

**A meeting of the Newcastle Diocesan Synod  
will be held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 10:00am.  
at Newcastle Cathedral.**

President: The Rt Revd Dr Helen-Ann Hartley, Bishop of Newcastle  
The meeting will be chaired by the Chair of the House of Clergy, the Revd Canon Brian Hurst.

*Registration and refreshments will be available from 9:30am.  
There will be a mid-point break for refreshments during the meeting.*

## AGENDA

**1. Welcome from the Bishop of Newcastle followed by opening prayer.**

**2. Apologies for absence**

**3. Declarations of Interest**

*Any member with a personal interest (direct or indirect) in a matter of business included within the agenda, should declare it at this point.*

**4. Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

4.1 Business transacted on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 ([paper DS24 09](#))

4.2 Matters arising

**5. Notices**

*Any notices for the Synod's attention will be included here.*

**6. Questions**

*Questions received from members in advance of the meeting shall be taken here.*

**7. Presidential Address**

*Bishop Helen-Ann will give a Presidential Address to the Synod.*

**8. Education (presentation)**

*The interim Diocesan Director of Education will be invited to give a presentation. This session will include discussion and feedback. The [paper DS24 10](#), Dioceses of Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Syllabus for Religious Education 2024, is provided as a support for this item.*

**9. Safeguarding (presentation)**

*The Lead for the Chaplaincy to Survivors, Dr Maggi Creese, will be invited to share a video about LOUDfence, which was held at Newcastle Cathedral in early March. Further information from the Cathedral's website [is available using this link](#).*

## REFRESHMENT BREAK

*the Agenda continues over the page*

**10. Environment** (papers [DS24 11](#) and [DS24 12](#))

*The Synod is invited to adopt the Net Zero Carbon Action Plan set out in paper [DS24 11](#). This item of business will be supported by the Bishop's Adviser on the Environment and parish environmental representatives who will help set out the background and the need for the Action Plan. Paper [DS24 12](#) is the Church of England's Routemap to Net Zero Carbon by 2030. Tristan Oliver, the consultant who has worked with diocesan officers to produce the plan will be present (via video link) for this item to answer questions about the plan. Other resources from the Church of England to support work with Net Zero Carbon can be found [using this link](#).*

**11. Deanery Planning**

*The Archdeacons will provide an update on progress since the last sitting of the Synod.*

**12. Racial Justice**

*Bishop Mark will update the Synod on this agenda standing item.*

**13. Any other business**

*Any other business notified to the Secretary ahead of the meeting will be taken here.*

**14. Close**

*The Chair will draw the business to a close no later than 13:00.*

**Meeting dates reserved for Diocesan Synod in 2024**

- Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July at 10:00am at Newcastle Cathedral  
*Including Governance (moved from May to July); and the Annual Report and Financial Statements 2023*
- Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 10:00 at St Mary's Church, Claremont Gardens, Whitley Bay NE26 3SF  
*First meeting of the new Diocesan Synod following elections.*
- Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November at Dr Thomlinson Church of England Middle School, Rothbury NE65 7RJ  
*Including proposed budget 2025.*