Welcome

to the Autumn Consultation Sessions

Vision & Strategy development for the Diocese of Coventry

DIOCESE OF COVENTRY

Consultation Sessions

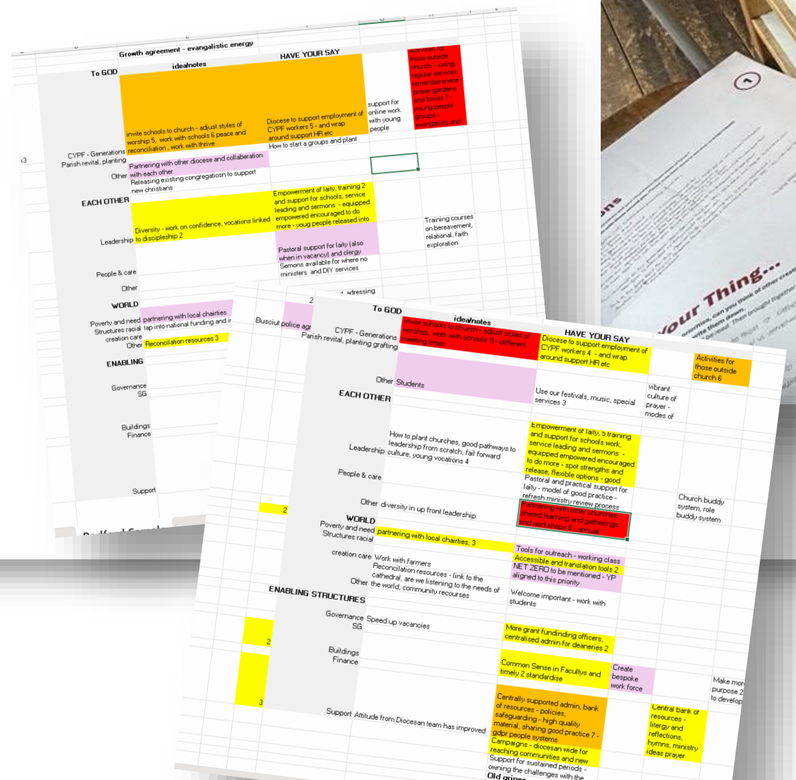
- **8 sessions across 5 locations**
  Including DBF staff day conference
- **450+ attendees,**
- **1,200+ comments & contributions**
- **243 Digital responses to sense check**
  From a total of 293 responses – 82%

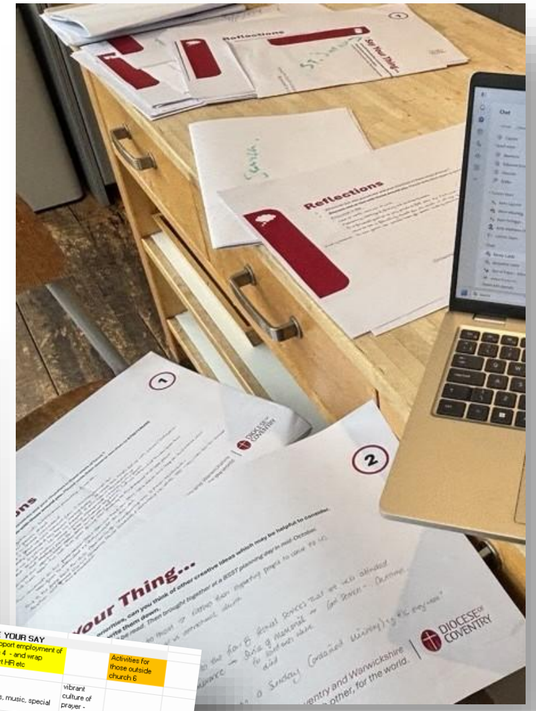
DIOCESE OF COVENTRY

Method

Handling over 1.2k contributions

- Lots of reading
- Themed into our four areas of focus
- Getting an overall feel
- Other notable contributions





DIOCESE OF COVENTRY

Challenges

Structures

Can be unsupportive to mission

Challenging local structures.

Unclear diocesan support.

Attendance

Overall decline of **32%** since 2015

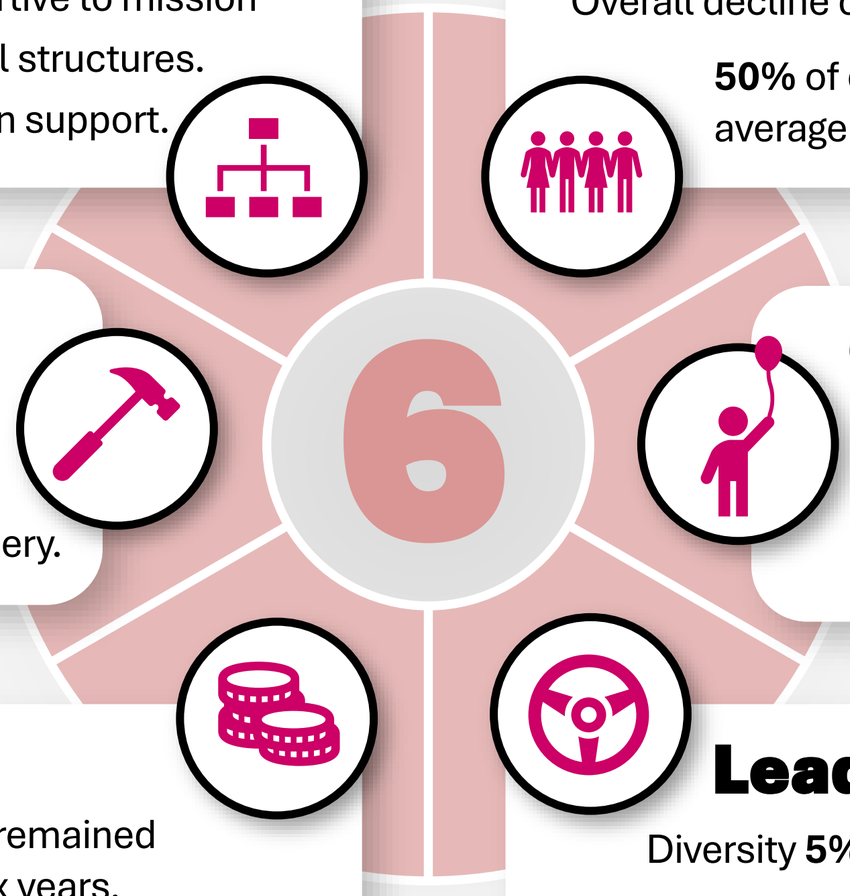
50% of congregations average age is **60 or higher**

Buildings

Not shaped for mission.

Consume energy and finance.

Est. **£5m** repairs in a single deanery.



CYPF

75% of churches report **5 or less U16's** regularly attending.

Parishes not CYPF ready.

Finance

Parish share has remained static over last six years.

Many parishes not meeting cost of ministry.

Leadership

Diversity **5% GMH** on D. Synod.

62% of Clergy feel overburdened.

Leadership pipeline not functioning.

A sense of some of the challenges within each area

DIOCESE OF COVENTRY

90% Agreement *with Identified Challenges*

Area	Highly Agree	Agree	Somewhat Agree	Agree +
Attendance	58.7%	31.4%	9.9%	90.1%
CYPF	70%	20.8%	9.2%	90.8%
Leadership	58.7%	31.1%	10.2%	89.8%
Finance	55.3%	36.5%	8.2%	91.8%
Buildings	59.7%	27.6%	12.7%	87.3%
Structures	52.6%	35.2%	12.2%	87.8%

DIOCESE OF COVENTRY

Our Refreshed Vision

Growing the Church of England in Coventry and Warwickshire

Reconciled: to God,
with each other, for the world.

DIOCESE OF COVENTRY

Reconciled to God

That all may know Jesus, *through*

Parish revitalisation, planting & grafting in

- Rural, urban, market towns and areas of new housing
- Cathedral and chaplaincies

Ministry among children, young people and intergenerational communities

- Intentional, accessible ministry and discipleship opportunities for all ages
- Flourishing schools

Reconciled with Each Other

That all may serve and grow, *through*

Leadership

- A clear pipeline for lay and ordained leaders
- Training & equipping for all disciples
- Support for all clergy and lay leaders to flourish
- Models of ministry that work for all

Our People

- Safe & healthy relationships with reconciliation at their heart
- Welcome and care for all

Reconciled for the World

That all may thrive, *through*

- Alleviating poverty in all its forms
- Responding to human need
- Transforming unjust structures
- Racial justice
- Care of creation

Enabling Structures

That all may flourish, *through*

- Strong governance
- Safeguarding
- Buildings fit for purpose
- Financial sustainability
- Relevant support for parishes

Reflections

- **Where do you see yourselves and your churches in these areas of focus ?**
- **Discuss with those around you.**
  Please write them on the work sheet.

Say Your Thing...

- **In line with these priorities, can you think of other creative ideas which may be helpful to consider.**
- **Please discuss and write them down.**
  *As always **everything** said will be read.*

The change we want to see

What could we look like in ten years time?

- Vibrant culture of prayer
- Majority of our churches are healthy and flourishing
- Renewed focus on church planting, grafting and new congregations, especially in areas of new housing
- A strong pipeline of younger and diverse lay and ordained vocations
- Flourishing clergy and lay leaders
- Every child and young person has an opportunity to respond to God's love in Christ
- Churches are equipped to address issues of injustice
- A radical model of generosity across all our contexts
- A culture in which all share responsibility for safeguarding as a gospel imperative

Our next steps

A timeline…

- **2027** will be a **year of prayer** during which we will launch the Vision & Strategy
- **Everything said is read,** and then was brought together at a Bishop's Senior Staff Team planning day which happened in mid-October.
- **Submit funding bid** to Strategic Mission & Ministry Investment Board for elements of the strategy in April 2027 for June 2027 meeting.
- Ongoing work to **align CDBF functions** and resource to the Vision & Strategy.

Thank You

for being part of the Autumn Consultation Sessions

Vision & Strategy development for the Diocese of Coventry

DIOCESE OF COVENTRY