



A Fantastic Response to our Clergy Housing Survey

We have had an 87.5% response to the survey sent out to our clergy who live in a Diocesan or Benefice House.

The survey, sent out to 160 stipendiary and house for duty clergy, was commissioned as part of the wider 2019 Diocesan Review Process that links Bishop John Gladwin's Report with a series of reviews encompassing all aspects of Diocesan life from Ministry and Mission to IT.

Led by Archdeacon Penny Sayer, working with the Property Department and our Diocesan Secretary David Pain, the questionnaire explored how we are doing in terms of maintaining our housing stock and what should be the Property Department's ongoing priorities in terms of the maintenance and improvements carried out on these clergy homes.

The results of the survey will help to inform decisions and priorities in regard to clergy housing as we prepare for our 2021-23 Budget.

The Diocese is at present operating with a deficit of a million pounds and part of the purpose of the Reviews is to see how we might be able to increase our income, and lower out outgoings to work towards a balancing of the books.

Archdeacon Penny said:

"We want to thank all the clergy that participated! The fantastic response rate emphasises that housing is very important to our clergy and their wellbeing and that there is appreciation for the work done by the Diocesan Property Department.

"The detailed survey responses and next steps will be communicated in due course."