



Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'On the Way'?

'On the Way' is about ensuring that our ministry to God's people and to the community is both fruitful and sustainable. It is a root and branch look at how the church operates in this place.

This process will help us address the reality that we cannot indefinitely 'live beyond our means' as a deanery. The church is facing some major challenges in terms of finances and not to change is not an option. However, this also can provide an opportunity to work better together to bring about God's Kingdom in this place. The process will allow us to reflect on all we currently do and to prayerfully seek God's will for our future. It will undoubtedly mean that we decide to put down some things, carry on with others and start imagining some new possibilities. This is an opportunity to look at all we do with fresh eyes.

How is it going to be done?

The three groupings of Probus, Roseland and Truro will each review how ministry is delivered locally. To lead that review, Local Teams will be set up in each of the groupings. Their role will be to prayerfully listen to others, review what is currently taking place and reflect on what might need to change. Together they will help us formulate plans for our future ministry.

We will need to consider where we can work together and where we can share resources on a 'deanery-wide' basis. The final plan we develop will work across our whole deanery, so it is important to stress how interdependent these groups will be.

A Deanery Leadership Team chaired by the Rural Dean will oversee the whole project and the final Deanery Plan.

How can people be involved?

We are looking for a wide range of people to be part of this process, either as part of the Deanery Leadership Team or their Local Team. You don't need special skills but need to be able to work as part of a team and prayerfully consider God's heart for the church in this place. The Rural Dean is responsible for selecting members of the Leadership Team. He is not only looking for people who would usually volunteer for these roles but some who would not usually put themselves forward in this way. Please pray and

consider if you might be involved. Information about how to apply will follow as we head towards the launch of the project over the next couple of weeks.

How will decisions be made?

The Teams are responsible for listening and drawing together a plan for the deanery which is both fruitful and sustainable. This plan will be put to PCCs for their comments and then to Deanery Synod for approval. The Bishop will then approve the plan.

What is the timescale?

The project will launch on Sunday 21st November. We are aiming to put a plan to Deanery Synod in the Summer of 2022

I've heard stories that On the Way has caused major friction in other deaneries. How can we be sure that lessons have been learnt from others who have gone through the process?

We have learnt from other deaneries and our position is different in many ways. There will be hard choices to be made on occasion, but we are committed to listening and involving as many people as we can in the decision-making process.

What about prayer?

Prayer will be a crucial aspect of On the Way. Every time we meet, we will commit to spending time in prayer. We are also looking for people to join a group who will pray together regularly throughout the whole process. Might you consider being part of this group? The group will meet both on Zoom and in person from time to time. To register your interest email prayer@powderdeanery.org

How will things look different after On the Way has been implemented?

This largely depends on the outcome of our listening and deliberations. However, we can say that the deanery will be living within its means, have a deanery-wide plan which supports the three areas in a more cohesive way than at present and that worshipping patterns and structures will almost certainly be different.

What about the Bishop's Mission Order for Truro and Transforming Mission initiatives?

'On the Way' will dovetail into these projects and not seek to disrupt them.

Who owns the process?

The process is owned by the Rural Dean. He is supported by two advisers and the Leadership Team. PCCs and Deanery Synod have their statutory roles to play in approving any changes.

How will I keep up to date with what is going on?

You can sign up to our mailing list to receive regular updates. Simply email us at info@powderdeanery.org and tell us you would like to be kept informed.

What is the timetable?

Projected key dates associated with the process are shown below:

21st November 2021	Launch with communications to church members and communities – invitation to take part in the process
7th December 2021	On the Way Launch Event with Bishop Hugh
9th December 2021	Closing date for those interested in working in Local Teams
10th January 2022	Local Teams begin work
21st March 2022	First draft plans completed
16th May 2022	Finalised plans to PCCs
20th June 2022	Deanery Synod meets to consider plan

