

**NOTICE**  
**Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011**  
**Draft Pastoral Scheme**

22/2/22

The Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee have prepared a draft Scheme in respect of proposals sent to them by the Bishop for:

*the dissolution of the benefice of Accrington Saint James and Saint Paul; and the benefice of Saint John, Baxenden; the union of the parish of Saint John Baxenden, being the parish which comprises the area of the benefice of Saint John, Baxenden, and the parish of Accrington Saint Paul, being one of the two parishes which comprise the area of the benefice of Accrington Saint James and Saint Paul, for the parish churches of the said parishes to be parish churches of the new parish; the creation of a new benefice of Baxenden Saint John the Baptist and Accrington Saint Paul, its area comprising the new parish of Baxenden Saint John the Baptist and Accrington Saint Paul, for the appointment of the first incumbent of the new benefice, her place of residence and for the future patronage arrangements for the new benefice; the creation of a new benefice of Accrington Saint James, its area comprising the parish by the same name, for the parsonage house of the benefice of Accrington Saint James and Saint Paul to be the parsonage house of the new benefice and for the future patronage arrangements for the new benefice; all in the diocese of Blackburn.*

A copy of the draft Scheme may be inspected at the parish churches of all the parishes of the above mentioned benefices.

You may also inspect the scheme on the draft Scheme on the Commissioners' website [www.churchofengland.org/consultation](http://www.churchofengland.org/consultation) or you may obtain a copy from me. Large print and/or audio copies are available on request.

Anyone may make representations to the Commissioners **for** or **against** all or any part or parts of the draft Scheme (please include the reasons for your views) in writing or by email to reach them no later than **11 April 2022**.

**Please send your representation marked for the attention of James Davidson-Brett, Pastoral Division, Church Commissioners, Church House, Great Smith Street, LONDON SW1P 3AZ (e-mail: [james.davidson-brett@churchofengland.org](mailto:james.davidson-brett@churchofengland.org)).**

If they have not acknowledged receipt of your representation before this date, please ring 0207 898 1687 or e-mail them to ensure it has been received. For administrative purposes, a petition will be classed as a single representation and the Commissioners will only correspond with the sender of the petition, if known, or otherwise the first signatory – “the primary petitioner”.

When making a representation, please indicate the nature of your interest in the proposals (e.g. parishioner, member of parochial church council, etc) and whether you would like an

opportunity to speak to the Commissioners regarding your representation if they decide a hearing should be held regarding the case.

If the Commissioners receive representations against the draft Scheme, they will send them, and any representations supporting the draft Scheme, to the Bishop whose views will be sought. Individual representors and the primary petitioner will then receive copies of the correspondence with the Bishop (including copies of all the representations) and will be told whether a hearing is to be held. They and individual petitioners may comment further to the Commissioners. Copies of all of the representations received and associated correspondence will be published on the Commissioners' website if the matter needs to be considered by the Commissioners.

If a hearing is held, anyone may attend the meeting of the Mission and Pastoral Committee that considers the case and representors may have an opportunity to speak to it. Otherwise, if a hearing is not to be held, the case will be considered in private and you will be informed accordingly.

When the Commissioners acknowledge representations they will let individual representors (and the primary petitioner) know the next few dates of the Committee's meetings. They will confirm the actual date if a hearing is to be held nearer the time.

The Committee will decide if the draft Scheme should proceed when it considers all the representations on the basis of a paper prepared by the Commissioners' staff and any points raised at the meeting. The Commissioners will notify all representors of their decision and give a statement of the reasons for it.

If the Commissioners so decide the Scheme should proceed, any representor or petitioner against the draft Scheme may seek leave from the Privy Council to appeal against the decision.

Please see [www.churchofengland.org/consultation](http://www.churchofengland.org/consultation) for further information about the procedure.

Mr Dave Champness  
Interim Pastoral Secretary  
[Dave.champness@blackburn.anglican.org](mailto:Dave.champness@blackburn.anglican.org)  
07342 881788