

Information Form Youth 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 being encouraged to send 2-6 adult delegates, depending on electoral roll size, nominated by their 'lead priest'. In addition, there will be places available for four young people (aged 14-17) from each deanery. There will also be a number of extra places for people with disabilities or who are BAME (Black, Asian and minority ethnicity), in line with national efforts to increase inclusion.

Nominations are open for young people aged 14-17 who are willing to participate fully in the Diocesan Lay Conference, including Area preparation and follow-up meetings.

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 youth participant allocated an extra place

- a. **Before the Conference:** Places will be allocated through the nomination process (see 4 below). Once a place has been confirmed, a youth participant will need to register online. They will be required to attend a preparation meeting, accompanied by their parent/guardian. At the meeting they will find out more about the day, consent/safeguarding requirements will be completed and they will meet others attending from their Episcopal Area.
- b. **On the day:** There will be a combination of all-together sessions in the main auditorium and smaller 'self-select' sessions. Young people will be assigned to small groups with designated leaders who will act as points of contact during the day and facilitate full engagement with the programme.
- c. **Afterwards:** The young people will meet together again in their Episcopal Area to provide feedback and consider implications for engagement with young people in their parish/deanery/area.

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 youth participants. Parents/guardians are responsible for arranging transport.

4. Nomination and registration process

- a. For youth participants' places, a completed nomination form must be submitted to the local Area Dean, endorsed by the 'lead priest' of the parish.
- b. Places are limited, so those nominated are not guaranteed a place.
- c. Extra places will be allocated after 6 March by the Area Dean, in consultation with the Area point of contact for the Diocesan Children and Young People's Team.
- d. Those nominated will be advised whether or not they have been allocated an extra place.
- e. Those allocated extra places will be able to register online, which includes choosing preferences for self-select sessions.
- f. If a registered participant finds they are no longer able to attend, it will be possible in certain circumstances for Area Deans to arrange a substitute.

5. 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 youth participants, please contact Liz Morton (Children, Young People and Families Team) on liz.morton@leeds.anglican.org.