

**A Memorandum of Understanding
between the Bishop of Salisbury and the Deans of Guernsey and Jersey
concerning the roles of the Bishop and the Deans
and the relationship between the Diocese of Salisbury
and the Deaneries of Guernsey and Jersey**

Introduction

1. The Report of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Commission on the Relationship of the Channel Islands to the wider Church of England included the recommendation that the respective roles of Bishop and Dean, and between Diocese and Deanery, be clarified by means of a Memorandum of Understanding.
2. The Church of England in Jersey and the Church of England in Guernsey have particular and much valued histories which give them distinctive customs and practice. The Bishop of Salisbury is the Ordinary. The Island Deaneries are attached to the Diocese of Salisbury, although the unique nature and culture of the Islands, together with their own independent legal systems, means that they sometimes operate differently from the English Church. Historically the overlapping jurisdictions that are part of this relationship have been capable of creating a degree of tension which could not be resolved. In these circumstances, a strong relationship between the parties to this Memorandum is essential, so that opportunities and difficulties can be signalled early and every attempt made to maximise the former and minimise and resolve the latter.
3. The Bishop and Deans have a shared responsibility to serve, support and strengthen Christian life in the Islands through the efficacy of their partnership in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and through worship, ministry and mission. The relationship between Bishop and the Deans of Jersey and Guernsey is framed and supported by law (through the respective Jersey and Guernsey Canons) and through custom and practice.
4. Primarily this relationship is dependent on good, courteous and regular communication. The Bishop and Deans must talk frequently, meet regularly and signal relevant opportunities and problems as early as possible, in the collaborative spirit of the body of Christ. There needs to be sufficient participation in the life of the Deaneries so that the Bishop is not seen as a visitor, but is experienced as a lively leader in ministry and mission. The Bishop must also maintain respect for the distinctive roles of the Channel Island Deans and allow them to function with appropriate authority in their unique roles and distinctive offices.
5. The special character of the Islands is to be valued and received as a gift by the wider Church of England; but it is important that this is balanced with the understanding that the Islands are part of the wider Church of England, with responsibilities and accountability to that wider Church. The churches in the Islands should be recognisable as Church of England churches. There should be no barriers preventing clergy from moving freely between posts in the Islands and England. In principle, in relation to ecclesiastical law, the Church should move as one as far as possible, while making allowance for local context.
6. The Bishop and the Deans together are committed to ensuring that our churches are safe places by ensuring that House of Bishops and National Church safeguarding policies are effectively implemented in the context of the Islands, under the lead of the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisers and the support of the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

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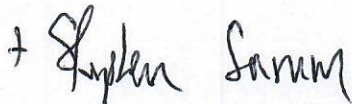
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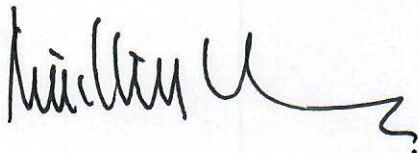
CCSLs) but handle the process in each Island with regard to shortlisting, interviewing and appointing, subject to Crown approval exercised by the Lieutenant Governor of each Bailiwick where appropriate. The Bishop's approval is sought before an appointment is offered to a candidate.

17. The Deans, as Commissaries of the Bishop, usually preside at services of institution of clergy to their benefices with one of the vice deans inducting. In accordance with the terms of their Commission from the Bishop, the Deans also preside at the licensing of clergy and lay ministers.
18. The Deans are responsible, in consultation with the Bishop, for enabling and supporting the continuing ministerial development of clergy and licensed lay ministers, including a programme of ministerial development review. While the particular circumstances of the Islands may require augmentation of the programmes offered by the Diocese of Salisbury, the Islands normally integrate with the Diocesan programmes, taking advantage of video conferencing and other remote working facilities. The Deans contribute to the programmes for the whole Diocese where appropriate.
19. The Deans work in partnership with the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisers and the Diocesan Safeguarding Team to ensure compliance with national guidance and best practice in safeguarding. They are accountable for this to the Bishop, who has overall responsibility for safeguarding.
20. The Deans are responsible, through their respective Ecclesiastical Courts, for the operation of the Faculty Jurisdiction or its equivalent in their respective jurisdictions.
21. The Deans take a lead on ethical issues vis-à-vis the Island legislatures and local media. They are the public face of the Church in the civic life of the Islands. They are mindful of their wider responsibilities to the Church of England in this role.
22. The Deans are ex-officio members of Diocesan Synod, Bishop's Council and the Vacancy in See Committee. They are full members of the Bishop's staff meeting.
23. The Deans will participate in the National Archdeacons' Forum.
24. The Deans will normally be non-residentiary Canons of Salisbury Cathedral and members of the College of Canons.

Dated the seventeenth day of November 2022



Bishop of Salisbury



Dean of Guernsey



Dean of Jersey