

## LICENSED LAY MINISTERS ARE:

### Discerned:

- by the local ministry unit for a leadership role
- after a process of discernment of the roles required by the ministry unit in fulfilment of its mission (see *Called to Ministry: the discernment process in the Diocese of Willochra, 2014*)
- are nominated by a confidential process in the context of worship
- recommended to the bishop by the clergy in oversight and the wardens after a Notice of Intention has been given to the ministry unit

### Licensed:

- by the bishop for a period of three years
- after a Police Check and Child Safe Environments training and Faithfulness in Service Check has been completed.

### Required:

- to participate in Living & Learning Together (ongoing development as part of a learning community) as prescribed by the bishop as recommended by the Ministry Development Officer.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE ROLE:

Licensed Lay Ministers, Supervising Clergy, Wardens and the Bishop or his/her delegate are to, devise a Mutual Agreement.

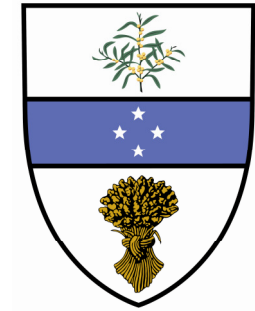
A Mutual Agreement is a living document which describes the relationship between the parties and tries to describe the ministry to be exercised.

A Mutual Agreement may contain statements of:

- ⇒ focus of ministry within the context of mission
- ⇒ role and duties to be carried out
- ⇒ shared expectations between the parties
- ⇒ recognised qualifications and experience and required learning to be undertaken
- ⇒ required resourcing for the role
- ⇒ links with the diocese that are to be created
- ⇒ self care to be undertaken
- ⇒ any special factors to be taken into consideration
- ⇒ review procedures
- ⇒ possible intent underlying the Mutual Agreement

LLM's will be commissioned, within the context of worship, by the bishop or his/her delegate.

Diocese of Willochra



**Licensed  
Lay  
Ministers**

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## BACKGROUND

We aspire to be a Diocese where...

*Each congregation is a self-sustaining unit of the Church of God where the Sacraments are celebrated and the Word proclaimed, where each member's gifts are recognized and their ministries encouraged, and where the love and care within the congregation spread out to the community beyond so that Christ's love will be experienced and known by all.*

The Church of God is seen in gatherings of the people of God, including those making enquiry about the Christian Faith, with a developed or developing understanding that baptism is a calling by God to ministry within the **mission** for which God has called the Church into being.

Among the people of God all are called to love and serve, some are called to ministry as:

- ⇒ lay people (ministering within their social or work contexts)
- ⇒ Licensed Lay Ministers (LLM's); this pamphlet is intended to give information relating to Licensed Lay Ministry
- ⇒ Ordained (deacon and priest) for local ministry
- ⇒ Ordained (deacon, priest and bishop) for stipended ministry

## Lay Ministers

Individuals are licensed for lay ministry following a process of discernment of their spiritual gifts to fulfil the churches mission in a specific location.

The following roles require the Bishop's Licence as a Licensed Lay Minister (LLM) and may include:

- ⇒ conduct of worship (as approved by the bishop)
- ⇒ preaching
- ⇒ leadership and participation in pastoral care
- ⇒ chaplaincy to – a nursing home, hospital, The Mission to Seafarers, etc.
- ⇒ ministry unit administration
- ⇒ small group facilitation
- ⇒ facilitation of specific programs – Messy Church, Mainly Music, Mother's Union, etc.
- ⇒ coordination of evangelism
- ⇒ music ministry
- ⇒ youth ministry
- ⇒ outreach ministry
- ⇒ other leadership roles

As well LLM's are part of the 'public face' of the church in the local community.

Other ministries of service exercised exclusively within a church or as a member of a ministry team can be locally authorised; see *Local Authorisation of Ministry*.