



# AMERSHAM DEANERY MISSION ACTION PLANNING

## template for all churches:

### **Background**

Mission Action Planning is a process that enables local churches prayerfully to discern the priorities God has for them, and to plan the mission activities they are going to undertake over the coming months and years. A Mission Action Plan (MAP) would normally have a 1-3 or even 5 year horizon.

A key part of the process is involving the whole church in seeking God and identifying God's vision for each church's future – this is a statement of what the church wants to become over the next five years. That statement or Vision should be consistent with the Diocesan Vision and guided by the Living Faith Initiative.

### **Founding Principles**

<p><b>Growth</b> The prime concern for a MAP is to consider strategies for growth.</p>	<p><b>Spiritual Growth - depth of discipleship</b> This challenges us to think about how we grow whole life disciples? What is your plan for equipping people to mature in Christ. Each person will be growing from a different point and each needs an opportunity to deepen their faith and service.</p>
	<p><b>Numerical Growth - new disciples</b> The great commission calls us to make disciples. Therefore numerical growth is part of, and evidence for our mission.</p>
	<p><b>Growing Leaders - identify, develop, release</b> Creating conditions for numerical and spiritual growth will naturally mean releasing the whole body of Christ to active service where they are in the community and wider world.</p>
<p><b>Access to ministry</b> The Church of God is for everyone</p>	<p>A MAP should concern itself with considering how the local church ensures access for its community to the full range of ministry the church offers – worship, occasional offices (Baptisms, weddings funerals etc), pastoral care and teaching &amp; preaching and opportunities to be introduced to the Christian faith.</p>
<p><b>Collaborate / Connect</b> We are not alone. We are the “church militant here in earth”</p>	<p>The MAP should recognise that collaboration will help develop our full missional potential. Each local church will have gifts, expertise, experiences and wisdom to offer others whilst also having needs of their own that others can meet. Opportunities to collaborate can emanate from churches that are alike and also from churches that are different.</p> <p>These may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared initiatives</li> <li>• Connect parish – deanery – wider</li> <li>• Communication &amp; Celebration across and within Deanery &amp; Parish</li> </ul>

## Timescale for 2014

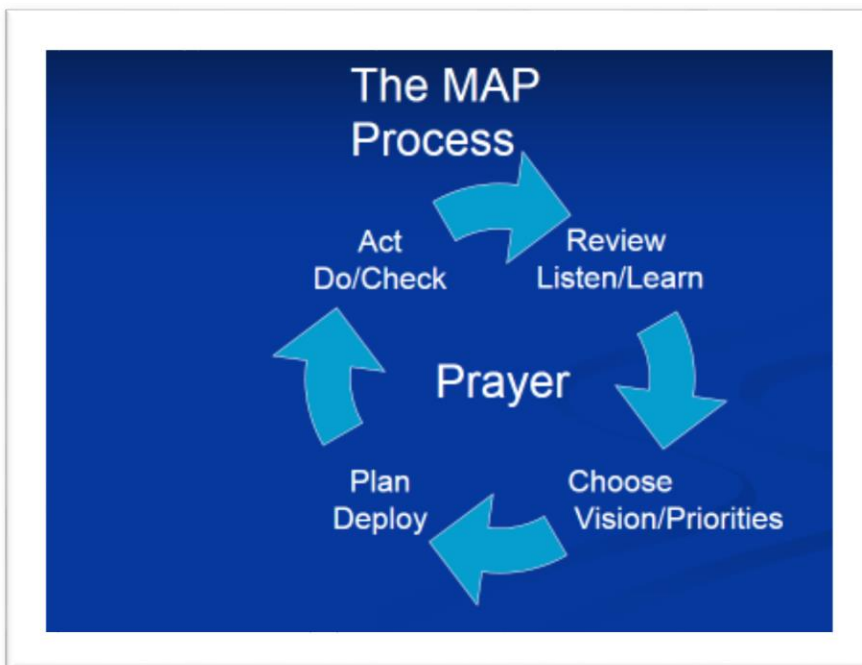
Post Easter 2014	2014 MAP briefing papers sent to all parishes
May 22nd	Deanery Synod MAP focus
31 <sup>st</sup> October	MAP's including summary sheet from parishes sent to Deanery office (Dorothy)
March/May 2015	Deanery Plan final draft ready for consultation
November Synod	November 26th Synod MAP participation review

## AIMS OF MISSION ACTION PLANNING

The MAP has four simple aims which are to help each local church clarify it's

1. Mission - expression of the unchanging biblical mission mandate (Great Commission)
2. Vision - the gap between where you are now and where you believe God is calling you to be.
3. Values - the manner in which you will seek to live out your vision
4. Priorities

## MAP Process



- **Review/Listen/learn** - this first step is vital to establish as far as possible the current state of things in your parish. The review is done in the context of the Diocesan vision and your own local vision. It is a simple analysis of where the church and the local community ...where you are
- **Choose your vision and priorities:** based on your review prayerfully choose the vision and priorities that you believe you can achieve in the timescales of your MAP and the resources you have available. Consider 1,3 and 5 year goals. This will be agreed with your PCC/DCC. It may be that this stage challenges your church to set some bold vision for the future.
- **Plan and deploy.** The specific plans you have to fulfil the priorities you have identified. What, who, when, how?
- **Implementation:** this is where your MAP comes to life!

## Further resources – to aid your planning

- Michael Beasley's Powerpoint – <http://amershamdeanery.com/deanery-synod/>–
- Mission Action Planning <http://www.churchmaps.co.uk/stages/startingup.htm>

**CHURCH .....**  
**PARISH OF ..... DEANERY AMERSHAM**

## **SUMMARY MISSION ACTION PLAN**

### **Where we are starting from.**

A Summary of our present situation following our review on (date)

Summarise using bullet-points the main things which came out of your review

- One
  
- Two
  
- Three

**Where are we going?** A description of where we want to be in three years time

Summarise how you think things will look in three years time.

**How will we get there?** A description of the priorities chosen to get us there

Summarise using bullet-points the priorities which you have chosen to work on to bring this about

- One
- Two
- Three

**What do we need to do?** An outline of the plan and the principal actions for the **next 12 months**

**For each priority, outline the plan for the next three years**

Then for each priority give the detail for the next 12 months ... which you will review at your next annual review.

- Priority 1
  
- Priority 2
  
- Priority 3

**Future – Bold Vision** Is your vision big enough? This is the space to add dreams or wild ideas that you may not think possible but may trigger planning at deanery level – for example, if several parishes needed help with a resource of skills or leadership could the deanery help?