

**A meeting of the Newcastle Diocesan Synod  
will be held on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 10:00am.  
at St Thomas' Church, Haymarket, Newcastle, NE1 7PF.**

President: The Rt Revd Dr Helen-Ann Hartley, Bishop of Newcastle

*Registration and refreshments will be available from 9:30am.  
There will be a mid-point break for refreshments during the meeting.*

## AGENDA

**1. Welcome from the Bishop of Newcastle followed by opening prayer.**

**2. Apologies for absence**

**3. Declarations of Interest**

*Any member with a personal interest (direct or indirect) in a matter of business included within the agenda, should declare it at this point.*

**4. Meeting held on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

**4.1 Business transacted on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025** [\(Paper DS25 15\)](#)

**4.2 Matters arising**

**i. LLF (Paper of June Synod Output)** [\(Paper DS25 16\)](#)

*The Synod to receive paper for information only.*

**ii. Election Update**

*To be addressed at item 5.2*

**5. Notices**

*Any notices for the Synod's attention will be included here.*

**5.1 Deanery Synod Elections** [\(Paper DS25 17\)](#)

*The Synod will receive information regarding the upcoming Deanery Synod Elections.*

**5.2 Update on Elections to Boards & Committees** [\(Paper DS25 18\)](#)

*The Synod will receive an update on newly elected members to Boards and Committees.*

**6. Presidential Address**

*Bishop Helen-Ann will give a Presidential Address to the Synod.*

**7. Questions**

*Questions received from members in advance of the meeting shall be taken here.*

**7.1 Motion: Progressing Living in Love and Faith** [\(Paper DS25 19\)](#)

**8. Vision and Strategy** [\(Paper DS25 20\)](#)

*The Synod to receive an update on the Diocese's vision and emerging priorities, including key steps towards greater partnership and investment opportunities with the National Church.*

**9. Board of Finance Items**

*The Chair of the Board of Finance will lead this item which will include:*

**i. 2026 Budget** [\(Paper DS25 21\)](#)

*The Synod, sitting as members of the Diocesan Board of Finance, is invited to resolve:*

- a) *That the budget be approved; or*
- b) *That the budget be referred back to the Standing Committee*

- ii. **Renters Act Update ([Paper DS25 22](#))**  
*The Synod to receive for information, Paper DS25 22, regarding recent changes to the Renters Act.*

## **REFRESHMENT BREAK (not later than 11:40)**

### **10. General Synod Report ([Paper DS25 23](#))**

*General Synod representatives will provide a report of the July 2025 session of the General Synod. Their report will be followed with an opportunity for questions.*

### **11. Mission and Ministry ([Paper DS25 24](#))**

*The Synod to receive for information, Paper DS25 24 - Mission and Ministry Update.*

## **12. Standing Agenda Items**

### **12.1 Racial Justice**

*The Secretary will provide an oral update on progress since the last sitting of Synod.*

### **12.2 Net Zero Progress Report ([Paper DS25 25](#))**

*The Synod to receive for information, Paper DS25 25 – Net Zero Progress Report.*

### **12.3 Safeguarding**

#### i. **Update on INEQE Recommendations ([Paper DS25 26](#))**

*The Synod will receive an update regarding progress with the INEQE recommendations.*

#### ii. **DSAP Chair Appointment**

*The Synod will receive an oral update regarding the appointment of a new Chair to the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel.*

#### iii. **APCS Data Breach**

*The Synod will receive an oral update on the APCS data breach.*

#### iv. **Chaplaincy to Survivors Update**

*The Synod will receive an oral update on the Chaplaincy to Survivors.*

## **13. Deanery Planning**

*The Archdeacons will provide an update on progress since the last sitting of Synod.*

## **14. Any other business**

### i. **Pilgrimage between Holy Island and Newcastle Cathedral.**

*The Synod will receive a notice with regards to the planned pilgrimage for the Year of Sharing (2026).*

## **15. Close**

*The Chair will draw the business to a close no later than 13:00.*

### **Diocesan Synod Meeting dates in 2026 (Venues to be confirmed)**

- **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February** at 10:00am
- **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July** at 10:00am
- **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November**

*Including 2027 Budget Proposal.*