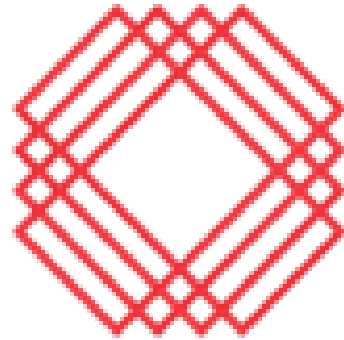




the alliance

Alliance Campaign Manual



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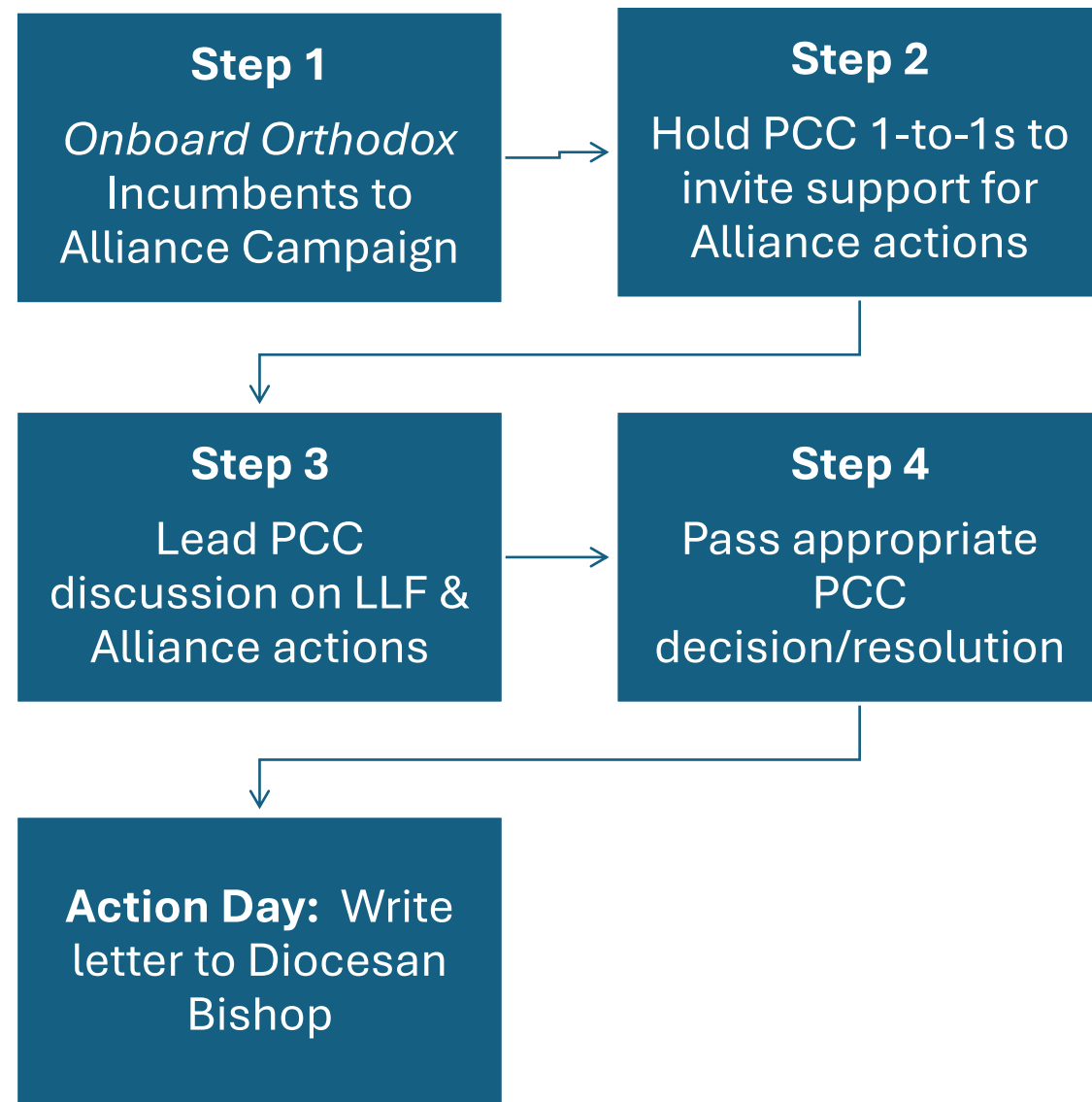
Alliance Campaign Manual

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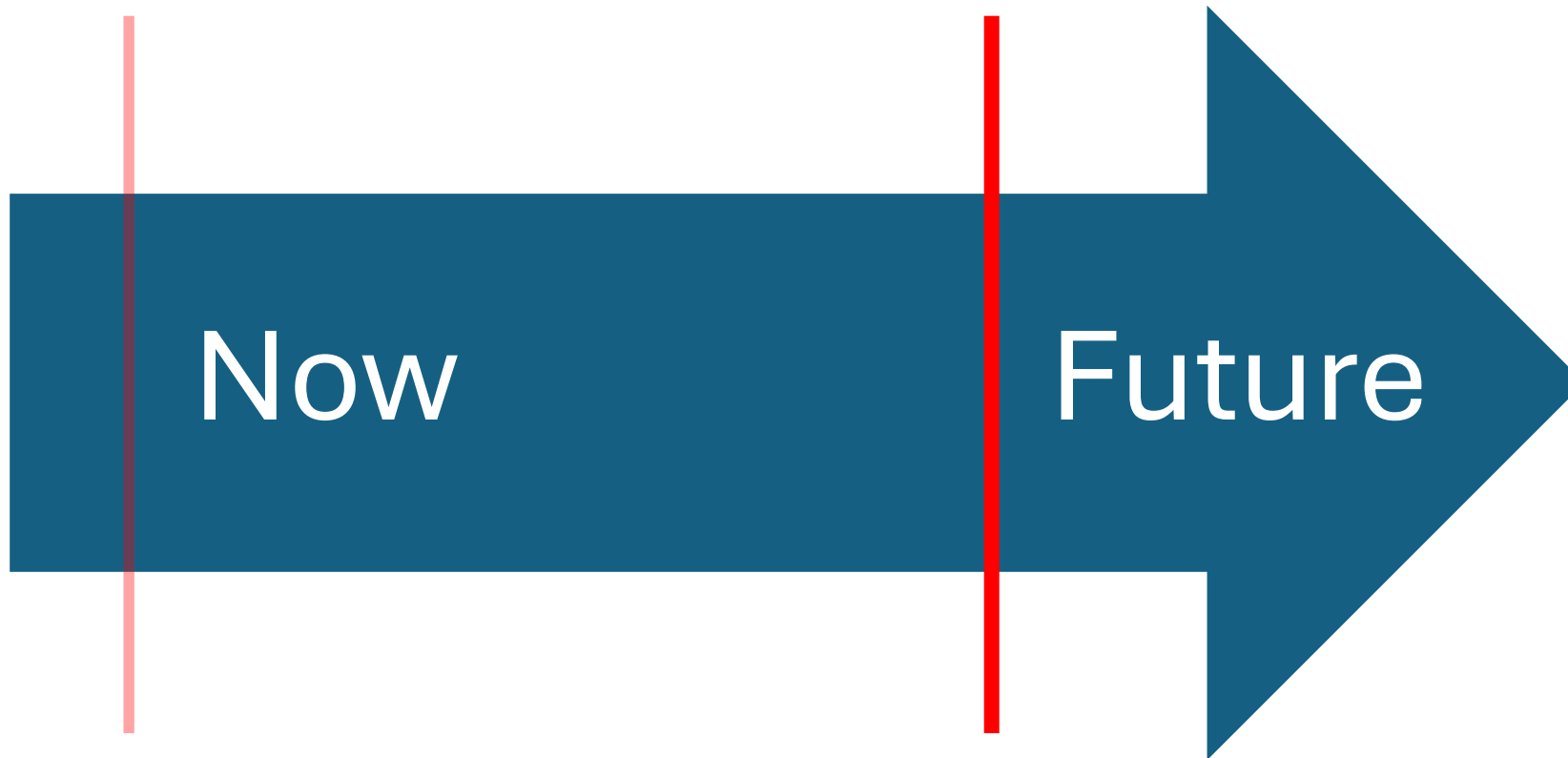
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Alliance Campaign – Executive Summary

- **Aim:** PCCs moving from *concerned* to *ready to take action* between June and November
- **Ask:** Church leaders to build support on PCCs to agree a decision to take action if LLF progresses further and write to bishop. If PCC agreement is not possible, church leaders are encouraged to write to bishop personally. Draft letter will be available from early November.
- **Approach:** Church leaders to gather a small group to meet with each PCC member 1-to-1 to prepare for a PCC discussion and build support for a decision to action.



ALLIANCE CAMPAIGN THE LLF 'JOURNEY'



**Prayers of
Love and
Faith : the
'suite'**

**Bespoke Services
and/or clergy same-sex marriage
(disapplication of discipline)**

ALLIANCE CAMPAIGN: A CRITICAL WINDOW

Now

- A critical 8 month window to take action and make our voices heard
- To encourage the bishops to halt improper and unfruitful process
- To provide a temporary basis for shared mission (DFPP)

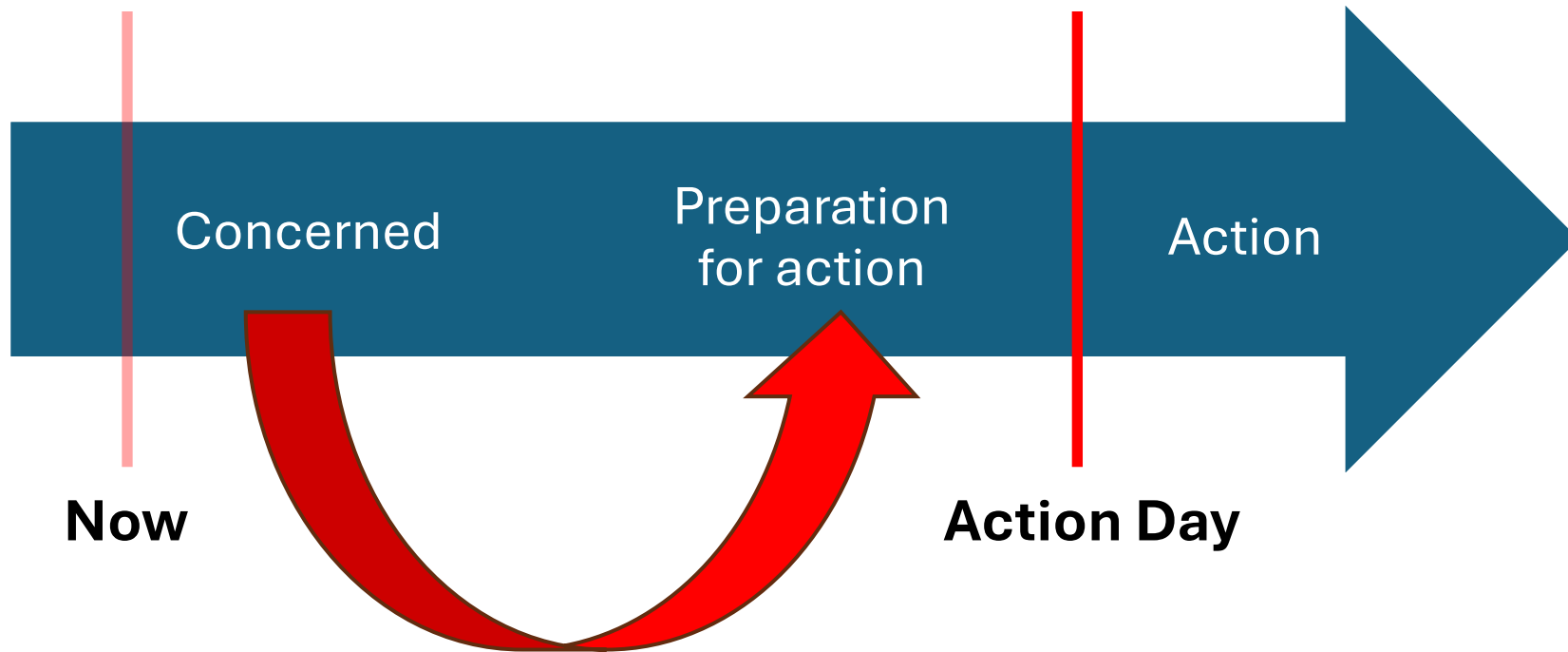
**Prayers of
Love and
Faith:
*The suite***

Future

- General Synod decision or *wild-west* scenario (disapplication of discipline in some places)

**Bespoke Services
and/or clergy same-sex marriage
(disapplication of discipline)**

ALLIANCE CAMPAIGN: THE AIM: PCC ACTION



THE AIM: PCC ACTION – 3 Phases

i. May to July 2025

Onboard church leaders to outline for their PCC three possible *Alliance* actions:

- *To seek alternative episcopal oversight*
- *To reroute their diocesan financial contributions, and*
- *To encourage ordinands to participate in an orthodox vocations programme*

ii. August to October 2025

Church leader to invite their PCCs to agree a decision (if possible – either immediately or in the event LLF progresses any further) adopting the three actions above.

iii. “Action Day” – 1st December

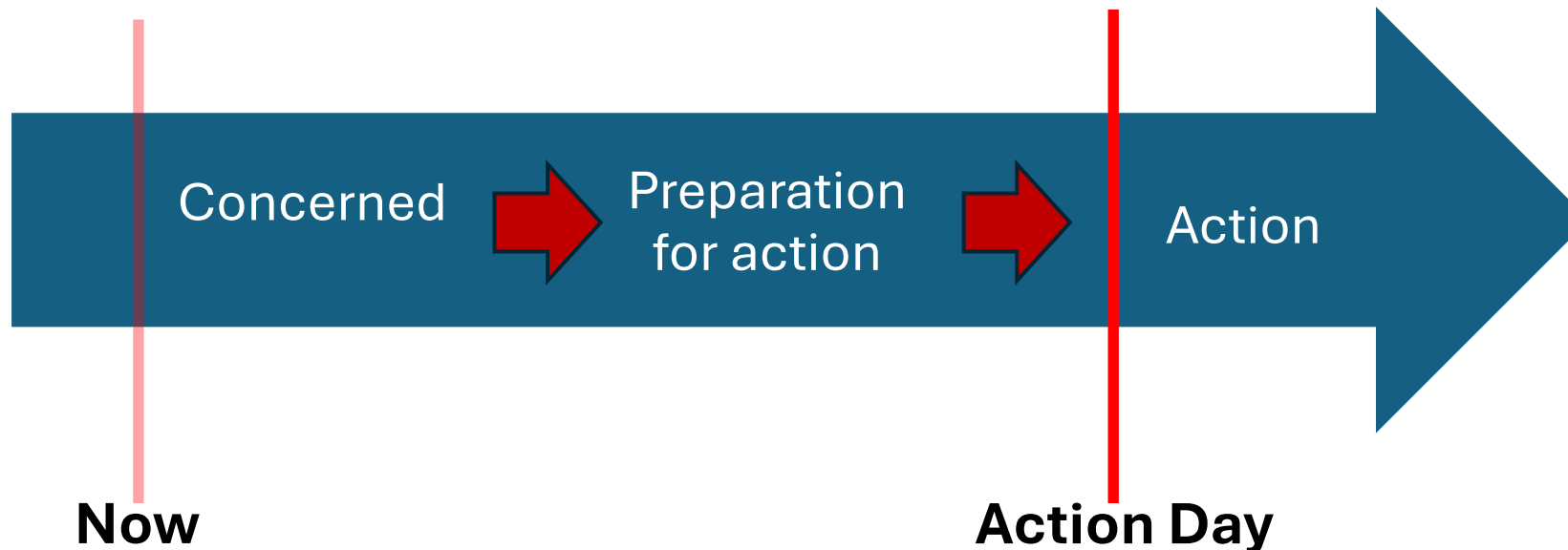
Church leaders and PCCs to inform bishops (where possible) of their PCC decision and action.

Church leaders who cannot agree decisions with PCC will be encouraged to write in a personal capacity.

ALLIANCE CAMPAIGN

THE ASK: PCC DECISION

- By end October - PCC decision (where possible) to be 'ready to take action X and Y if/when A and B' (Bespoke services, same-sex marriage permitted for clergy)
- Action Day (prob. November) – Incumbents/PCCs to write to bishop re. decision (preceded by week of prayer)



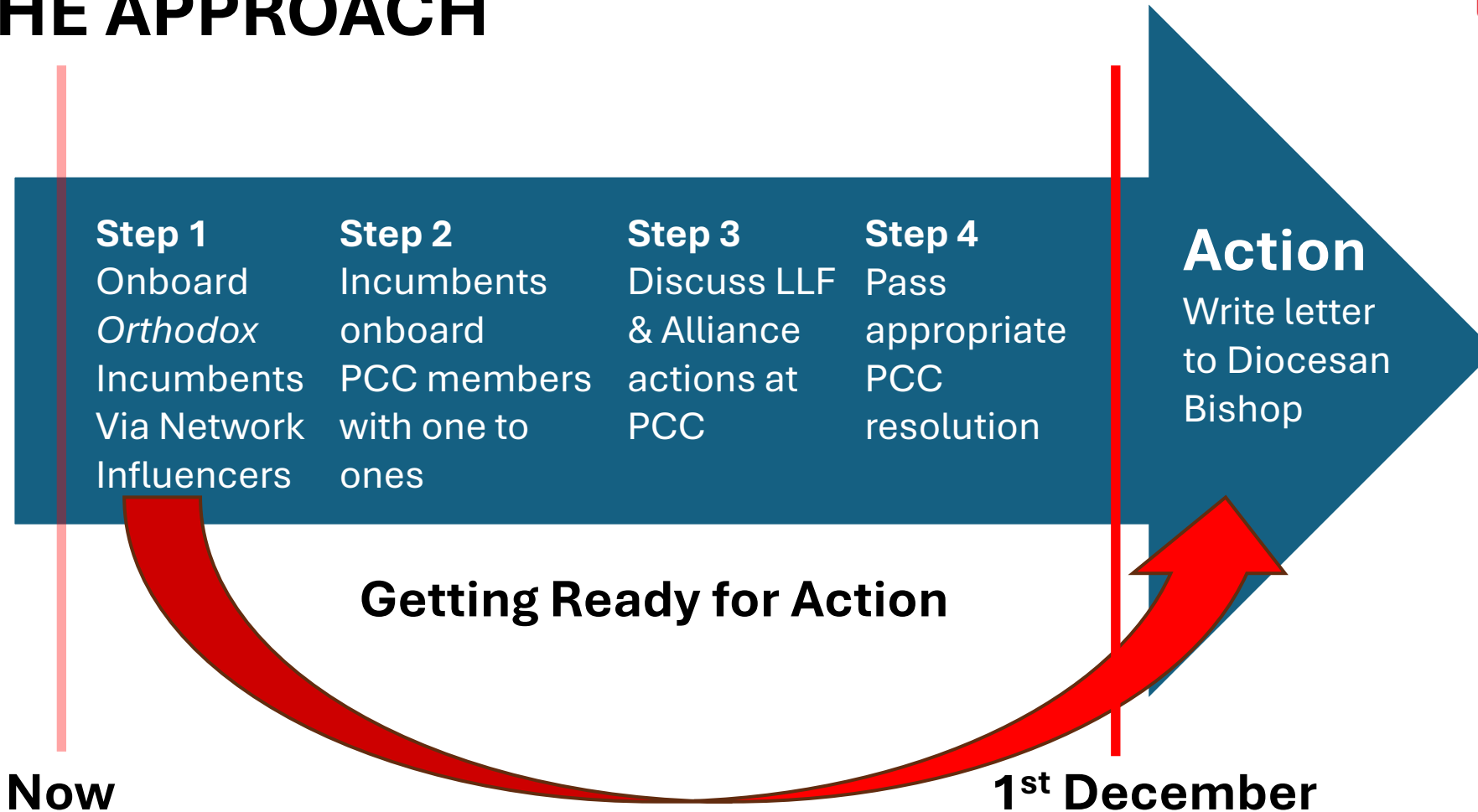
THE ASK: PCC DECISION

4 steps...

- *Church leaders to gather a small team (2 or 3 – Wardens/colleagues) to hold 1-to-1s with PCC members to build support for a decision for action*
- *Church leaders to lead PCC discussion on LLF/Alliance Campaign (between July and October – between 1&3 meetings depending on context)*
- *Church leaders to seek appropriate PCC decision/resolution on three actions*
- *Church leaders to take individual action if PCC unable to support resolution*

ALLIANCE CAMPAIGN

THE APPROACH



Introduction to the Alliance

Who are the Alliance?

The Alliance exists to encourage the flourishing of churches across England in sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, praying for our nation, raising up disciples in this and future generations and working for the renewal of the church for mission in society.

We are a network of networks within the Church of England committed to our Anglican heritage of faith, holding to the received teaching of the Church of England, and part of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church. We are united in our confidence that the good news of Jesus Christ is as alive and relevant in England today as it ever has been.

We do not believe that church decline is inevitable, or that changing or developing doctrine or practice is necessary to reach present and future generations. Around the world many parts of the Anglican Communion are experiencing unprecedented growth whilst continuing to remain faithful to historic doctrine and practices. Our inherited faith offers the hope that so many in our society crave as a radical alternative to what the surrounding culture offers.

Demonstrating Proper Process (Canon B2)

Consequently, we are dismayed by the trajectory being set by a majority of the House of Bishops in response to the Living in Love and Faith process. The effect of this trajectory is to propose teaching and practice contrary to the received doctrine of the Church of England, in particular in relation to marriage. The Church has proper processes for the introduction of new services. This process as set out by Canon B2 is designed to maintain the unity of the Church. It does so by requiring that a two thirds majority agree that new forms of services are not contrary to or indicative of a departure from doctrine.

The trajectory set by the House of Bishops, and the intention to bypass the Canon B2 process, has resulted in an unprecedented split across every part of the Church of England. This has created an erosion of trust, anxiety, fear of discrimination, a decline in the pipeline of future clergy and a divergence of energy which is severely damaging mission.

Preserving the Unity of the Church

We warmly welcome everyone irrespective of any human difference, including sexuality, to all churches within the Alliance. We affirm the 1998 Lambeth Resolution 1.10 in its entirety, including its clear repudiation of homophobia. We acknowledge and lament the profound pain and heartache that discussions surrounding human sexuality create for many people across the debate. Such pain and complexity make it all the more important that any proposals for change follow the highest standard of transparent and lawful constitutional process.

In all of this, our heart is to be gracious and generous, to work for unity, and to live out the call of Jesus in obedience to him. To that end, the Alliance has made, and will continue to make, ourselves available to work with the House of Bishops to help find a viable way forward.

A Temporary De Facto Parallel Province

However, in the absence of this, the Alliance has declared the intention to establish a new and temporary de facto parallel province within the Church of England in order to encourage the flourishing and growing of mission within our networks. We encourage all clergy and churches who are in sympathy with the Alliance to join us. This de facto parallel province addresses the need for three necessary temporary actions:

- Alternative spiritual oversight
- The rerouting of diocesan financial contributions
- The establishment of an alternative ordination pathway.

Alongside a decision not to use the Prayers of Love and Faith in our churches, these provisions are necessary to enable people to remain in the Church of England during this time of uncertainty. The Alliance is fully committed to the 2014 settlement and the Five Guiding Principles.

Working Towards a Longer Term Solution

We pray earnestly that the DFPP is only needed as a temporary provision. However, if the trajectory being set by a majority of the House of Bishops in response to the Living in Love and Faith process is realised, we would need to work towards a permanent solution which safeguards the continuity of apostolic teaching and mission at the centre of the Church of England and maintains our fellowship with orthodox Anglicans throughout the world. For churches who are not seeking to change doctrine, this permanent solution will require legally guaranteed episcopal (and ultimately archiepiscopal) oversight with full ordinary jurisdiction from bishops who remain committed to historic doctrine. Such oversight would ensure, at a minimum, the following:

- **Theology** – the historic creeds, formularies and received doctrines of the Church of England would be upheld, including Lambeth 1.10, such that bishops and clergy would be committed to teaching in line with this as demonstrated by some bishops in “A Theological Vision”.



- **Appointments** – a secure and replicable appointment process for bishops, clergy, lay ministers and other officers would be ensured for those holding to the historic creeds, formularies and received doctrines of the Church of England.
- **Training** – a flourishing pathway (selection, training and ordination) would exist for ordinands and curates who hold to the historic creeds, formularies and received doctrines of the Church of England.
- **Assets** – secure continued access to a fair share of the Church of England's historic assets would remain, including buildings and funds currently and prospectively held in dioceses or nationally, including the assets managed by the Church Commissioners.

We believe provision would also be necessary for those seeking to change doctrine and practice.

Overriding Aim and Purpose

The overriding aim of the Alliance in seeking these temporary and longer-term solutions is to ensure a sustainable platform at the heart of the Church of England from which we can continue to serve our nation through evangelism, mission and church revitalisation and so pass on the legacy of the faith we have inherited to future generations.

Alliance Campaign FAQs



FAQs about the Campaign:

1. What's the goal of the Alliance's campaign? 3 fold...

- *3 month goal (May-July 2025) to onboard key church leaders;*
- *6 month goal (Aug-Oct 2025) to supporter clergy to work with PCCs to agree adopting 3 temporary actions;*
- *Action Day on 1st December with co-ordinated letters to bishops (either from PCCs that have agreed to action or by Incumbents (and Wardens?) if PCC agreement hasn't been reached).*

FAQs about the Three Actions:

2. What are the specific requests/actions I am asking my PCC to consider:

- *Set out first 3 actions in answer 1. above*

3. What is the legal position around payment of parish share/common fund?

- *There is no legal obligation for a parish to pay parish share/common fund.*

4. What is the legal position around seeking alternative episcopal oversight?

- *Alternative Spiritual Oversight can be sought for either individual clergy and/or PCCs via the CEEC ASO scheme and there are no legal implications for those who take up ASO.*
- *Some clergy and PCCs might require alternative episcopal ordinary oversight in the event that LLF progresses further. There is currently no legal pathway to enable this although it is at the heart of the needs the Alliance has identified and seeks to secure with the House of Bishops. Furthermore, if the LLF trajectory continues, it is likely that a number of churches will formally request alternative episcopal ordinary oversight by an orthodox diocesan bishop which will either lead to negotiation with their diocesan bishop or a stand-off. It's important to state that this does not amount to surrender of licenses and all license holders must ensure full compliance with safeguarding/MDRs etc. Alliance Directors will be developing and clarifying this action further in the coming months.*
- *Clergy serving in Dioceses with orthodox Diocesan Bishops cannot currently seek ASO (although they can clearly indicate their need for it if their Diocesan Bishop was to be succeeded by someone with progressive views). Those serving under orthodox Diocesan bishops will not need alternative episcopal oversight .*



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5. Are there any legal implications for ordinands using the new orthodox vocations programme?

- *No. Ordinands will be encouraged to explore vocation via ReadyToServe - the new vocations programme being piloted by the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham under Bishop Paul Williams from Autumn 2025. Ready To Serve is a new opportunity that provides the space and inspiration for possible candidates to explore God's calling to ordained ministry. The programme is not a formal discernment process, but for some it may support their journey towards that in their own diocese, or in Southwell & Nottingham. For more information see <https://southwell.anglican.org/new-readytoserve-programme-for-exploring-calling-to-ordained-ministry/>*

6. Should PCCs consider taking these actions if they are in a Diocese with an orthodox Diocesan Bishop?

- *Yes. It will be important to express deep gratitude to orthodox diocesan bishops and explain that these actions that the PCC has decided to take will enable your bishop to demonstrate the division and damage the LLF process is creating and add strength to the argument for a pause and/or a negotiated settlement. Some PCCs under an orthodox diocesan bishop might want to agree actions for implementation in the event that there is a progressive successor and to communicate this by letter.*

FAQs about working with PCCs

7. How should I start a discussion with my PCC about the Alliance campaign?

- *The Alliance has produced a variety of resources to help clergy plan discussions with their PCC contained in The Alliance Campaign Manual. The most exhaustive is a step by step approach which can be tailored to specific circumstances. In addition, The Alliance LLF Briefing for PCCs and Alliance Introduction narrative will help prepare PCC members prior to a discussion.*
- *This campaign is a cascade model using one to one conversations - and the second part of the cascade includes one to one conversations between Incumbents and senior lay leaders (staff/wardens) and those senior lay leaders in turn arranging one to ones with PCC members. These one-to-one conversations are crucial in ensuring a PCC has a productive discussion, moves towards a common mind and adopts the actions outlined above.*

8. What resources can help me introduce this conversation with my Wardens/PCC?

- *The Alliance Campaign Manual contains, in addition to these FAQs:*
- *an introduction to the campaign*
- *an introduction to the Alliance*
- *a step by step guide to lead a PCC discussion/agree action*
- *The Alliance can also make available a detailed briefing paper for PCC members*

9. What should I do if my PCC has a variety of views on LLF and sexuality?

- *Most PCCs in the country reflect a range of views on LLF and the step by step guide has been designed to aid planning - especially in a majority progressive context. Prioritising one-to-one meetings with PCC members is probably the significant step.*



10. What can I do if I am in a multi-benefice parish with progressive /divergent views?

- *As an individual Incumbent you can decide to use EF, ASO and encourage use of the new vocations pathway in a personal capacity.*
- *One or your congregations/PCCs might be more orthodox than another and it might be possible to devise different approaches for different congregations/churches in a benefice with a range of theological traditions.*

11. What if I have PTO in a parish with a progressive Incumbent/PCC?

- *You can use the EF, ASO personally and encourage ordinands to consider the new vocations pathway.*

12. What should a letter from the Incumbent/Wardens/PCC to the Diocesan Bishop include?

- *We will be making a number of draft templates available for adaption to context. It should outline the decision your PCC has made/will make in the event of any development of LLF or your personal decisions.*

13. Can I join in the Day of Action if I haven't got my PCC on board with the Alliance actions?

- *Yes. It might be that your PCC is not in a place to agree to all three or any of the actions. We are encouraging clergy to write in their own capacity as Incumbent/licence holders.*

14. To whom should I write if my Diocesan Bishop is orthodox?

- *It would be good to write to orthodox Diocesan Bishops – with gratitude for their support and bold stand for orthodoxy within the House of Bishops. You could inform her/him of any actions you have decided to take in response to LLF. You could copy into your correspondence the bishops on the Programme Board – The Archbishop of York, The Bishop of Oxford and the Bishop of Sheffield.*

A step by step guide for leading your PCC on LLF



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Introduction:

- This guide is produced alongside the Alliance campaign to support as many clergy and PCCs as possible to prepare to take action in the event of further implementation of LLF.
- The request is for church leaders to journey with their PCCs between June and October to explore whether a decision can be made to take three actions in the event of further implementation of LLF: 1. Re-routing finance. 2. Seeking alternative episcopal oversight. 3. Encouraging ordinands to participate in a new orthodox vocations programme – *Ready to Serve* (if supportive discernment is not available locally).
- The Alliance is planning a Day of Action, on 1st December, when we hope thousands of clergy and PCCs will write to their Diocesan Bishops to communicate these decisions.

The Alliance Campaign:

This step by step guide is sequential but, in recognition of the wide variety of contexts, we hope that it is highly adaptable to context. For example,

- all steps are relevant for multi-parish benefices and PCCs that have a wide- ranging mix of views
- steps 5&6 are probably unnecessary for churches who have a PCC that is majority orthodox and has discussed LLF already.

Leading PCCs

- Leading your PCC to discuss LLF with the theological, procedural, missional and pastoral concerns it raises is a very challenging task. However, we are convinced that LLF poses such risks to Christian doctrine, church integrity, mission and unity that now is a crucial time to help PCCs understand what is at stake and to discuss taking action.
- The table below is designed to help church leaders think through, step by step, how they might, in their specific context, lead their PCC through a discussion on LLF and consider action along with the Alliance.
- This discussion is primarily focused on the changes LLF proposes and does not focus on crucial pastoral questions around how we welcome and include the LGBTQi+ community. For more on radical welcome – please do look at resources produced by Alliance partner *Living Out* - [How Biblically Inclusive Is Your Church? The Living Out Church Audit | Articles | Living Out](#)
- It will be important to agree some basic rules with PCC members, including the need to ensure courtesy, respect and a commitment to confidentiality.
- It may also be important for Incumbents to remind PCC members of their roles as Trustees – to represent the congregation and focus on the theology and mission of the church rather than personal experience and conviction.

A step by step guide for leading your PCC to discuss LLF and take action

Step	Description	Purpose and Resources
1	Consider your specific context and adapt the approach below accordingly. E.g. • If you are in a multi-parish benefice you might need a different approach for each church/congregation/PCC depending on tradition. • If you lead a PCC with a majority pro-LLF – you might need to invest more time in steps 2&3 and need additional meetings at step 4 • If you lead a PCC with an orthodox/opposed to LLF majority you will not necessarily need to follow all steps below e.g. step 5	• The Church of England varies hugely from parish to parish. Approach to leading a discussion on LLF at PCC is very dependent upon the context of the parish.
2	Arrange to meet 4-5 key members of your PCC/staff team (i.e. wardens, associate clergy) to discuss LLF. Include: • introducing LLF and why it is important/what is at stake • outline your own convictions • give space to listen to their views and convictions • introduce the Alliance and the campaign to action • discuss the plan for wider consultation at PCC	• This step is designed to onboard your key leaders to the Alliance strategy and to help align your approach to LLF. It is also hoped that these key leaders will agree to meet other PCC members 1to1 to have a similar conversation and outline the approach. • Resources: LLF Briefing Paper for PCCs & Introduction to the Alliance
3	Meet PCC members one to one before first PCC meeting to discuss LLF. • It is best if this step is shared with the key leaders onboarded • The church leader might like to meet with members who hold strong views • The outline / content for these one to one meetings is likely to be similar to step 2 – but should be adjusted for context	• This step is designed to help each PCC member feel briefed, clear about the process to discuss LLF at PCC, brought up to speed about LLF developments, the challenges it poses and the Alliance. • This step is also an important opportunity for those with progressive views, to be heard and listened to. • Resources: Both the LLF Briefing for PCCs and Introduction to the Alliance are written with PCC members in mind

Step	Description	Purpose and Resources
4	PCC Meeting(s) – ranging from 1 meeting to 3 meetings (over 2-3 months) depending on local context: Following one to one meetings with each PCC member, give 60-90 minutes to LLF at the next PCC meeting (preferably by end of July) and / or arrange a special PCC to focus on this one issue. You might like to include: • Summary of LLF and what to expect by Feb ‘26 • Discussion of concerns and risks including covering theological, procedural, missional concerns about LLF - ensuring there’s clarity about the orthodox position and space for those with different views to speak • Introduction to Alliance strategy and actions • Summarise discussion and any clear majority/common mind that can be discerned (if this is in support of the Alliance, it will be important to acknowledge and thank contributors with different views). Articulate steps for next PCC meeting (September) – perhaps focusing on PCC response/action. • Where there is a clear majority for adopting Alliance actions – this decision can be taken now and you can go to step 7.	• Most contexts are likely to require two PCC meetings (with 60—90 mins at each) to discuss and make decisions about LLF – although some PCCs will have already discussed LLF and might need only one meeting to discuss the Alliance actions and make decisions. • A clear plan for each meeting is vital and it is important to give thought to how best to introduce and structure each discussion and how to discern/articulate a common or majority mind and next steps. • The initial one to ones should help with the planning and leading of this meeting Resources: • The Alliance briefing paper for PCCs & Introduction to the Alliance will be helpful pre-reading • If there has been little opportunity for orthodox teaching on marriage and sexuality – you might like to consider playing all or part of episodes 5/6 of Relationships Matter Course (Evangelical Alliance - Relationships Matter: Course - Evangelical Alliance)
5	Follow up one to ones between key leaders and PCC members to process discussion at PCC Meeting 1 including: • Ensuring clarity about LLF and the Alliance • Ensure all PCC members feel heard • Discuss what the next steps should be for the PCC – and the second discussion • Explore the possibility of taking action	These follow up one to ones are vital to forming a common mind as a PCC. They will help bring alignment to what has been discussed and give further time for reflection. They will help to prepare for the next PCC meeting These might be less necessary where there’s a clear majority opposed to LLF – but a few one to ones with those in the minority are likely to be beneficial

Step	Description	Purpose and Resources
6	PCC Meeting 2 (& 3 if required): In September, plan and lead another 60-90 minute discussion of LLF/Alliance Action. It would be good to include: • A re-cap of the discussion at the last meeting and any ‘majority/common mind’ discerned. • Feedback (generic) from second round of one-to-ones • Focus on the Alliance strategy and the actions it is asking PCCs to consider/agree • Move to a PCC decision if a clear majority mind has been established in favour of the Alliance and action. A vote with c.60% in favour is still a clear majority and care can be taken to support those who disagree • Leave final decision for a third meeting if this clear majority has not been established. • Discuss writing a letter to Diocesan Bishop either outlining the action the PCC have decided to take in the event of LLF progressing or outlining the church leader’s deep concerns about LLF/any personal action. • If there isn’t, consider asking the PCC to support the church leader(s) and other orthodox members in taking them personally.	• The second PCC meeting should build on the first and the second round of one to ones and will hopefully benefit from a period of reflection and good process. • If clear majority support for orthodoxy is emerging - it is hoped that the focus can be on the Alliance strategy and three-fold action. • If more time is required to discuss the theological issues raised by LLF – the Relationships Matter Course (especially episodes 5&6) might be useful content to view/discuss. Relationships Matter: Course - Evangelical Alliance • When considering a PCC vote on action it is helpful to remind members that they are voting in the best interests of the church rather than according to their personal views – it is therefore possible to vote in favour of the PCC taking action to support the Alliance - even if personal views are more progressive. • Additional Resources: The Alliance FAQs help answer questions raised by the Alliance actions • Guidance for writing a letter to your Diocesan Bishop
7	Write letter to Diocesan Bishop in late Autumn (date TBC) • Join in national action with 1000s of other church leaders and PCCs to inform the Diocesan Bishop of action PCCs/church leaders are committed to take if LLF progresses	• To demonstrate the strength of feeling and concern about LLF • To hopefully halt the process • To build the ‘de-facto’ parallel province in preparation for a possible development of LLF.

Draft PCC Resolutions



Regarding the Alliance Campaign you could use or amend the following draft resolution:

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This PCC warmly welcomes everyone irrespective of any human difference, including sexuality.

This PCC affirms the 1998 Lambeth Resolution 1.10 in its entirety, including its clear repudiation of homophobia.

This PCC endorses the doctrine of marriage as contained within the Book of Common Prayer, 39 Articles and Ordinal, and notes the support for this across the Anglican Communion, as indicated in the Lambeth Conference Resolution 1.10 from 1998.

This PCC believes that the use of (the Prayers of Love and Faith) bespoke services and/or the intention to permit clergy same-sex marriage is indicative of a departure from the doctrine and teaching contained in the above.

In the event that The House of Bishops introduces bespoke services of same-sex blessing and/or permits clergy to enter into same-sex marriage, this PCC resolves to:

1. Seek Alternative spiritual/alternative oversight from an orthodox diocesan bishop
2. Reroute our diocesan financial contributions (add detail about re-routing)
3. Encourage potential ordinands to consider the *Ready To Serve* programme as they explore a calling to ordained ministry

Examples of PCC motions re. PLF



Example A

The PCC of xxx fully supports all our clergy in their decision not to use the Prayers of Love and Faith

Example B

We welcome all people to St xxx Church, regardless of sexual status or orientation and invite all into a life of discipleship and faith in Christ. This PCC affirms the Church of England doctrine that marriage is between one man and one woman and intended to be for life, since we believe this to be the pattern given to us by our Lord. We also affirm the beauty of celibacy. As a family in Christ together, we seek to care for each other. The Prayers of Love and Faith are not used at St xxx Church. We recognise that there is a range of views within the church body on same sex relationships, and we commit to living together through our differences as a worshipping, Christ-centred community.

Example C

That this PCC resolves to uphold Biblical orthodoxy by not permitting the Prayers of Love and Faith, commended by the House of Bishops in December 2023, to be used within St xxx Church and its associated congregations.

Example D

This PCC, recognising the considerable hurt and divisions that this issue has caused, is resolved not to use the Prayers of Love and Faith which go against the historic Biblical Anglican teaching. We request that the bishops make suitable provision for structural differentiation that will be needed for churches like ours.