



CATHEDRAL
ISLE OF MAN

Delegation to the Local Church Council Policy

Community, Worship, Culture

Cathedral Isle of Man, a partnership of:

- | | Adopted
by <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|---|---|
| • St German's Cathedral * | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| • The Cathedral Quarter Trust (CQT) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • St German's Cathedral Foundation for Music and the Arts (FMA) | <input type="checkbox"/> |

* St German's Cathedral is legally a sub-Committee of the PCC of the Parish of the West Coast. It is hoped that under new governance arrangements a new 'Cathedral Chapter' will become the legal authority governing St German's Cathedral.

Date Last Reviewed: April 2019

Frequency of Review Recommended: Annually

Delegation: The Operation of Local Church Councils in the Parish of the West Coast

'One Mission Five Local Expressions'

The amalgamation of five churches into the Parish of the West Coast (PotWC) led to the need to set up local councils to take responsibility for local decision making and implementing procedure and recommendations from the Parochial Church Council of the PotWC. Responsibility has been delegated to the local minister and Wardens of the particular church.

Vision statement:

The local group will be:

- **an energy force:** set up to harness the energy of the local church
- **a visioning structure:** it will create the vision and missionary drive to implement plans in its own community.
- **a bridge:** It will be the eyes and ears of the local church community acting as a bridge between the local church and the PCC. It will ensure there is on-going representation of the views of the local church at the PCC, and that there is implementation of the recommendations of the PCC at a local level.
- **a reporting body:** it will produce regular reports so that all members of the PCC stay fully informed of what is happening at the local level
- **a connection with the community:** because of its make-up of local representatives it will also be a bridge between the local church and the local community.
- **maintaining local identity:** it will maintain and safeguard the identity and traditions of the local church and community.
- **introducing fresh expressions:** it will explore new expressions of church, mission, outreach, spirituality children's work and growth with the sensitivity and understanding of knowing the history, character and nature of the people of its own congregation and community.
- **initiating fund raising:** it will also have the responsibility to ensure there are sufficient income generating initiatives to meet ongoing church running costs and contributions to the ministry fund, as well as funds to implement its local church maintenance programme. It will aim at sustainability.
- **maintaining and developing church buildings:** it will be responsible for ensuring that the physical structure of the local church is kept in good repair and that the building is developed to meet its ongoing needs.
- **being good stewards:** it will take ownership and responsibility in maintaining and administering the local burial grounds and its own church finances.
- **developing partnerships:** whilst working to develop its local identity it will seek to be constantly mindful of being part of one church family, sharing ministry, news, ideas and resources; looking for ways to help and support, and to be helped and supported by, its sister churches and ministers.
- **a communication channel:** it will take responsibility for the free flow of communication across boundaries to develop an inclusive church.

Structure of the local group:

Because of the emphasis on the individual quality and nature of each local group there should be minimum structure to its constitution; it is however answerable to the Vicar and Wardens locally and the PCC centrally - It has the status of a sub-committee. All members of the LCC need to fulfil the legal requirements as if a member of the PCC because of having a responsibility to manage funds locally. Nevertheless as a pioneer group:

- ***it should have the freedom to operate to implement its vision in a flexible, informal and friendly a way as possible;*** it does not have to be a replica of a PCC.

Guidance:

- the local minister is the chair of the meeting; others can take the chair at the ministers invitation.
- there should be a minimum of 4 meetings a year, there can be more.
- the Local Minister; local wardens and local treasurer regularly attend.
- a minutes clerk notes decisions of the meeting and seeks approval of the PCC where appropriate (In practice the Local Development Plan is approved once a year indicating the parameters of delegated power). A copy of these Minutes of the Local Council should be sent to the Dean/Vicar and the PCC secretary.
- smaller sub-groups can be set up to report back to the local council.
- the local council are responsible for delegated decision-making and implementing decisions made by the PCC.