MINSTER COMMUNITY 2A

# Executive Summary for PCCs

July 2025

## Purpose

This proposal outlines the formation of Minster Community 2A (MC2A)—a collaborative partnership of local parishes and church schools. PCCs are invited to approve the proposal and commit to this shared vision for mission and ministry.

## Vision

MC2A is shaped by the Diocese’s three core priorities:  
  
1. Growing numbers of disciples  
2. Growing in depth of discipleship  
3. Growing in loving service of the world

## Key Components

## 1. Structure & Clergy Roles

MC2A will include four stipendiary posts, each with a distinct focus:  
  
- Oversight Minister – Leads, coordinates, and ensures mission priorities across the community.  
- Growing Faith worker – Develops ministry with children, young people, families, and schools.  
- Focal worker: Mission & Worship – Engages with new housing areas and establishes new forms of worship.  
- Focal worker: Buildings – Assists churches with care of buildings, grants, and local engagement.  
  
(See: 'Our Ministry' and 'Growing in Relationship' in the Proposal; also 'Proposal' section in the Summary Document)

## 2. Lay Leadership & Collaboration

- Encouragement of lay-led services and ministries.  
- Cross-parish support networks for Wardens, Treasurers, Safeguarding Officers, and other key roles.  
- New forms of worship to better engage families and new communities.  
- Opportunities to share skills and resources across churches.  
  
(See: 'Engaging in this Process Together' and 'Our Ministry' in the Proposal)

## 3. Mission Priorities

- Strengthening relationships with church and local schools.  
- Engaging people in new housing developments.  
- Developing connections through baptisms, weddings, and funerals.  
- Considering Festival Church models where appropriate to reduce clergy burden and focus on mission.  
  
(See: 'Our Discipleship and Mission', 'Schools', and 'Our Geography and Context' in the Proposal)

## 4. Finance

- Current giving across the MC2A is sufficient to support 4 stipendiary posts.  
- Proposal for fair contribution: approx. £6 per person per week.  
- Annual budgeting to be done collaboratively by PCC Treasurers.  
  
(See: 'Our Finances' in the Proposal; also 'Proposal' section in the Summary Document)

## 5. Buildings

- 18 historic, listed church buildings—some in poor condition and costly to maintain.  
- Shared knowledge and collaboration on faculties, grants, and repairs.  
- Consideration of an MC-wide administrator to support churches with building-related processes.  
  
(See: 'Our Buildings' and 'Our Geography and Context' in the Proposal)

## 6. Challenges Recognised

- Wide variation in parish size, traditions, and theology.  
- Geographical spread with limited public transport.  
- Ageing congregations and stretched volunteers.  
- Clergy and lay leaders facing increasing demands.  
- Need to preserve parish identity while embracing shared mission.  
  
(See: 'Engaging in this Process Together' and 'Our Ministry' in the Proposal; also 'Proposal' section in the Summary Document)

## Next Steps for PCCs

- Review and approve the full proposal document.  
- Commit to shared working through nominated PCC officers.  
- Support equitable giving across the MC2A.  
- Begin local discernment about buildings, worship patterns, and lay leadership development.

## Conclusion

MC2A is an opportunity to:  
- Strengthen collaboration and relationships between churches.  
- Sustain ministry with shared resources and responsibilities.  
- Reimagine how we reach and disciple people in our communities.  
  
This is not about losing identity—it is about growing together in faith, mission, and service.

“Unity does not mean uniformity.”  
This vision values diversity, collaboration, and Spirit-led renewal.

# References

This Executive Summary draws upon content from the following foundational documents:  
1. Minster Community Proposal Final 24.06.25.docx – The full formation proposal document compiled by the Coordinating Group. This contains comprehensive insights on structure, mission, ministry, lay leadership, buildings, finances, and community dynamics across the proposed Minster Community 2A.  
2. Summary 24.06.25.docx – A summarised version of the full proposal, capturing key recommendations, role definitions, theological observations, and strategies for parish collaboration and financial equity.  
These documents provide the detailed rationale and background that inform the Executive Summary.