Matter to note

Coventry Diocesan Synod motion on deaneries, referred to the General Synod

At its meeting on 14 November 2009, the Diocesan Synod passed this motion:

> *"That this Synod request the General Synod to debate a motion in the following form:*
>
> *'That this Synod request the Archbishops' Council to convene a working party to (a) consider the case for legislation (i) conferring incorporated status on deanery synods and (ii) amending their functions so that, whilst they retain their deliberative function, they are also able to take a more executive role in promoting in the deanery the whole mission of the Church and (b) report to the Synod on its findings with, if appropriate, proposals for the introduction of legislation.'"*

The request was granted and proposed motion was debated by the General Synod in July 2010. The General Synod ultimately passed an amended motion as follows:

> *'That this Synod*
> *(a) welcome the wide measure of discretion that each diocese has to determine the extent of any delegation of functions to deaneries;*
> *(b) note the increasing range of legal vehicles available to deaneries where it is agreed that a more executive role may help in promoting the mission of the Church; and*
> *(c) invite the Archbishops' Council, in consultation with the House of Bishops, to produce updated guidance on available options, with examples of how recent practice has been developing.'*

The updated guidance referred to in part c) above has now been produced, and can be found here:
http://www.churchofengland.org/media/1283676/gs%20misc%20984.pdf