

Dear +Neil, dear Emma and members of the wider Diocesan Synod team,

I am writing on behalf of the LLF Programme Board to express our thanks for the time and thoughtful engagement your Diocesan Synod has given to the informal consultations on the draft LLF proposals around the use of the PLF.

We recognise that revisiting these questions has been difficult. For many, especially our LGBTQI+ members, these conversations touch on deeply personal experiences and have reopened areas of real pain. We are grateful for the care and sensitivity with which your Synod approached this work, and for the time and effort put in by bishop(s), senior leaders and the many volunteers involved in running the Diocesan Synod.

The insights from the informal consultations have helped inform the House of Bishops in their ongoing discernment. At the February meeting of General Synod this week, a [set of proposals and next steps](#) is being brought forward. These include:

- A plan to conclude the LLF Programme and transition its work into a more permanent, ongoing framework for theological reflection, pastoral practice, and continued dialogue across the Church.
- The January 2026 House of Bishops' Statement, which sets out agreed approaches to future work on the Prayers of Love and Faith, pastoral guidance, and the wider questions raised through the LLF process.
- Provisions for new governance structures, with terms of reference included in the Synod papers, to ensure that work relating to LLF is embedded in the regular life of the Church rather than conducted through a time-limited programme.
- Whilst anonymised detailed results were only available to the House of Bishops, a high level executive summary of diocesan consultation feedback has been included as part of the Synod papers.

We were clear from the beginning, and reiterated in both the detailed report and executive summary, that the informal consultations were never intended to be representative of the whole Church, nor to offer definitive diocesan positions. Rather, they have provided valuable insights into the hopes and concerns surrounding the specific proposals, and the use of the PLF.

Thank you again for the prayerful manner in which you all undertook this task.

Please be assured of my prayers for you and for your diocese.

