

Changing the terms 'Parish Offer' and 'Covenant'

Carlisle Diocese has announced changes to two of the terms it uses relating to the funding of local ministry. Parish Offer will henceforth be referred to as Ministry Offer and Covenant will become known as Partnership Agreement. These changes reflect the evolution of the 'Offer' system, as increasingly churches are being encouraged to consider their 'Offers' as part of a more holistic conversation with their Mission Communities regarding how mission and ministry is resourced in each locality.

The change from **Parish Offer** to **Ministry Offer**: This is in recognition of the fact that many parishes will now be setting their Offers in the context of wider conversations with their Mission Community. We hope the continuation of the word 'Offer' will help reduce confusion, and that Ministry Offer is clear in terms of explaining exactly what the money is used to fund.

Covenant will now be referred to as **Mission and Ministry Partnership Agreement** (usually abbreviated to '**Partnership Agreement**'). Covenants have been used over the last couple of years to describe a three-year commitment between the local church (via Mission Communities) and the Diocese. Through Covenants, Mission Communities and the Diocese have committed to a certain level of financial resourcing (usually through the local churches' Ministry Offers and investment from the Diocese) and to a certain level and pattern of deployment for the duration of the Covenant period, usually three years. Whilst the basis of the Covenant has not changed, Carlisle Diocese has responded to feedback and has altered this terminology accordingly.

- For more information on how a Mission Community led Ministry Offer will work [click here](#).
- To view a special online meeting about the changes to the offer system [click here](#).