Ministerial Development Review – Diocese of Chester

*Reflections from the Ordinal*

*This document surveys the breadth of life as an ordained minister in the Church of England.
Using aspects of the Ordinal there are 4 main sections for thoughtful self-review:*

*-Health and Wellbeing*

*-Spirituality*

*-Collegiality*

*-Vocation and Ministry*

*By using this as preparation for your MDR you will be prompted to reflect on many aspects of your ministry. The questions are suggestions to aid your reflection. They are neither exhaustive nor mandatory – please use them as a starting point for what matters most to you in preparation for your MDR. You may therefore find that you focus more on some of the sections than on others. You should not, at this stage, be identifying clear development targets, though themes and general directions will become clearer as you write.*

*This document should be shared with your Consultant, or with your Reviewing bishop, who will respect the confidentiality of it. It will not be retained as part of your MDR record.*

**PART 1: Reviewing**

**SECTION A: Health and Wellbeing**

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| ***“Will you endeavour to fashion your own life and that of your household according to the way of Christ,******that you may be a pattern and example to Christ’s people?”*****Is my life well balanced and sustainable?***Do I feel that I have time for myself, for my family, for my friends, and for my ministry?**When is it most difficult to balance my calling with the other parts of my life?**If I were observing my life habits, which would I label as most healthy, and which as least healthy?**Do I honour my day off, my retreat, and my holidays?* |

**SECTION B: Spirituality**

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| ***“Will you be diligent in prayer, in reading Holy Scripture and in all studies that will deepen your faith, and fit you to bear witness to the truth of the gospel?”*****Am I nurtured by my spiritual life?***Is my pattern of prayer stable and nourishing?**Which spiritual disciplines shape my life and ministry most?**Where do I find inspiration?**Is my faith growing fuller and braver?***Am I deepening my understanding of Scripture and Faith?***What time do I really set aside for study and learning (and not just for sermon prep!)?**Am I disciplined in my study of scripture?**What resources (reading, courses, groups) deepen my understanding of mission and ministry?* |

**SECTION C: Collegiality**

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| ***“Will you work with your fellow servants in the gospel for the sake of the kingdom of God?”*****Am I nurtured by relationships in the Church?***In what ways do I share ministry with lay and ordained colleagues? Where is this most healthy, and where is it least healthy?**Do I ever feel isolated or lonely in ministry? Do I sometimes feel constrained in ministry by others’ demands?**How am I held accountable and supported by critical friends, supervision or coaching?**How am I handling any problematic relationships?***How am I nurturing others?***Do I find time and opportunity to encourage the gifts and callings of others in my ministry context?**How do I proclaim Good News to those who serve with me, through being, saying or doing?**What kind of leader am I?* |

**SECTION D: Vocation and Ministry**

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| ***“Priests are called to be servants and shepherds among the people to whom they are sent.”*** ***“Will you lead Christ’s people in proclaiming his glorious gospel,******so that the good news of salvation may be heard in every place?”*****What is the heart of my calling?***At my licensing I avowed my call to this ministry. What does that mean to me now?**How has my vocation changed?**On what do I spend too much time, and too little?**What aspects of ministry are energising, and which are draining?***To whom am I sent?***In what ways am I blessing those of the 1.5 million I have care over?**To whom do I pay special care and attention in my ministry, and who do I miss?**Where do I minister most: within the church, on the fringes, or outside the church?**What do I believe the Mission of God to be today in my ministry context?* |

**PART 2: Aspiring**

**SECTION E: Growth**

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| ***“Will you then, in the strength of the Holy Spirit, continually stir up the gift of God that is in you,******to grow in holiness and grace?”*****Affirming my ministry***Noting my reflections in Part 1 above, other people will be thankful for these seven things in me:1)2)3)4)**5)**6)**7)***Developing my ministry***What gifts would I most like to develop?**What gifts are underused?**What would I most like to change in my current ministry? What change might be most important?* |

**SECTION F: The empty box**

*This is for any other reflections, thoughts or issues you wish to bring to your MDR meeting.*

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