

Deanery merging process

1. The deaneries that wish to merge meet separately as deanery synods to consider the proposal to merge and decide whether to meet jointly.
2. Deanery synod members report back to their PCCs for feedback, particularly from those parishes with a choice of future deanery*.
3. Those deaneries wishing to merge meet together to discuss PCC feedback and seek answers from the P&P Lead and/or the Diocesan Secretary.
4. If willing to merge, the joint meeting requests that the Bishop undertakes formal consultation with PCCs.
5. If satisfied with the consultation responses, the Bishop of Birmingham makes a Bishop's Pastoral Order to bring into being a new deanery from the first of the month following each order.
6. In the short term the membership of the new deanery will comprise all the members of the previous deaneries. The existing Area Deans will continue as joint Area Deans until the appointment of a full time Area Dean. The new deanery synod will confirm the Lay Chair and Secretary at its first meeting.
7. Diocesan synod determines the number of lay members to be elected by each parish to each deanery synod.
8. PCCs elect lay members to new deanery synods at the Annual Parochial Church Meetings in 2020 to take office for three years (from 1 June 2020).

* There are 12 specific parishes who are on the borders of 2 potentially merged deaneries. These parishes can indicate which merged deanery they would prefer to be a part of.



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