

# Summary

- **Chapter 1** introduces the Report and describes how the Review Group has set about its task.

**Part 1** of the Report seeks to describe and analyse the Deanery, and to explore the massive changes in society which affect the role of the Church.

- **Chapter 2** looks at the key issues in the Borough of Luton and its surrounding villages. It seeks to draw out the implications of these issues for the ministry of the Church in Luton. In particular, it reflects on the implications of this for the Anglican Church. It argues that Luton is a hugely important place and should be a priority for the mission and ministry of the Diocese.
- **Chapter 3** seeks to analyse the strengths and weaknesses of the Anglican Deanery of Luton. It suggests opportunities for ministry of the Deanery and things which might hinder it from taking them. It argues that the Deanery of Luton faces many challenges but also has the great opportunity to pioneer new ways of 'being Church'.
- **Chapter 4** explores the changes in society which the Church faces. It paints a picture of the sort of Church which can meet these challenges. Some of the key aspects needed are collaboration, partnership and adaptability. The report argues that the Deanery is well placed to be a key unit in such a Church

**Part 2** of the Report develops recommendations arising from the description, analysis and looking to the future of the previous section. At the heart of the recommendations is the encouragement to move, or grow, 'out of the box'. There is a need to form new partnerships, new ministries and to release new resources.

- **Chapter 5** argues that people are the Deanery's greatest resource and recommends ways in which this resource can be released. This resource needs to be supported, trained and developed. An overall increase in the number of licensed ministers in the Deanery, achieved through an increase in non Stipendiary ministers and Readers, is recommended. The Chapter makes recommendations about church buildings, including the closure of two in the Deanery, and about finances, including some recommendations about the parish share. It suggests ways in which more resources can be put into the Deanery and also ways in which resources can be released from within it.
- **Chapter 6** proposes a restructuring of the Deanery into ten Areas for Mission and Ministry. These are proposed as informal groupings which can grow in relationship, collaboration and ministry. It is a structure which will help the deanery face the challenges of the future and develop new ministries. As part of this restructuring the report recommends four united benefices, one of which should move to Dunstable Deanery.
- **Chapter 7** recommends the introduction of a portfolio scheme in order to facilitate the development of new ministries and partnerships. The scheme will also encourage and develop the ministry of individual clergy and others. The Chapter recommends ways in which new partnerships can be formed in the Deanery, with other churches and faiths, with community groups and civic bodies, and with the Diocese and wider Church.

**The recommendations** are summarised in **Chapter 8**.