

## **Intentional Listening Conversations**

Lambeth 1998 called on Anglicans to engage in a process of listening around the questions of the church's pastoral responsibilities to Gay and Lesbian people and their intimate relationships. This listening process was to include the voices of gay and lesbian people themselves.

This call has been repeated many times. The diocese has committed itself to engage these conversations and has established a commission whose mandate is.

- To facilitate workshops to be available in every region of the diocese
- To establish a process of respectful listening to take place in those workshops whose purpose is
  - To deepen understanding of where we are as a church at this time, in our official teachings, in our pastoral practices, in our experience of the life and ministry of gay and lesbian people in our midst, and in our own personal perspectives.
  - To respectfully hear and understand the diversity of voices within the life of the church and to deepen our understanding of the reasons for the positions that people hold across the spectrum of belief and practice within the diocese
  - To hear the voices of gay and lesbian persons.
- To provide a report on the process to the diocesan council in order to assist the council in providing ongoing leadership and support around these issues.