

THE CHURCH IN WALES & SAME SEX PARTNERSHIPS

Procedural Note

1. For this item, members have received a report by the Standing Doctrinal Commission entitled 'The Church in Wales & Same Sex Partnerships' together with an Executive Summary of the report. Further papers by members of the Commission on different aspects of this subject can be found on the Church in Wales website at <http://www.churchinwales.org.uk/structure/governing-body/>.

2. This will be the first opportunity for the Governing Body to discuss this issue. Discussion will be in groups which will be asked to consider the following question:

A couple of the same sex come to worship in your parish. After a period of attendance, and enthusiastic participation in church life, they enquire if their relationship can be blessed. How can the Church in Wales respond to same sex couples – theologically and pastorally?

3. Each group will have a note-taker. Their reports will be considered by the Bench of Bishops at its meeting in June with a view to reporting back to the next Governing Body meeting in September. In the light of this consideration will be given to what steps the Church in Wales should take to respond to the question being considered by the groups.

J M Shirley
Provincial Secretary
24.3.14