

Information Form Extra Places for BAME Participants

1. Overview

The Lay Conference will bring 1700 participants together on **Saturday 9 June 2018** at the **Harrogate Convention Centre**. It is designed to help lay church members fulfil their potential as they live out their faith at work, school and in their parishes.

The Diocese of Leeds encourages the participation of people of all ages and abilities in the life of the church. Each parish is encouraged to send 2-6 adult delegates, depending on electoral roll size, nominated by their 'lead priest'. There will also be a number of extra places available for people who are BAME (Black, Asian and minority ethnicity), for people with disabilities and for young people, in line with national efforts to increase inclusion and encourage diversity.

Each parish is asked to identify participants who between them cover the following:

- i) Potential to play a leading role in parish life over the next ten years
- ii) Strong interest in relating faith to day-to-day life
- iii) Already engaged in church-based ministry

Speakers include Mark Russell (Church Army CEO), Bishop Jo Bailey-Wells, Cal Bailey (ex-Director of Sustainability, NG Bailey), Kate Nicholas (journalist and author of *Sea Changed*), Bishop Toby Howarth, Nick Shepherd (author of *Faith Generation*).

2. What it means to be a BAME participant allocated an extra place

- a. **Before the Conference:** Extra places will be allocated through a nomination process (see 4 below). Once an extra place has been confirmed, participants will need to register online. All adult parish delegates should arrange to meet together with their 'lead priest' by 21 May, to discuss questions provided in advance.
- b. **On the day:** There will be a combination of all-together sessions in the main auditorium and smaller 'self-select' sessions, with opportunities for connecting others sharing similar interests. There will also be a marketplace with stallholders. Delegates will be given guidance on how best to feed back to their parishes.
- c. **Afterwards:** Adult participants will meet together with their PCC afterwards to explore questions raised by their experience and share what they have learned. Participants who are BAME will also be invited to meet with the BAME Clergy Group.

3. Costs and travel

Core costs are being covered by funding set aside when the new diocese was launched. There is no per capita charge for the extra places for people who are BAME. Where possible, participants are encouraged to car share or use public transport. Parishes are encouraged to contribute to delegates' travel costs where needed.

4. Nomination process for extra places

- a. For the extra places for people who are BAME, a completed nomination form must be submitted to the Registration Officer (Charlotte Scott), endorsed by the 'lead priest' of the parish (maximum two per parish).
- b. Places are limited, so those nominated are not guaranteed a place.
- c. All participants need to be able to speak English well enough to participate in small group discussion; there will be no translation facilities.
- d. Extra places will be allocated after 6 March, taking account of stated criteria (see 1 above), in consultation with the Secretary to the BAME Clergy Group.

5. Registration

- a. Those nominated will be advised whether or not they have been allocated an extra place.
- b. Those allocated one of the extra places will need to register online.
- c. On-line registration involves choosing preferences for self-select sessions.
- d. If a registered participant finds they are no longer able to attend, it will be possible in certain circumstances for parishes to arrange a substitute.

6. Further Information

Updates and further information can be found on the webpage:

www.leeds.anglican.org/lay-conference/extra-places

For any queries about the nomination and registration process for the extra places for people who are BAME, please contact Charlotte Scott (Registration Officer) on layconference@leeds.anglican.org.