



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford

Serving with Accountability - 2019

2015 was the first year that we tried to incorporate the 'serving with accountability' dimension of 'Transforming Presence' alongside a slimmed down format for the Archdeacons' Articles of Enquiry.

As you know, the vision expressed in 'Transforming Presence' makes **spirituality** and **evangelism** two clear priorities in the life of the church, along with the need to re-imagine ministry. Nevertheless, there needs to be some means whereby this is joined together – hence the importance of *servicing with accountability*.

Every PCC is being invited to do a 'self-audit' in the light of the themes of 'Transforming Presence'. The set of questions below will help you in that task. **It is not intended that PCCs should cover all nine in any one year, but you may wish to look at the two or three areas where the church is doing well or to identify any weaknesses that are felt to be a hindrance to the church's mission.** You should aim to consider each of the nine questions at some point over the next few years.

Once you have conducted this year's exercise, please let us have some notes of your discussions. It would be good if you could also review last year's response as well, so that progress can be celebrated and new challenges identified. If they have asked you to do this, please send these to your archdeacon **by 30th November, 2019.**

Many thanks for your help in this,

The Ven. Elwin Cockett - Archdeacon of West Ham
The Ven. Vanessa Herrick - Archdeacon of Harlow
The Ven. Mike Lodge - Archdeacon of Southend
The Ven. Elizabeth Snowden – Archdeacon of Chelmsford
The Ven. Robin King - Archdeacon of Stansted
and acting on behalf of the Archdeacon of Colchester
The Rt Revd Peter Hill,
acting on behalf of the Archdeacon of Barking

Serving with Accountability : Questions for a PCC

1. **Worship**

What are you doing to make worship of God , Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the central focus of the life of the Church?

2. **Spirituality**

What are you doing to teach people to pray and love God?

3. **Nurture**

What are you doing to teach people about their faith and help them in their discipleship and understanding of the Bible?

4. **Evangelism**

What are you doing to share your faith with others and what have the results been in the past year? Does your Church have a place of nurture? If you have any schools in the parish, how much contact do you have?

5. **Vocation**

What are you doing to nurture and develop the ministry of the whole people of God including enabling people to come forward for authorised lay and ordained ministry?

6. **Service**

How is your Church a blessing to the community you serve?
And how is it witnessing to God's kingdom of justice and peace?

7. **Hospitality**

What are you doing to ensure that your church is a place of safety and welcome for all ages and for people of all backgrounds?

8. **Interdependence**

How are you working in partnership with other Christian communities in your locality and at diocesan, national and global levels?

9. **Generosity**

What are you doing to ensure that your Church is showing signs of generosity towards the wider church and community as well as becoming financially secure?