Bishop’s Commission into the future of Episcopal leadership in the Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki

Terms of Reference

Membership:

Bishop Andrew Hedge (Chair)
Mr Nick Young (Diocesan Manager, Diocese of Wellington)
Reverend Tric Malcolm (Chair, Anglican Care Network, former Wellington City Missioner)

Background:

1. Episcopal Leadership in the Diocese was in the form of mono-episcopacy from 1928 to 1999.
2. A joint Diocese of Waikato/Diocese of Wellington Commission provided the basis for the unification of Taranaki for Anglican mission by amalgamation of South Taranaki Parishes from the Diocese of Wellington into a new episcopal unit for Taranaki into the Diocese of Waikato.
3. In 1999 an assistant bishop in Taranaki was elected and installed.
4. These developments were agreed to by the Synod of the Diocese of Waikato on the understanding that there was sufficient endowment income to support two bishops without recourse to parish assessment income.
5. In 2006 provisions for Shared Diocesan Episcopacy were passed by GSTHW allowing for two bishops to share the role of Diocesan Bishop.
6. In 2008 the name of the Diocese was changed to Waikato and Taranaki.
8. Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley became the Bishop of Waikato in February 2014. She resigned to take up the role of Bishop of Ripon at the end of 2017.

9. Throughout the period 2013 - 2017 significant financial review and restructuring has been undertaken by Trust Management Ltd. Part of this review has shown that since 2010 the two bishop model was not financially self-sustaining* and has been partly funded through Standing Committee funds. This is now recorded as a debt to be repaid from Bishopric Capital.

   *analysis shows that the interest received on invested funds from 2010-present has been only 3.8% compared to over 7% for the period 2000-2009

10. Investment Strategies are being revisited to produce more income. However that is unlikely to address the shortfall. There is a question as to whether the Bishopric Trust funds expenses which really should rest with Standing Committee.

11. The decision of the SJCTB to create a grant structure for the educational role of Bishops provides an additional source of income if the criteria is met.


Key purposes:

1. To provide recommendations and rationale for a sustainable model of episcopal leadership for the Diocese, including required support staff / roles, for Synodical debate and decision.

2. Any other matters the Commission believe relevant to this key purpose.

Models for consideration:

- Dual Episcopacy - Bishop of Waikato and Bishop of Taranaki
- Diocesan Bishop and full time Assistant Bishop
- Diocesan Bishop and Assistant Bishop with an additional role.
- Diocesan Bishop with additional full time non-episcopal support (for example an Executive Archdeacon / Mission Development Officer)
- Any other models as the Commission may develop for consideration
Documents and resources for review:

2. Statute for an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Waikato
3. Dual Episcopacy Paper (Moxon and Richardson) and legislation.
4. Financial analysis and options (to be provided by Diocesan Manager)
5. Any other documents or resources that the Commission may identify as useful to their work.

Groups to be consulted

- Standing Committee
- Combined Diocesan Trust Board
- Bishops Staff
- Archdeaconries
  - A process for Archdeaconry consultation will be developed between the Commission and each Archdeacon;
  - This process may be led by the relevant Archdeacon within their Archdeaconry enabling a submission to be received by the Commission

Reporting process
The Commission will report in the first instance directly to ++Philip, but the final report will be released to appropriate bodies within the Diocese.

Timeline
A draft report will be available at the end of March 2019 with a final report available for a special Diocesan Synod at the end of April.