

CONSTITUTION

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish of Saint Philip Neri, Birkenhead

1. Nature and Function

The Parish Pastoral Council is a representative body of parishioners whose purpose is the promotion of the mission of the Church in its entirety in this particular corner of the Lord's vineyard. Its role is that of setting and ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategy in consultation with the Parish Priest.

It should not be involved with routine practical matters which can be carried out by designated Teams.

It should facilitate the coordination of parish services regarding:

- proclaiming the Word of God and developing faith formation, especially for the young,
- fostering the sacramental, liturgical and prayer life of the parish,
- supporting marriage and family life,
- enabling the lay faithful to carry out their particular vocation of shaping society in accordance with the Gospel,
- strengthening commitment to social justice and caring for the poor and marginalised.

2. Membership

The Parish Pastoral Council will be made up of:

- *Ex officio members*, i.e. those who are engaged in pastoral ministry in the parish (Priests, Deacons, Youth Minister)
- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Secretary
- Members appointed by the Parish Priest, in consultation with the Parish Clergy Team and the Chair/Vice Chair.

3. Period of Membership

Members will be appointed initially for a period of four years, with the possibility of reappointment for one or more terms, according to the needs of the parish.

On appointment of a new Parish Priest, the composition and membership will be reviewed within six months.

4. Officers

President:	The Parish Priest who convokes the meeting.
Chair:	Appointed by the Parish Priest
Vice Chair	Elected by the members of the Parish Pastoral Council.
Secretary:	Responsible for keeping a record of the meetings and circulating relevant material to members.

5. Meetings

Six times a year.

6. Agenda.

The agenda will be prepared by the Chair in consultation with the President and Secretary. The agenda, together with any relevant material, will be circulated to members no later than seven days in advance of the meeting. Items for inclusion on the agenda should be submitted to the Chair no later than two weeks prior to the meeting.

7. Quorum

Half the number of serving members.

8. Teams and Working Parties

The nature and number of Parish Teams will be decided by the Parish Priest in consultation with the Parish Pastoral Council. The Teams exist to coordinate parish initiatives of evangelisation, prayer, worship and pastoral care. Teams will work to enhance and build relationships within and outside our community including with our schools and local churches.

9. Responsibilities of members

- attend regular meetings of the Parish Pastoral Council
- provide input to deliberations of the Parish Pastoral Council
- assist with implementation of Parish policies and decisions
- grow in knowledge and awareness of what is happening in the Parish and Local Pastoral Area