

Deanery Revitalisation Consultation

Revitalising our deaneries, so they have more devolved ability to shape and manage mission and ministry within their area, is at the heart of our Diocesan strategy.

We are consulting the whole diocese about our proposals, and welcome contributions from individuals (in formal roles or none), and considered responses from PCCs, Schools, Chaplaincies, Chapters, and Deanery Synods.

The consultation process runs from 21 Aug – 28 Sep 2026.

This document presents the key elements of our proposals, to help you understand what we are planning, and so you can provide your feedback for our consideration.

It is divided into five sections.

Section 1: WHY we think Deaneries sit at the heart of the successful delivery of our Diocesan Priorities, and how we believe these proposals offer Deaneries the opportunity to have more say in the local delivery of mission and ministry.

Section 2: WHAT the leadership model we are proposing for the new Deaneries looks like, to enable them to act with Renewed Focus and Purpose.

Section 3: WHERE the new Deaneries will be, and how we settled on this design.

Section 4: WHO will go into which new Deanery, and how you will continue to be represented at Deanery and Diocesan Synod.

Section 5: WHEN this will all happen, and the timeline we are planning to follow.

Finding out more

Check out our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section on the website.

We are also holding three Zoom meetings where you can hear more and ask questions.

[Tue 8 Sep – 7pm](#)

[Thu 10 Sep – 10am](#)

[Wed 16 Sep – 2pm](#)

Diocesan Synod meets on 26 Sep 2026 and will discuss these proposals. The deadline for questions is **18 Sep 2026**. These should be sent to your Deanery representatives, so they can be collated and submitted by your local Diocesan Synod representatives.

Taking part in the consultation

Contributions to the consultation can be made as follows:

- **Online:** using this [Deanery Revitalisation Consultation Form](#)
- **By Email/Post:** using this [Deanery Revitalisation Downloadable Survey](#)
 - Either: complete electronically and email to strategy@chester.anglican.org
 - Or: print out, fill in, and send to:
Strategy Team – Deanery Revitalisation Consultation
Church House, 5500 Daresbury Park, Warrington, WA4 4GE.

Many Deaneries and PCCs are planning to meet in September to discuss the proposals. Materials to explain the proposals and support your discussion can be found [here](#).

We would recommend attendees reading this briefing paper before any meeting.

Section 1: WHY

Why are we revitalising our Deaneries?

The Diocese of Chester has a long history of valuing and supporting mission and ministry in the local context.

We are wonderfully varied – from the Wirral to the High Peak, from deeply rural communities to industrial heartlands, from bustling market towns to thriving suburbs, from some of the most deprived areas of the country to some of the most affluent.

Because of that variety, we've learnt that our parishes, chaplaincies and schools need to "speak the gospel with a local accent" – joining in with what God is already doing in each community – for our mission and ministry to truly thrive.

We also need to face how much the world has changed in the last 50 years. Church life often no longer sits at the heart of local community life, and our church demographics don't yet match the breadth and diversity of the people we serve.

These are exactly the challenges our diocesan strategic priorities are designed to meet:

- **New Christian Communities:** an invitation **for every context** to explore fresh ways to engage with their community in witness and worship – finding new ways to become younger, more diverse and more engaged with those we live amongst
- **New Collaborative Partnerships:** an encouragement (especially **at a deanery level**) for us to work together (with each other and with other denominations and organisations) to "bless the 1.5 million people", in mission and ministry, and in the practical sharing of skills, experience, resources and learning
- **New Leadership Development:** a **diocesan focus** on identifying, developing, and releasing the lay and ordained leaders we need for the future.

Our Deaneries are key to making this happen. They are best placed to:

- Encourage and support New Christian Communities taking root in our local settings, and share learning and good news stories
- See clearly what is working well, where there is scope for wider collaboration, and where local mission, ministry and practical operation needs help
- Spot emerging leadership, and help to deploy our lay and ordained leaders where they are needed most
- Bring local insight together, so that we can direct diocesan resources where they'll make the most difference.

That's why revitalising our Deaneries and giving them more devolved ability to shape and manage mission and ministry locally, is at the heart of our Diocesan strategy.

What will revitalisation look like?

For the last 18 months, Bishop Mark and his senior leadership team have been prayerfully exploring options to revitalise our Deanery system, so it can deliver our strategic priorities in each local context.

At its heart, revitalisation means giving our Deaneries:

- Renewed **Focus** and **Purpose**
- Renewed **Design** and **Leadership**

And it means building on, supporting and better resourcing the collaborative mission and ministry that is already happening across our Deaneries.

Renewed Focus and Purpose

Bishop Mark wants to enable and encourage Deaneries to focus on:

- Delivery of our Strategic Priorities within that deanery
- Shared Mission
- Pastoral Care of Leaders.

With that increased focus and responsibility, will come a greater ability to shape and support mission and ministry locally.

Renewed Design and Leadership

Bishop Mark also wants to adjust the number and size of our Deaneries so that they are better suited to deliver this renewed focus and purpose.

He wants revitalised Deaneries that are:

- Large enough to be robust, diverse and sustainable
- Small enough that people are still known, and can find relational security, support and fellowship
- Few enough in number to relate well to one another
- Balanced enough between the two Archdeaconries
- Able to relate naturally to partners outside the Church, such as local authorities, ecumenical and civic partners.

And renewed Deanery leadership needs to have:

- **A good balance of lay and ordained service working collaboratively**
- **Clear role descriptions and defined terms.**

This consultation is intended to help you:

- Understand the reasons and the motivations behind our proposals, and
- Help us maximise the likelihood of success.

And to enable you to share:

- Enthusiasm for the things that look exciting and releasing
- Constructive critique of the things that might constrain or need improving
- Thoughts and observations about the things you think we have missed, so that they get due consideration.

Section 2: WHAT

What will leadership look like in each new Area?

Having set out why we're revitalising our Deaneries, this section explains what the new leadership will look like in each **Area – our shorthand for a “revitalised Deanery”**.

We are proposing that each Area Leadership Team is built around the two legally required roles – an Ordained Area Dean (appointed by the Diocesan Bishop and currently called Rural Dean) and an Area Lay Chair (elected by the Deanery Synod) – plus an ordained Assistant Area Dean (also Bishop-appointed) who we anticipate would hold the Pastoral Care portfolio. Additional members (lay or ordained) would then be added, with each Area deciding its own numbers and how they're appointed.

Together, this team would be responsible for delivering the six portfolio areas shown below. The Deanery Synod would continue to provide governance and oversight of the team's work.

We think a team of up to 7 people is sensible – big enough to share the load, small enough to stay agile and know each other well, with:

- an Area Dean holding strategic vision, culture and team oversight,
- other members each taking one of the portfolios, matched to their skills.

We don't expect full portfolio coverage from day one. Areas should start from where they are and build out each portfolio as they become able.



Proposed support around the Area team

New Area Leadership Teams will need help getting established, growing into their responsibilities, and reaching a sustainable working model. We're proposing three kinds of support: a **Transition Accompanier** – a nominated person supporting each team's design, formation and training; **increased Archdeacon support** – one full-time and one half-time Archdeacon in each archdeaconry, reflecting the larger average size of the new Areas; and **transition and project funding** - £10k a year from the Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) for each Area while it transitions, plus access to further project funding for collaborative mission projects arising from local discernment (subject to a successful bid to the national Strategic Mission and Ministry Investment Board).

Finally, we're proposing clear Role Descriptions for every role in the new structure, so people know their responsibilities and authority, can be selected or appointed against a clear specification, and can have their training needs properly identified. Draft proposals for each role are set out in Table 1.

We value your thoughts and reactions to this proposed model of Leadership and support, especially how well you think it could deliver the outcomes we are seeking.

Table 1: Proposed Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibility All roles are to be praying for their particular area of responsibility			Immediate Contact	Personal Accountability	Organisational Accountability
	Personal	Oversight	Partnership / Support			
Bishop	Overall leadership / responsibility for the diocese: - Curating Culture and Vision - Ensuring Safeguarding Culture - Agreeing Strategy - Pastoral Care of Clergy and Key DBF staff - Relationships with the National Church - Public 'Face' / 'Voice' of the diocese.	Pastoral Care. Appointments.				Chairs Bishops Council
Suffragan Bishop	Sharing with the Bishop the tasks above - particular focus on: a) Supporting the Bishop and senior team b) Delivery in the archdeaconry to which they relate Governance & Assurance of delivery of Mission & Ministry.	Vacancy management and appointments (through Archdeacons).				Chairs Governance & Assurance Committee
Archdeacon	Practical support and pastoral care for parishes, Vacancy management and appointments. Clergy discipline.	Operational delivery of mission and ministry. Oversight of one strategic priority across the Diocese.	Partnering with other departments on safeguarding, clergy housing, and church buildings	Bishop and relevant Suffragan Bishop	Bishop	Chairs Operational Oversight Committee
Asst Arch Deacon	Same as Archdeacon – but in more limited area / training and development opportunity.	Oversight of one strategic priority across the Diocese.		Archdeacon; Bishop if required	Primarily to Archdeacon and then to Bishop	
Area Dean	Strategic Leadership of Area. Holding the culture. Local vision and horizon scanning for opportunities.	Delivery of Mission & Ministry and 3 Strategic Priorities. Oversight of Pastoral Care in Area. Vacancy support.	Partnering with other areas on collaborative mission Supported by central team for: - Training / mentoring - Area Transformation - Missional development	Archdeacon; Bishop if required	Bishop	Chairs Area Leadership Team
Asst Area Dean	Shared strategic leadership. Shadowing Area Dean (training and development opportunity). Chapter.	Champion for Pastoral Care.		Area Dean; Archdeacon if required	Primarily to Area Dean and then to Archdeacon	
Area Lay Chair	Shared strategic leadership, local accountability and ensuring that lay perspectives shape priorities and decisions.	Champion for one strategic priority across the Area.		Area Dean; Archdeacon if required	Deanery Synod	Chairs Deanery Synod
Area Leadership Team	Enabling support to Area Dean to deliver on their responsibilities.	Champion for one strategic priority across the Area.		Area Dean	Area Dean	
Incumbent / Priest-in-Charge	Delivery of Mission & Ministry in their parish. Discernment and Delivery of a suitable local expression of the 3 strategic priorities.			Area Dean; Archdeacon if required	Bishop	Chairs PCC

Section 3: WHERE

Where are the new Areas going to be?

We are proposing to reduce the number of Deaneries from 18 to 13 new Areas.

We explored many possible configurations, ranging from 8 to 14 Areas.

We used four fundamental criteria to assess the strengths of each option:

- Does each new Area have:
 - Comparable Parish and Benefice numbers
 - Comparable Population sizes
 - Comparable Land size (km²)
 - A full spread of socio-economic situations (using the Indices of Multiple Deprivation to rank from our least to our most deprived parishes)?
- Is there a close match to Local Authority boundaries where appropriate?
- Does this solution retain the existing Archdeaconry boundaries?
- Is every existing Deanery touched or changed in some way?

Options for 8 and 14 Areas were quickly discarded as being unworkable.

A further five options for 10, 12, and 13 areas were then explored in more detail.

These options were narrowed statistically, based on how balanced each version was across the measures above (along with three other secondary contributing factors).

The final recommendation (13A) was chosen using pastoral judgement, to ensure we matched known existing relationships, shared missional context and ministry patterns on the ground.

Our original intention was to find a solution with an equal number of new Areas in each archdeaconry, but the more natural and balanced option was found to be one in which we have 7 Areas in Chester and 6 Areas in Macclesfield.

The proposed solution results in:

- Three deaneries remaining unchanged
 - Chester, Malpas and Nantwich.
- Eight deaneries remaining intact in a merge with other parishes
- One deanery remaining almost entirely intact in a merge with other parishes
 - Chadkirk.
- Four deaneries that are split between two new Areas
 - Birkenhead, Great Budworth, Wirral North and Wirral South.
- Two deaneries that are more widely dispersed
 - Frodsham and Knutsford.

A map of the proposed configuration of new Areas is shown in Figure 1.

New Areas have been given CODENAMES at this stage.

Our actual proposals for Area Names can be seen in Table 2.

You can find more detailed information about the statistical analysis done to support this work in Appendix 1: WHERE – Supporting Information.

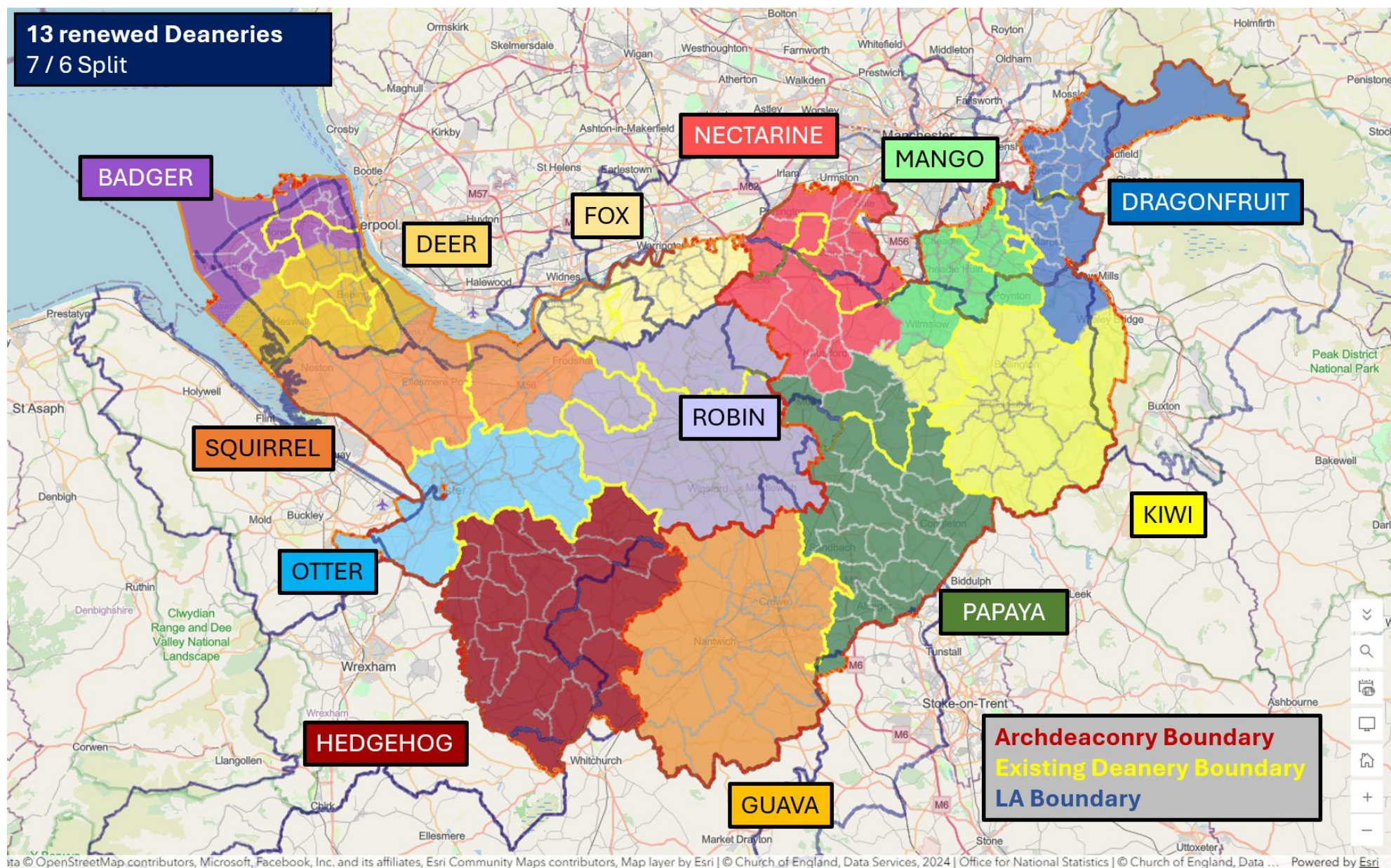


Figure 1: Map of Proposed New Areas with Code Names

Proposed New Area Names

Given that we have new Areas, we also need to choose new names for them.

Our underlying principles in considering options were that:

1. Names need to make sense both within the diocese and with other organisations we might be in relationship with (e.g. Local Authorities)
2. Names ought to be consistent with each other
3. Names should be new for all existing Deaneries: everyone is “touched” in some way to signal that this is also about a change in focus, purpose and leadership.

We considered several naming conventions:

- Place / Town-based
- Local Authority based
- River/valley names
- Monastic building names
- Compass points
- Existing Deanery Names (in combination where appropriate).

The most consistent naming set emerged when we reflected on how closely the Diocese of Chester is aligned with the historic county of Cheshire.

Describing most Areas as parts of Cheshire (West / Central / East etc), with additional names that incorporate the major “non-Cheshire” Local Authority names, provides a scheme that is the clearest and most recognisable option for local people.

Table 2: Proposed New Area Names

Archdeaconry	Area (13A) Code Name	Proposed Name
Chester	BADGER	North Wirral
Chester	DEER	South Wirral
Chester	FOX	Halton and Warrington
Chester	HEDGEHOG	Southwest Cheshire
Chester	OTTER	Chester City
Chester	ROBIN	Central Cheshire
Chester	SQUIRREL	West Cheshire
Macclesfield	DRAGONFRUIT	Cheshire Peak Edge
Macclesfield	GUAVA	South Cheshire
Macclesfield	KIWI	East Cheshire
Macclesfield	MANGO	Stockport Town
Macclesfield	NECTARINE	North Cheshire
Macclesfield	PAPAYA	Southeast Cheshire

Your response to the proposed names for the new Areas (and in particular your Area) is a key part of this consultation. Please let us know whether these work for you or if there are better alternatives.

Section 4: WHO

Who goes where?

We suspect that there are three questions that matter to every parish:

- Which Area will our parish be part of?
- Who will we be with?
- How will we continue to be represented?

Parish allocation principles

Allocation of parishes to the Proposed New Areas was primarily driven by the fundamental rules described in the **WHERE** summary.

In addition (since the underlying desire is to enhance and equip our collaborative mission and ministry) we have:

- Kept existing multi-parish benefices and shared-clergy situations together.
- Sought to maintain (or create) parish groupings that match our understanding of local collaboration, joint missional activity and socio-economic similarity.

Your knowledge of actual local relationships and projects will be more detailed than this, and so **a key part of this consultation** is to allow you to **tell us where the current boundary choices are likely to have a significant impact on existing working arrangements and collaboration.**

Parish allocation consultation

To help you make this assessment, this consultation pack has three principal resources:

1. A list of all 262 parishes (see Appendix 2: WHO – Parish Allocation), showing their current Deanery and the Proposed New Area **CODENAME**. This also exists as a [Searchable Online Table](#).
2. A summary of all parishes that fall into a specific **Deanery / CODENAME** group (there are 28 such groups) which shows:
 - a. All the parishes that **STAY** together in the new Area
 - b. All the parishes that **JOIN** them in that new Area
 - c. All the parishes that **LEAVE** them to join a different new Area
3. An [Online Mapping Tool](#) that lets you visualise the existing Deaneries and the Proposed New Areas, and see where an individual parish sits.

How will you continue to be represented?

Deanery Synod

Your existing Deanery Synod representatives (your clergy and your elected parishioners) represent you at the Deanery Synod that your parish belongs to. In the proposed new Areas, they will continue to represent you, at a new Deanery Synod formed for your new Area. Their role and their voice will not change, only the composition of the group they are part of will.

Diocesan Synod

Diocesan Synod is made up of a House of Bishops, a House of Clergy, and a House of Laity. The House of Clergy and the House of Laity are both composed of Ex-officio members, Elected members and Co-opted members.

Elected members in both houses represent their Deanery. So, a change in Deanery boundaries will affect Diocesan Synod elections.

The full requirements for Diocesan Synod elections are laid out in Appendix 3: WHO – Supporting Information.

In summary:

- Lay representation is related to the combined Electoral Roll numbers for parishes within a Deanery, with a minimum of 2 representatives per Deanery.
- Clergy representation is related to the total number of members of the Deanery House of Clergy, with a minimum of 2 representatives per Deanery.
- The total size of Diocesan Synod will be between 100 and 270 people.
- For the 2027 Diocesan Synod elections:
 - Lay representation will use 2026 Electoral Roll numbers
 - Clergy representation will use House of Clergy numbers at 31 May 2026.

We plan to continue adopting the following principles used previously in Chester:

- Diocesan Synod will have at least as many elected lay posts as clergy posts
- Lay representation for each Deanery will be calculated as the larger of:
 - [Minimum Lay Representation level]
 - $\frac{\text{[Total Electoral Roll count for that Deanery]}}{\text{[Lay Representation Ratio]}}$ rounded to the nearest integer number.
- Clergy representation for each Deanery will be calculated as the larger of:
 - [Minimum Clergy Representation level]
 - $\frac{\text{[Total House of Clergy size in the Deanery]}}{\text{[Clergy Representation Ratio]}}$ rounded to the nearest integer number.

Our initial work (see Appendix 3: WHO – Supporting Information) based on current estimates for 2026 Electoral Roll and House of Clergy numbers shows that **it is possible to generate identical representation for the existing Deanery structure and the proposed new Areas.**

Once we have the confirmed set of Electoral Roll figures and Deanery House of Clergy numbers, we will provide final proposals to be scrutinised by Bishops' Council, before being brought to Diocesan Synod for formal agreement.

Your views around the fairness of these proposals are welcomed.

Section 5: WHEN

When and how will this all happen?

We are committed to revitalising our Deaneries. Exactly how and when is still to be determined, and this consultation process is designed to enable us to get the best possible solution. Five phases are currently planned:

Phase 1: Consultation

After consultation, feedback will be collated and reported to Bishop Mark and his senior leadership team during October. If the feedback we receive can be addressed during the next phases of the project then we will proceed to Phase 2. The final allocation of parishes to new Areas will be formalised at this point.

If the feedback indicates that there are more challenges still to resolve before we continue, then we will pause and re-consider the timing of the remaining phases.

Phase 2: Preparation and Signing of the Bishop's Pastoral Order

Reordering of Deaneries is achieved using a Bishop's Pastoral Order (BPO). This is a document that:

- Dissolves named Deaneries
- Defines the names of new Deaneries
- Lists all the parishes that will be part of each new Deanery.

A draft of this document can be found here: [Draft Bishop's Pastoral Order](#).

During September and October Bishop Mark will meet with the current Rural Deans and Assistant Rural Deans to explore the robust and sustainable interim arrangements we would need in order to proceed to Phase 3 of the process.

Once these arrangements have been agreed, Bishop Mark will sign the BPO and it will come into effect at the beginning of the following month.

We are aiming for a target signing date on or before 31 Oct 2026. If we achieve that these new arrangements would come into effect on 1 Nov 2026. This would then allow the November Diocesan Synod to agree the Representation Rules that will be used for the 2027 Diocesan Synod elections. These need to be agreed by 31 Dec 2026.

Phase 3: Interim Arrangements

When Areas (new Deaneries) come into effect, they will each transition to Interim Arrangements:

- An Interim Area Dean will be appointed by Bishop Mark in each new Area. They will carry the existing responsibilities of Rural Dean, but for their new Area.
- An Interim Assistant Area Dean will be appointed by Bishop Mark in each Area. They will support the Interim Area Dean in exercising their responsibilities.
- At the first meeting of the Deanery Synod for the new Area, an Interim Area Lay Chair will be elected. Again, the role will be the same as the one the existing Lay Chair fulfils, except it will cover the revised Area.

These interim arrangements will continue until the Area decides to transition to the new Area Leadership Team structure.

Phase 4: Transition

We plan to run an initial Pilot Process for the Transition and Implementation phases, and will invite a small number of new Areas to be part of that.

During the Transition Phase an Interim Council (composed of the Interim Area Dean, Interim Assistant Area Dean, Interim Lay Chair, and any others the new Deanery Synod determines) will work with a Transition Accompanier to:

- Define the Area Leadership Structure
- Agree Role Descriptions
- Determine the target Transition date.

Once Role Descriptions have been agreed:

- A new Area Dean will be selected and appointed by Bishop Mark against the criteria defined in the Area Dean Role Description
- A new Assistant Area Dean will be selected and appointed by Bishop Mark against the criteria defined in the Assistant Area Dean Role Description
- Deanery Synod will elect a new Area Lay Chair against the criteria defined in the Area Lay Chair Role Description
- Selection, election or appointment of any other defined Leadership Roles will be made against the criteria defined in the specific Role Description (as appropriate in each Area based on their locally determined and agreed leadership arrangements).

We envisage that three or four Areas might complete the Transition Phase in 2027.

Phase 5: Implementation

The newly convened Area Leadership Team will begin to operate under their new Role Descriptions.

We will review the lessons learned in the Pilot Process and then invite more Areas to enter the Transition and Implementation Phases.

We envisage that the remaining Areas will complete the Transition Phase during 2028 and 2029.

Your responses around the design, phasing and timing of the Interim, Transition and Implementation phases are welcomed, especially to:

- Identify Areas that are keen to be part of the Pilot Process
- Understand how best to roll this out across the diocese
- Ensure we support Areas well through the process
- Achieve a successful completion of the project.

Appendix 1: WHERE – Supporting Information

Table 3: Analysis Measures for our Existing Deaneries

Current Deaneries

Archdeaconry	Deanery	Parishes	Benefices	Population	Area (km2)	Clergy (FTE)	Ministry Cost Coverage	Worshipping Community	LAs in Area	IMD Range
Chester	Birkenhead	10	10	98,857	33.3	10	0.48	614	1	
Chester	Chester	20	19	114,918	157.6	15	0.92	2180	1	
Chester	Frodsham	16	11	82,849	115.7	8	0.47	1231	2	
Chester	Great Budworth	14	12	71,946	156.6	9	0.81	1188	3	
Chester	Malpas	20	10	25,583	356.6	8	0.73	1046	2	
Chester	Middlewich	17	15	115,778	217.3	12	0.85	1504	1	
Chester	Wallasey	9	8	84,488	28.4	6	0.49	494	1	
Chester	Wirral North	14	14	109,245	127.5	15	0.95	2762	1	
Chester	Wirral South	13	11	118,349	177.4	9	0.88	787	2	
		133	110	822,013	1370.4	90	0.77	11806	14	
Archdeaconry	Deanery	Parishes	Benefices	Population	Area (km2)	Clergy (FTE)	Ministry Cost Coverage	Worshipping Community	LAs in Area	IMD Range
Macclesfield	Bowdon	15	13	142,378	85.0	11	0.93	1758	3	
Macclesfield	Chadkirk	10	10	71,675	92.0	8	0.83	965	2	
Macclesfield	Cheadle	10	10	102,524	49.9	11	0.95	792	2	
Macclesfield	Congleton	18	14	88,585	222.2	11	0.94	1624	1	
Macclesfield	Knutsford	16	11	57,074	231.0	10	0.99	1290	2	
Macclesfield	Macclesfield	19	12	73,866	207.7	9	1.02	1579	1	
Macclesfield	Mottram	12	11	91,052	89.8	9	0.73	1355	1	
Macclesfield	Nantwich	22	11	130,113	329.7	10	0.71	1126	1	
Macclesfield	Stockport	7	7	97,664	26.7	6	0.77	500	1	
		129	99	854,931	1334.0	87	0.88	10989	14	

Table 4: Analysis Measures for the Proposed 13A Option

Reordered - 13A

7/6 Split

Archdeaconry	Deanery	Parishes	Benefices	Population	Area (km2)	Clergy (FTE)	Ministry Cost Coverage	Worshipping Community	LAs in Area	IMD Range
Chester	BADGER	19	18	161,702	111.3	16	0.71	1927	1	
Chester	DEER	17	17	158,637	114.6	16	0.77	2144	1	
Chester	FOX	18	16	116,907	95.4	12	0.63	1375	2	
Chester	HEDGEHOG	20	10	25,583	356.6	8	0.73	1046	2	
Chester	OTTER	20	19	114,918	157.6	15	0.92	2180	1	
Chester	ROBIN	25	19	134,585	344.7	15	0.83	1896	1	
Chester	SQUIRREL	14	11	109,681	190.2	8	0.76	1238	1	
		133	110	822,013	1370.4	90	0.77	11806	9	
Archdeaconry	Deanery	Parishes	Benefices	Population	Area (km2)	Clergy (FTE)	Ministry Cost Coverage	Worshipping Community	LAs in Area	IMD Range
Macclesfield	DRAGONFRUIT	21	20	157,217	166.4	17	0.77	2280	2	
Macclesfield	GUAVA	22	11	130,113	329.7	10	0.71	1126	1	
Macclesfield	KIWI	23	15	86,125	256.8	12	1.03	1823	1	
Macclesfield	MANGO	19	19	224,141	101.6	19	0.94	1618	2	
Macclesfield	NECTARINE	22	18	162,996	190.8	17	0.91	2386	2	
Macclesfield	PAPAYA	22	16	94,339	288.8	12	0.91	1756	1	
		129	99	854,931	1334.0	87	0.88	10989	9	

Notes:

- **IMD:** The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) combines seven deprivation metrics that consider income, employment, education, health, crime, housing, and living environment.
- **IMD Ranking:** Each parish in England has been ranked by IMD (from 1 to 12,239). A lower ranking indicates that it is more deprived. You can view this data [here](#).
- **IMD Range metric:**
 - The green bar in the IMD range metric shows the decile-position of the lowest and highest-ranking parish in that area
 - The orange bar shows the average ranking decile
- We preferred solutions that generated:
 - the widest range of IMD ranking (i.e. an Area has both highly and least deprived parishes)
 - a more centralised average IMD ranking (an Area has a good balance of more deprived and less deprived parishes).

Table 5: Analysis Measures for the 5 principal options considered

	Weighting	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	2	3	
Option		Parishes	Benefices	Population	Area (km2)	Clergy (FTE)	Ministry Cost Coverage	Worshipping Community	LAs in Area	IMD Range	Combined CV
Current (18)	Coefficient of Variance	29%	23%	29%	63%	25%	21%	45%	44%	49%	36%
New (13A)	Coefficient of Variance	14%	20%	36%	45%	25%	14%	24%	35%	40%	29%
New (12C)	Coefficient of Variance	12%	22%	36%	35%	23%	14%	25%	40%	41%	28%
New (12B)	Coefficient of Variance	27%	28%	42%	51%	33%	13%	28%	35%	41%	35%
New (12)	Coefficient of Variance	27%	27%	35%	54%	24%	13%	32%	35%	41%	33%
New (10)	Coefficient of Variance	28%	32%	43%	47%	34%	13%	37%	35%	29%	34%

Notes:

- **Coefficient of Variance (CV)** is a measure of how each individual metric varies across all the areas:
 - A smaller number indicates that the metric has less variability across the individual deaneries in that model.
- Each metric is colour-coded (vertically) from lowest (green) to highest (red) variability
 - Thus, the Current (18) model has the most variability in Parish numbers, whereas 12C has the least variability
 - Options with more horizontally green-coded / fewer red-coded metrics are more attractive overall solutions.
- The **Combined CV** is a weighted score of all the metrics considered. The weights used are shown above each column.
 - Options 12C and 13A generate the lowest combined CV.
- The final choice between Option 12C and 13A was made taking additional local pastoral and missional factors into consideration.

Appendix 2: WHO – Parish Allocation

Parish ID	Parish Name	Deanery	Deanery-CODENAME Link
0101	Bidston: St Oswald	Birkenhead	Birkenhead-BADGER
0102	Birkenhead: Christ the King (Birkenhead Priory)	Birkenhead	Birkenhead-BADGER
0103	Birkenhead: St James with St Bede	Birkenhead	Birkenhead-BADGER
0104	Birkenhead: Christ Church	Birkenhead	Birkenhead-DEER
0105	Oxton	Birkenhead	Birkenhead-DEER
0106	Prenton: St Stephen	Birkenhead	Birkenhead-DEER
0107	Rock Ferry: St Peter	Birkenhead	Birkenhead-DEER
0108	Tranmere: St Catherine	Birkenhead	Birkenhead-DEER
0109	Tranmere: St Paul with St Luke	Birkenhead	Birkenhead-DEER
0110	Woodchurch: Holy Cross	Birkenhead	Birkenhead-DEER
0201	Ashton Hayes: St John the Evangelist	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0202	Barrow: St Bartholomew	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0203	Chester: St John the Baptist	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0204	Chester: Holy Trinity without the Walls (Blacon)	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0205	Chester: St Mary without the Walls (Handbridge)	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0206	Chester (Huntington): St Paul with St Luke	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0207	Christleton: St James	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0208	Dodleston	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0209	Eccleston and Pulford	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0210	Guilden Sutton: St John the Baptist	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0211	Hoole: All Saints	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0213	Kelsall: St Philip	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0214	Lache-cum-Saltney: St Mark	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0215	Plemstall: St Peter	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0216	Tarvin	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0217	Upton: The Holy Ascension	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0218	Plas Newton: St Michael	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0219	Chester: Christ Church	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0220	Chester: St Oswald and St Thomas of Canterbury	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0221	Chester: St Peter	Chester	Chester-OTTER
0301	Alvanley and Manley	Frodsham	Frodsham-ROBIN
0303	Dunham-on-the-Hill: St Luke	Frodsham	Frodsham-SQUIRREL
0304	Frodsham	Frodsham	Frodsham-SQUIRREL
0305	Grange: St Andrew	Frodsham	Frodsham-FOX
0306	Hallwood Ecumenical Parish	Frodsham	Frodsham-FOX
0307	Halton	Frodsham	Frodsham-FOX
0308	Helsby: St Paul	Frodsham	Frodsham-SQUIRREL
0309	Kingsley: St John the Evangelist	Frodsham	Frodsham-ROBIN
0310	Norley: St John the Evangelist	Frodsham	Frodsham-ROBIN
0311	Norton: St Berteline and St Christopher	Frodsham	Frodsham-FOX
0312	Runcorn: All Saints	Frodsham	Frodsham-FOX
0313	Runcorn: Holy Trinity	Frodsham	Frodsham-FOX
0314	Runcorn: St John the Evangelist (Weston)	Frodsham	Frodsham-FOX
0315	Runcorn: St Michael and All Angels	Frodsham	Frodsham-FOX
0316	Thornton-le-Moors with Ince and Elton	Frodsham	Frodsham-SQUIRREL

Parish ID	Parish Name	Deanery	Deanery-CODENAME Link
0317	Crowton: Christ Church	Frodsham	Frodsham-ROBIN
0401	Antrobus: St Mark	Great Budworth	Great Budworth-ROBIN
0402	Appleton Thorn: St Cross	Great Budworth	Great Budworth-FOX
0403	Barnton: Christ Church	Great Budworth	Great Budworth-ROBIN
0404	Daresbury	Great Budworth	Great Budworth-FOX
0405	Grappenhall: St Wilfrid	Great Budworth	Great Budworth-FOX
0406	Great Budworth	Great Budworth	Great Budworth-ROBIN
0407	Latchford: Christ Church	Great Budworth	Great Budworth-FOX
0408	Latchford: St James	Great Budworth	Great Budworth-FOX
0411	Lymm: St Mary the Virgin	Great Budworth	Great Budworth-FOX
0412	Stockton Heath	Great Budworth	Great Budworth-FOX
0413	Stretton: St Matthew	Great Budworth	Great Budworth-FOX
0414	Thelwall: All Saints	Great Budworth	Great Budworth-FOX
0415	Walton: St John the Evangelist	Great Budworth	Great Budworth-FOX
0417	Aston by Sutton, Little Leigh and Lower Whitley	Great Budworth	Great Budworth-ROBIN
0501	Aldford: St John the Baptist	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0502	Bickerton: Holy Trinity	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0503	Bickley	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0504	Bruera: St Mary the Virgin	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0505	Bunbury: St Boniface	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0506	Burwardsley: St John the Evangelist	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0507	Coddington: St Mary	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0508	Farndon: St Chad	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0509	Handley: All Saints	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0510	Hargrave: St Peter	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0512	Malpas and Threapwood	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0513	Marbury: St Michael	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0514	Shocklach: St Edith	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0515	Tarporley (Parish)	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0516	Tattenhall: St Alban	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0517	Tilstone Fearnall: St Jude	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0518	Tilston: St Mary	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0519	Tushingham	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0520	Waverton: St Peter	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0522	Whitewell: St Mary	Malpas	Malpas-HEDGEHOG
0601	Byley-cum-Less: St John the Evangelist	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0603	Davenham: St Wilfrid	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0604	Delamere: St Peter	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0605	Hartford: St John the Baptist	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0606	Little Budworth: St Peter	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0607	Lostock Gralam	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0608	Middlewich: St Michael and All Angels	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0609	Moulton: St Stephen the Martyr	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0610	Northwich: Holy Trinity (Castle)	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0611	Northwich: St Luke (Winnington)	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0612	Over: St Chad	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0613	Over: St John the Evangelist	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0614	Sandiway: St John the Evangelist	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN

Parish ID	Parish Name	Deanery	Deanery-CODENAME Link
0615	Weaverham: St Mary the Virgin	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0616	Wharton: Christ Church	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0617	Whitegate: St Mary	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0618	Northwich: St Helen (Witton)	Middlewich	Middlewich-ROBIN
0702	Leasowe: St Chad	Wallasey	Wallasey-BADGER
0703	Liscard: St Mary (Liscard the Resurrection)	Wallasey	Wallasey-BADGER
0704	Liscard: St Thomas the Apostle	Wallasey	Wallasey-BADGER
0705	New Brighton: St James	Wallasey	Wallasey-BADGER
0708	Poulton: St Luke	Wallasey	Wallasey-BADGER
0709	Seacombe: St Paul	Wallasey	Wallasey-BADGER
0710	Wallasey: St Hilary	Wallasey	Wallasey-BADGER
0711	Wallasey: St Nicholas with All Saints	Wallasey	Wallasey-BADGER
0712	Moreton: Christ Church	Wallasey	Wallasey-BADGER
0801	Barnston	Wirral North	Wirral North-DEER
0802	Bebington	Wirral North	Wirral North-DEER
0803	Frankby with Greasby	Wirral North	Wirral North-BADGER
0804	Great Meols: St John the Baptist	Wirral North	Wirral North-BADGER
0805	Heswall	Wirral North	Wirral North-DEER
0806	Higher Bebington: Christ Church	Wirral North	Wirral North-DEER
0807	Hoylake: St Hildeburgh	Wirral North	Wirral North-BADGER
0809	New Ferry: St Mark	Wirral North	Wirral North-DEER
0810	Newton (West Kirby): St Michael and All Angels	Wirral North	Wirral North-BADGER
0811	Thurstaston	Wirral North	Wirral North-DEER
0812	Upton: St Mary (Overchurch)	Wirral North	Wirral North-BADGER
0813	West Kirby: St Andrew	Wirral North	Wirral North-BADGER
0814	West Kirby: St Bridget	Wirral North	Wirral North-BADGER
0815	Poulton Lancelyn: Holy Trinity	Wirral North	Wirral North-DEER
0901	Backford: St Oswald	Wirral South	Wirral South-SQUIRREL
0902	Bromborough: St Barnabas	Wirral South	Wirral South-DEER
0903	Burton: St Nicholas	Wirral South	Wirral South-SQUIRREL
0904	Capenhurst: Holy Trinity	Wirral South	Wirral South-SQUIRREL
0905	Eastham	Wirral South	Wirral South-DEER
0906	Ellesmere Port	Wirral South	Wirral South-SQUIRREL
0907	Great Saughall: All Saints	Wirral South	Wirral South-SQUIRREL
0908	Great Sutton: St John the Evangelist	Wirral South	Wirral South-SQUIRREL
0909	Hooton: St Paul	Wirral South	Wirral South-SQUIRREL
0910	Neston	Wirral South	Wirral South-SQUIRREL
0911	Shotwick: St Michael	Wirral South	Wirral South-SQUIRREL
0912	Thornton Hough: All Saints	Wirral South	Wirral South-DEER
0913	Willaston: Christ Church	Wirral South	Wirral South-SQUIRREL
1001	Altrincham: St George	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE
1003	Ashley: St Elizabeth	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE
1004	Ashton-upon-Mersey: St Martin	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE
1005	Ashton-upon-Mersey (Sale): St Mary Magdalene	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE
1006	Bowdon	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE
1007	Broadheath: St Alban	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE
1009	Dunham Massey: St Margaret	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE
1011	Hale: St Peter	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE

Parish ID	Parish Name	Deanery	Deanery-CODENAME Link
1012	Oughtrington: St Peter	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE
1013	Partington: St Mary	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE
1014	Hale Barns with Ringway: All Saints	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE
1015	Sale: St Anne	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE
1016	Sale: St Paul	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE
1017	Timperley	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE
1018	Warburton: St Werburgh	Bowdon	Bowdon-NECTARINE
1101	Bredbury: St Barnabas	Chadkirk	Chadkirk-DRAGONFRUIT
1102	Bredbury: St Mark	Chadkirk	Chadkirk-DRAGONFRUIT
1103	Romiley: St Chad (Chadkirk)	Chadkirk	Chadkirk-DRAGONFRUIT
1104	Disley	Chadkirk	Chadkirk-DRAGONFRUIT
1105	High Lane: St Thomas	Chadkirk	Chadkirk-DRAGONFRUIT
1106	Low Marple: St Martin	Chadkirk	Chadkirk-DRAGONFRUIT
1107	Marple	Chadkirk	Chadkirk-DRAGONFRUIT
1109	Werneth (Compstall): St Paul	Chadkirk	Chadkirk-DRAGONFRUIT
1110	Whaley Bridge	Chadkirk	Chadkirk-KIWI
1111	Mellor: St Thomas	Chadkirk	Chadkirk-DRAGONFRUIT
1201	Bramhall	Cheadle	Cheadle-MANGO
1202	Cheadle: All Hallows	Cheadle	Cheadle-MANGO
1203	Cheadle: St Mary	Cheadle	Cheadle-MANGO
1204	Cheadle Hulme: All Saints	Cheadle	Cheadle-MANGO
1205	Cheadle Hulme: St Andrew and Emmanuel	Cheadle	Cheadle-MANGO
1206	Gatley: St James	Cheadle	Cheadle-MANGO
1207	Handforth	Cheadle	Cheadle-MANGO
1208	Heald Green: St Catherine	Cheadle	Cheadle-MANGO
1209	Poynton	Cheadle	Cheadle-MANGO
1211	Woodford	Cheadle	Cheadle-MANGO
1301	Alsager: St Mary Magdalene	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1302	Alsager: Christ Church	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1303	Astbury	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1304	Barthomley	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1305	Brereton: St Oswald	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1307	Church Hulme (Holmes Chapel): St Luke	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1308	Congleton: St James the Great	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1309	Congleton	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1311	Eaton with Hulme Walfield	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1312	Elworth	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1313	Goostrey: St Luke	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1315	Lawton (or Church Lawton): All Saints	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1317	Odd Rode: All Saints	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1318	Sandbach: St Mary and St John	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1320	Smallwood: St John the Baptist	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1323	Swettenham: St Peter	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1324	Siddington with Capesthorne	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1325	Marton: St James and St Paul	Congleton	Congleton-PAPAYA
1010	Dunham Massey: St Mark	Knutsford	Knutsford-NECTARINE
1401	Alderley: St Mary	Knutsford	Knutsford-KIWI
1402	Chelford	Knutsford	Knutsford-PAPAYA

Parish ID	Parish Name	Deanery	Deanery-CODENAME Link
1403	Alderley Edge: St Philip and St James	Knutsford	Knutsford-KIWI
1404	High Legh: St John	Knutsford	Knutsford-NECTARINE
1405	Knutsford: St Cross	Knutsford	Knutsford-NECTARINE
1406	Knutsford: St John the Baptist	Knutsford	Knutsford-NECTARINE
1407	Lindow: St John the Evangelist	Knutsford	Knutsford-MANGO
1408	Lower or Nether Peover: St Oswald	Knutsford	Knutsford-PAPAYA
1409	Marthall: All Saints	Knutsford	Knutsford-PAPAYA
1410	Mobberley: St Wilfrid	Knutsford	Knutsford-NECTARINE
1411	Over Peover: St Lawrence	Knutsford	Knutsford-PAPAYA
1413	Rostherne with Little Bollington and Over Tabley	Knutsford	Knutsford-NECTARINE
1414	Toft: St John the Evangelist	Knutsford	Knutsford-NECTARINE
1415	Wilmslow	Knutsford	Knutsford-MANGO
1417	Birtles: St Catherine	Knutsford	Knutsford-KIWI
1502	Bollington Cross: St Oswald	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1503	Bosley: St Mary the Virgin	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1505	Gawsworth: St James the Great	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1506	Henbury: St Thomas	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1507	Hurdsfield: Holy Trinity	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1508	Macclesfield: St Michael and All Angels	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1509	Macclesfield: St John the Evangelist	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1510	Macclesfield: St Paul	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1512	North Rode: St Michael	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1513	Pott Shrigley: St Christopher	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1514	Prestbury	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1515	Rainow with Saltersford and Forest	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1517	Sutton: St James	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1518	Upton Priory: Church of the Resurrection	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1519	Wildboarclough: St Saviour	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1520	Windle: St Michael	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1521	Macclesfield: St Peter	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1522	Macclesfield: All Saints	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1523	Macclesfield (Sutton): St Barnabas	Macclesfield	Macclesfield-KIWI
1601	Dukinfield: St John	Mottram	Mottram-DRAGONFRUIT
1603	Dukinfield: St Mark	Mottram	Mottram-DRAGONFRUIT
1604	Gee Cross: Holy Trinity	Mottram	Mottram-DRAGONFRUIT
1606	Hattersley: St Barnabas	Mottram	Mottram-DRAGONFRUIT
1607	Hollingworth: St Mary	Mottram	Mottram-DRAGONFRUIT
1608	Hyde: St George with St Thomas	Mottram	Mottram-DRAGONFRUIT
1611	Millbrook: St James	Mottram	Mottram-DRAGONFRUIT
1612	Mottram-in-Longdendale	Mottram	Mottram-DRAGONFRUIT
1613	Newton in Mottram with Flowery Field: St Mary	Mottram	Mottram-DRAGONFRUIT
1615	Stalybridge: Holy Trinity and Christ Church	Mottram	Mottram-DRAGONFRUIT
1616	Stalybridge: St Paul	Mottram	Mottram-DRAGONFRUIT
1617	Tintwistle	Mottram	Mottram-DRAGONFRUIT
1701	Acton with Worleston	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1702	Audlem: St James the Great	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1703	Baddiley: St Michael	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1704	Burleydam: St Mary and St Michael	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA

Parish ID	Parish Name	Deanery	Deanery-CODENAME Link
1705	Church Minshull: St Bartholomew	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1706	Coppenhall: St Michael	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1707	Crewe: All Saints and St Paul	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1708	Crewe: St Andrew	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1709	Crewe: St Barnabas	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1712	Crewe: St Peter	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1713	Crewe Green: St Michael and All Angels	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1714	Doddington: St John the Evangelist	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1715	Haslington: St Matthew	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1716	Leighton-cum-Minshull Vernon: St Peter	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1717	Nantwich: St Mary	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1718	Weston	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1719	Wistaston	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1721	Wrenbury: St Margaret	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1722	Wybunbury: St Chad	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1723	Wettenhall: St David	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1724	Warmingham: St Leonard	Nantwich	Nantwich-GUAVA
1725	Wheelock: Christ Church	Nantwich	Stockport-MANGO
1801	Stockport and Brinnington	Stockport	Stockport-MANGO
1802	Offerton	Stockport	Stockport-MANGO
1803	Edgeley and Cheadle Heath	Stockport	Stockport-MANGO
1808	Stockport: St Peter	Stockport	Stockport-MANGO
1809	Stockport: St Saviour (Great Moor)	Stockport	Stockport-MANGO
1811	Stockport: St George (Davenport)	Stockport	Stockport-MANGO
1812	Norbury (Hazel Grove): St Thomas	Stockport	Nantwich-GUAVA

Appendix 3: WHO – Supporting Information

Church Representation Rules

Rule 37

(1) A diocesan synod must, no later than 31 December in the year before an election of its members, determine for each house of each deanery synod in the diocese the number of members to be elected by that house.

(2) In the case of an election by the house of clergy of a deanery synod, the number of members to be elected -

1. must relate to the number of members of the house, and
2. must be at least two.

(3) In the case of an election by the house of laity of a deanery synod, the number of members to be elected -

3. must relate to the number of names on the roll of each parish in the deanery as notified under Rule 10, and
4. must be at least two.

(4) The secretary of each deanery synod must, no later than 1 July in the year before an election of the members of the diocesan synod, certify to the secretary of the diocesan synod the number of members of the house of clergy of that deanery synod as at 31 May.

(5) When exercising its functions under this Rule, a diocesan synod must act so as to ensure -

5. that the number of members of the synod is between 100 and 270, and
6. that the number of members of the house of clergy and the number of members of the house of laity are approximately equal.

(6) For the avoidance of doubt, the figure of 270 given in paragraph (5)(a) includes the maximum number of persons who may either be co-opted or be nominated by the bishop.

(7) The secretary of each diocesan synod must, no later than 31 December in the year before an election of its members, certify to the secretary of each deanery synod in the diocese the numbers determined under this Rule for each house of that synod.

Representation Calculations

Table 6 and Table 7 overleaf show how representation in 2027 would vary between the existing Deaneries and the proposed new Areas, based on current estimates of the 2026 Electoral Roll numbers and House of Clergy sizes. This uses the Minimum Representation Levels and Representation Ratios presented in Table 8.

This shows that **it is possible to generate identical representation in either system**, by adjusting the Representation Ratios slightly between the two Archdeaconries to accommodate differences in the number of new Areas between the two.

Representation Calculations for Existing Deaneries and New Areas

Table 6: 2027 Representation for Existing Deaneries

Deanery Figures					
Chester	Electoral Roll	Active Clergy	Lay Reps	Clergy Reps	Total Reps
Birkenhead	694	12	2	3	5
Chester	1,976	26	5	7	12
Frodsham	726	10	2	3	5
Great Budworth	1,357	12	4	3	7
Malpas	1,105	9	3	2	5
Middlewich	1,349	13	4	3	7
Wallasey	449	9	2	2	4
Wirral North	2,275	20	6	5	11
Wirral South	1,416	10	4	3	7
TOTAL	11,347	121	32	31	63
Macclesfield	Electoral Roll	Active Clergy	Lay Reps	Clergy Reps	Total Reps
Bowdon	1,670	16	4	4	8
Chadkirk	1,230	11	3	3	6
Cheadle	1,452	15	4	4	8
Congleton	1,658	14	4	4	8
Knutsford	1,311	14	3	4	7
Macclesfield	1,459	12	4	3	7
Mottram	866	10	2	3	5
Nantwich	1,671	13	4	3	7
Stockport	642	10	2	3	5
TOTAL	11,959	115	30	31	61
DIOCESE TOTAL	23,306	236	62	62	124

Table 7: 2027 Representation for Proposed New Areas

Proposed New Area Figures					
Areas (Chester)	Electoral Roll	Active Clergy	Lay Reps	Clergy Reps	Total Reps
BADGER	1,682	24	5	6	11
DEER	2,234	20	6	5	11
FOX	1,316	15	4	4	8
HEDGEHOG	1,105	9	3	2	5
OTTER	1,976	26	6	7	13
ROBIN	1,846	18	5	5	10
SQUIRREL	1,188	9	3	2	5
TOTAL	11,347	121	32	31	63
Areas (Macclesfield)	Electoral Roll	Active Clergy	Lay Reps	Clergy Reps	Total Reps
DRAGONFRUIT	2,026	20	5	5	10
GUAVA	1,671	13	4	4	8
KIWI	1,894	16	5	4	9
MANGO	2,358	29	6	8	14
NECTARINE	2,085	21	5	6	11
PAPAYA	1,925	16	5	4	9
TOTAL	11,959	115	30	31	61
DIOCESE TOTAL	23,306	236	62	62	124

Table 8: Representation Parameters used for the Tables Above

	Existing deaneries		Proposed New Areas	
	Chester	Macclesfield	Chester	Macclesfield
Clergy Representation Ratio (Clergy / Rep)	4	4	3.8	3.7
Minimum Clergy Representation / Deanery	2	2	2	2
Lay Representation Ratio (ER / Rep)	380	380	355	380
Minimum Lay Representation / Deanery	2	2	2	2