# Mission Action Planning session

**A format for the mission action planning session**

A full mission action planning session is likely to take at least half a day.

The appointment of a skilled facilitator can be valuable. An important task will be to recap each discussion, looking for how much consensus there was in the discussion.

The facilitator may wish to begin with Bible study, or an overview of the diocesan priorities of discipleship, vocation and evangelism.

The conversation can be structured as follows, with notes taken under each bullet point.

|  |
| --- |
| * **Looking Back:** what has the story of this church been recently?
 |
| * + what can we celebrate?
 |
| * + what are we mourning?
 |
| * + if we have an existing MAP, what did we achieve, and what do we learn?
 |
| Checking in on *Looking Back*: how did this conversation feel? Do people feel we arrived at a consensus?  |
| * **Looking Around:** where are we now?
 |
| * + what are the greatest gifts has God given us for mission – people, money, relationships, energy, habits?
 |
| * + What challenges have we been presented with, inside the church or outside?
 |
| * + How aware are we of our place in the diocese and the deanery, sharing a vision with others?
 |
| Checking in on *Looking Around*: how did this conversation feel? Do people feel we arrived at a consensus?  |
| * **Looking Ahead:** what hopes and concerns for the future are widely shared in this community?
 |
| * + Who has the energy for them?
 |
| * + Who or what will support them?
 |
| * + What will we do (or support others to do)? You can record actions in a mission action plan.
 |
| * + What accountability will be needed?
 |
| Checking in on *Looking Ahead*: how did this conversation feel? Do people feel we arrived at a consensus? Did it create enthusiasm and hope? |