

**A meeting of the Newcastle Diocesan Synod
will be held on Saturday 29th 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 7th June 2025

4.1 Business transacted on Saturday 7th 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 28th February** at 10:00am
- **Saturday 4th July** at 10:00am
- **Saturday 28th November**

Including 2027 Budget Proposal.