



## An update on the 'direction of travel' for the Kent Estuary Mission Community

The below letter was received on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May from The Bishop of Carlisle, in response to the overview presented by the KEMC Leadership Team following the compilation of the report from the Working Group putting forward proposals for our shared 'direction of travel'. We will await further updates in due course and continue to pray for the Lord's help as we seek his will and guiding for our shared ministry and mission into the future.

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Dear Peter,

I am writing to you in your role as Secretary of KEMC and would be grateful if you could share this with other members of the team.

I am sorry that we have not responded to the report from the Leadership Team as rapidly as I would have wished. In the meantime, we have been considering how best we can help the Mission Community move forward in the agreed direction of travel.

As the Leadership Team noted, there are legal processes but there are also other issues and concerns that need to be addressed locally. We are keen to support that work as it is progressed across the churches. I have therefore asked the Revd Canon Dr Benjamin Carter, Canon Warden at Carlisle Cathedral, to work with the Mission Community. He will be in touch shortly to make arrangements to meet with you and to work out the next steps together. He will also liaise with diocesan colleagues so that this work aligns with any associated legal processes with the Commissioners.

I am pleased that we have been able also to facilitate Hannah's extension in office. Our intention is that this will enable her to support the churches over the immediate future, fulfilling some of the aims envisaged for the Associate Priest.

I recognise that there is much work to be done as the Mission Community moves forward and I am very grateful to you all for the hard work and prayerful discernment which you are bringing to thinking through local ministry and witness for the years ahead. I pray that this may be guided by the Spirit and that this practical support will be of assistance.

With all best wishes,

+Rob

The Right Reverend Rob Saner-Haigh  
Bishop Of Carlisle  
Bishop's House | Ambleside Road | Keswick | Cumbria | CA12 4DD  
telephone: 01768 773430  
e-mail: [bishop.carlisle@carlisle-diocese.org.uk](mailto:bishop.carlisle@carlisle-diocese.org.uk)