

Explanatory Notes

What is the Pastoral Scheme?

Effectively it's our constitution for our parish, describing how the churches of the parish relate to one another and are organised.

Reasons for the new scheme

-St Luke's and St Mark's are seeking to combine their accounts in order to make book keeping and end of year accounts simpler, and to have a single district church council in whose care the two churches are devolved to by the PCC *as much as is legally allowed*.

-The previous scheme (2011) was no longer in accordance with church legislation for Teams, and over time 'on the ground practice' has varied from what is strictly legal, so this is an opportunity for us to ensure we're both legal, and aware of how things should be done.

What's not changing?

St Mark's remains as a separate place of worship within the team. The fact that worship is *primarily* happening on weekdays, does not invalidate this.

What is changing?

-St Luke's and St Mark's will be two churches within a single District within the parish of Catford & Downham. They therefore can have a single DCC and one set of accounts.

-Church Wardens for the four churches and Deanery Synod representatives will be elected at the APCM rather than the individual AGMS. This is to bring us in line with church legislation as it is now.

-All Readers licensed to the parish will now be part of the PCC.

What looks like it's changed but was actually always legally the case!

-Our parish can have up to 8 church wardens. Technically, they are wardens for the whole parish (ie all 4 churches), but we've always operated on the basis that (ideally) two wardens will serve each church. This will continue to be the case.

A warden **can** help out with another church if they want to (and with agreement of the relevant minister, cf section 6), **but they are not required to.**

-Parish property and policies are the responsibility of the PCC

DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

SCHEME

UNDER RULES M34 & M35 OF THE CHURCH REPRESENTATION RULES

The Catford (Southend) and Downham Team Ministry

WHEREAS

- a. By a Pastoral Scheme made by the Church Commissioners on the 29th November 2011 a team ministry for the benefice and parish of Catford (Southend) and Downham was established.
- b. This Scheme is made pursuant to a resolution passed at a meeting of the Parochial Church Council of the parish of Catford (Southend) and Downham on the 30th April 2025.
- c. The approval to this Scheme by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting or special parochial church meeting was given on the 18th May 2025.

THE SCHEME

1. Churches

The parish of Catford (Southend) and Downham (hereinafter called "the parish") is served by four churches or buildings licensed for public worship, namely the under-mentioned churches:

- i. Catford, St John the Baptist
- ii. Downham, St Luke
- iii. North Downham, St Mark
- iv. Downham, St Barnabas

1A. Districts

The four churches or places of worship in the parish shall be allocated into three districts:

- i. Catford, St John the Baptist
- ii. Downham, St Luke & North Downham, St Mark
- iii. Downham, St Barnabas

2. Churchwardens

The election of eight churchwardens for the parish (two for each parish church or parish centre of worship) shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Churchwardens Measure 2001.

3. Deanery Synod Representatives

In a year in which elections of lay representatives to the Deanery Synod take place:

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of each district there shall be elected representatives of the laity to the Deanery Synod, the number decided by Diocesan Synod.

4. PCC Representatives

a. At the annual meeting of each district there shall be elected representatives of the laity to the parochial church council in such manner as to ensure due representation of each district as follows:

- i. Catford St John the Baptist: four representatives
- ii. Downham, St Luke & North Downham, St Mark: four representatives
(Ideally, at least one of which should habitually worship at each place of worship)
- iii. Downham, St Barnabas: three representatives

b. **PROVIDED ALWAYS** that the above numbers may be altered from time to time by resolution of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting under the Church Representation Rules or under such rule or rules as shall replace them from time to time.

5. Parochial Church Council

a. Subject to the provisions of the Church Representation Rules or to such rules as shall replace them from time to time, the parochial church council shall consist of the following:

the Team Rector;

the Team Vicars;

any Readers chosen by the APCM (under Rule M15 (1) (h));

the eight Churchwardens of the parish;

members of the deanery, diocesan and general synods;

other clergy and lay workers licensed by the bishop to minister within the parish;

representatives of the laity elected under the provisions of paragraph 4 of this scheme;

up to two co-opted members.

6. District Church Councils

For each district there shall be a district church council, with the following membership:

The relevant minister (who shall be the Chair)

Such of the Churchwardens as are habitual worshippers in the district

Any Readers who are habitual worshippers in the district

any Assistant Curate or licensed lay worker exercising ministry in the district

Any other lay members of the PCC who are habitual worshippers in of the district

Together with up to six other lay members elected at the annual meeting of the worshippers of each church (which for St Luke's & St Mark's at least one of which shall be from each place of worship), and any person co-opted by the district church council, limited to two per DCC.

In this paragraph, "relevant minister" means:

- If the licence of a Team Vicar allocates to that person a special responsibility for the church or churches in that district, that Team Vicar

- In any other case, the Team Rector

7. District Church Councils' Powers

a. The parochial church council may delegate to the district church councils all matters relating to the daily working and finances of the churches. The parochial church council shall not delegate matters relating to:

- i. the supervision of parish property;
- ii. responses to matters passed down by deanery or diocesan synods;
- (iii) parish policies.

b. The parochial church council may not delegate the functions of the parochial church council:

- i. in respect of producing the financial statement of the parish;
- ii. as an interested party under Part 3 of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011;
- (iii) under Part 2 of the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986;

8. General Provisions relating to the District Church Council

Subject to the provisions of this scheme, the provisions contained in Section B of Part 9 of the Church Representation Rules shall apply to the constitution, meetings, and procedure of the district church councils.

9. Commencement and revocation of previous scheme

This scheme comes into effect on the date that it is made. The Scheme approved by the

Annual Parochial Church meeting on 8 December 2011 is revoked.

Notes

(i) It is implied that the Electoral Roll shall be maintained in three sections, one for each of the districts within the parish. The membership of a particular district shall be indicated on the electoral roll application form and on the Electoral Roll. A person may qualify for more than one section. Only persons on the Electoral Roll for a district shall be entitled to vote at the annual meeting of that district.