they may have, or should they remain parish-based?

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7. (a) Are you able to participate in Reader CME?

.....

(b) Have you had any ongoing training in the ministry of preaching?

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Readers and supervising ministers

8. Do you feel that your gifts as a Reader are adequately used?

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.....

9. Does the diocese have any programme of which you are aware to help you engage in collaborative ministry? (Describe)

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10. If there has been a vacancy in your parish have you had a voice in the appointment and induction of parish incumbents?

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11. Have you experienced any difficulties when there is a change of incumbent?

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Readers in relation to other ministries

12. Is there a specific OLM scheme operating in your diocese? **YES/ NO**
(delete as appropriate)

13. In what way(s) (if any) has the growth of NSMs and OLMs affected your personal Reader ministry? (Describe)

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14. (a) Would you favour significant numbers of Readers being ordained as permanent deacons? (Explain your view briefly)

.....
(b) Do you believe that other Readers in your diocese would favour a significant number of them being ordained as permanent deacons? (Explain)

.....
15. (a) What patterns of diocesan supported lay ministry (apart from Readers) are operating in your diocese?

.....
(b) What training do such lay ministers have?

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16. In what ways (if any) has the growth of diocesan supported other lay ministries affected the ministry of Readers?

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17. So far as you know, has the Readers Board in your diocese made any specific suggestions concerning the place of Reader ministry amongst the range of other ministries supported by the diocese?

(Explain)

Retirement

18. What practical differences do you believe exist for a Reader at the age of 70 when he/she has his/her licence withdrawn in favour of a permission to officiate?

Ecumenical

19. So far as you are aware, has your diocese developed any partnerships (formal or informal) with other Churches in the training or development of authorised lay ministries? (Describe)

General

20. Are you aware of any examples of good practice in the diocese concerning Reader ministry that have not already been mentioned? (Describe)

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21. How do you see the role of Readers contributing to the Church of England in the future?
(Describe)

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Name

.....**THANK YOU for completing these questions.**

Please return by 3rd October 2006 to:

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