

DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DAC RESPONSE TO SOUTHWARK VISION 2017 - 2025

The DAC acts as a corporate advisory body on matters affecting places of worship in the diocese.

In carrying out its functions, the DAC has due regard to:

- (a) the role of a church as a local centre of worship and mission, and
- (b) the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England.

This document is issued by the DAC after consultation with the Diocesan Bishop, the Chancellor of the Diocese, and the Diocesan Secretary. It sets out how the Committee envisages its statutory advisory functions (contained within its Constitution) will be discharged in such a way as to best serve Southwark Vision 2017-2025 in conformity with the DAC's various legal obligations.

Southwark Vision 2017 - 2025

Hearts on Fire with a Vision for growth

Walking with Jesus and getting to know Jesus better as we journey on
Welcoming all, embracing our diversity and seeking new ways of being church
Growing in numbers, generosity, faith and discipleship as we grow God's Kingdom

The DAC is committed to and shares in this **VISION** for the future in which we will see:

- growing churches, new worshipping communities and new Christians
- deepening discipleship: engaged, prayerful and informed Christians
- growth in vocations to existing and new ministries
- generous giving and prayer supporting all we do
- justice and peace built up, and violence challenged, in our local and global community
- a shared commitment to the integrity of creation
- a church for all which reflects our diverse community in membership and leadership.

The DAC shares in these diocesan **VALUES**:

Effective Stewardship of resources
Collaborative Team Working
Respect for all
Transparent Accountability

The DAC shares in the diocesan **PURPOSE** “to serve, support, lead and enable the mission of God as it is worked out in the parishes, deaneries, schools and communities of the Diocese of Southwark”

The DAC shares in these diocesan **AIMS**:

- To support our parishes and clergy so that they are energised, equipped and empowered through specialist advice, training and development, and by building effective relationships
- To meet our statutory obligations
- To be proactive in leading and disseminating good practice
- To evaluate the allocation of resources effectively, in line with the vision, aims, values, and policies of the diocese
- To support the resourcing of mission and evangelism, training and ongoing development for lay and ordained ministries
- To be accountable to and responsible for decision-making
- To ensure that policies and practices, as well as the way in which these are communicated, are fit for purpose now and in the future, through regular review and continuous improvement.
- To achieve eco-diocese status (of at least bronze level) by 2025 at the latest, but preferably earlier.

In furtherance of the DAC’s participation in the diocesan **VISION, VALUES, PURPOSE** and **AIMS**, the DAC commits to:

- being adaptive and developing a positive, proactive and permission-giving approach
- allowing a culture of risk-taking, innovation, creativity, and experimentation to flourish where appropriate
- promoting the understanding and appreciation of church buildings, including valuing them as sacred spaces
- championing church buildings as places where Southwark Vision 2017-2025 can be fruitfully realised, including recognising them as having a crucial role in enabling church growth
- assisting parishes in striving to safeguard the integrity of creation through the sustainable use and suitable adaptation of their church buildings
- acknowledging and celebrating historic churches as buildings of special importance to local communities and the wider public: past, present and future
- endorsing and publicising good conservation practice in repair and alteration to historic buildings, in particular Historic England’s principles that new work in historic places of worship should:
 - be based on an understanding of the cultural and heritage significance of the building;
 - minimise harm to the special historic, archaeological, architectural and artistic interest of the building, its contents and setting;
 - bring with it public benefits, such as securing the long-term use of the building, which outweigh any harm to significance;
 - achieve high standards of design, craftsmanship and materials.

Signed



PHILIP FLETCHER
Chair



LUKE TATAM
Secretary