

## MINISTRIES OF SERVICE

Those who are locally authorised for ministry will need, in some cases, to have completed a **Police Check** and have undertaken **Child Safe Environments** training.

Those involved in visiting aged care facilities and hospitals will require a Police Check (updated every three years); those working with or having the potential to work with children will require Child Safe Environments training.

All who are locally authorised will need to complete **Ensuring Safe Church Environment** training; this training will be available from the Diocese.

Records of completion of the necessary Check and training will be kept at Church Office.



## PROCESS FOR LOCAL AUTHORISATION

For a full description of a process for discerning those to be licensed or authorised see *Called to Ministry: The Discernment Process in the Diocese of Willochra 2014*.

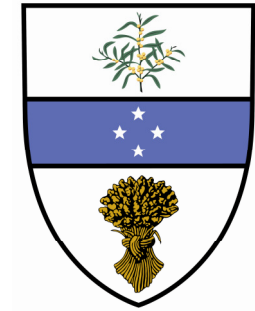
In outline:

- ⇒ Consider the local 'story' – history, anecdotes, statistics of the wider community and church. What do we have? Who are we?
- ⇒ Gather & Celebrate people's ministries. These may include hospitality, welcoming, etc. What do we do already?
- ⇒ Prepare a 'Mission Statement'; list the ministry needs. What is God doing? How can we work with God in fulfilling God's mission?
- ⇒ Prepare a compelling word picture of a desired future state for the ministry unit; a Vision Statement. What can we be?
- ⇒ Discern the people who will best meet the ministry needs: those for local authorisation and ordination for local ministry

Discern people in the context of worship.

Commission them in the context of worship.

Diocese of Willochra



## Local Authorisation of Ministry

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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.*

All are called to ministry...

*We have many parts in the one body, and all these parts have different functions. In the same way, though we are many we are one body in union with Christ, and we are all joined with each other, as different parts of the body. So we are to use our different gifts in accordance with the grace that God has given us. If our gift is to speak God's message, we should do it according to the faith that we have; if it is to serve, we should serve; if it is to teach, we should teach; if it is to encourage others, we should do so. Whoever shares with others should do it generously; whoever has authority should work hard; whoever shows kindness to others should do it cheerfully. (Romans 12:4-8)*

Within the general call to ministry of all the baptized there is a need for some to exercise specific roles of leadership, these are authorised by the Bishop's Licence. Other ministries require authorisation at a local level, these are Ministries of Service, the exercise of a 'servant heart'.

## MINISTRIES OF SERVICE

May include:

- ⇒ the love of many
- ⇒ leading part of the service of Holy Communion as authorised by the bishop
- ⇒ being a Eucharistic Assistant
- ⇒ assisting, as a member of a team, with a ministry area, such as:
  - pastoral visiting
  - children's ministry
  - Op Shop volunteer
  - team member for The Mission to Seafarers

These ministries are practical in nature and demonstrate the exercise of a 'servant heart'; they do not involve taking the lead or coordinating role. They are of significance within the life of a local community of faith

