

Standing Committee Report 2024

I give thanks to God for the faithful contributions of the Standing Committee members to the governance of our Diocese throughout 2024. Their dedication, wisdom, and time spent on often complex matters are deeply appreciated.

I thank the Rev'd Michael Brantley and the Rev'd Kofe Havea, who completed their terms in 2024.

We welcomed the Rev'd Jordan Greatbatch and the Rev'd Dr Meg Harvey to the Standing Committee in 2024, with continuing members Mrs Frances Boyd, the Rev'd Lucy Flatt, Mrs Corinne Haines, Mrs Kirsty May, the Ven. Nick Mountfort, and Mr David Prosser. Ms Neroli Anderson, who records the minutes of our meetings, is invaluable in maintaining accurate records, with monthly meetings alternating between in-person and Zoom.

In 2024, as the Diocese continued to focus on Regeneration, underpinned by the Diocesan Mission Action Plan (DMAP), Standing Committee considered a wide range of matters to support ministry. At times, members undertook additional work to clarify or advance issues.

We appreciate the work of Nathan Muirhead, our Safeguarding Educator, who ensures that all clergy, lay ministers, and youth and children's workers are trained to create safe church environments, fostering a culture where safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. I also thank my Executive Assistant, Mrs. Veronica Cross, for her calm efficiency and tireless support, which have been invaluable in assisting me and supporting the work of the Committee.

Standing Committee is aware of the financial challenges faced by ministry units and gives much attention to strengthening their long-term sustainability. In this respect we are grateful for the work of the ADMSC Board and for the input Standing Committee members who have also been part of this board have given to financial issues and questions in the Diocese.

Many matters concerning property and finance involve Standing Committee working closely with the Church Property Trustees, with each body effectively being a "peer reviewer" of the other as our regulations require approvals from both bodies for matters such as property sales or variations for use of funds. The general rule of thumb is that Standing Committee is concerned for the ministry/mission of the applicant for approval and CPT is concerned for

requirements of underlying trusts and for prudential obligations of trustees on behalf of the Diocese.

Standing Committee appreciates the continuing work of the Diocesan Ministry Team, who have been joined in the past year by the Reverend Jolyon White in his role as Director of Anglican Advocacy, as this role has moved across from Anglican Care to the Diocese, with continuing funding from Anglican Care.

Our Archdeacon for Mission, the Reverend Canon Mark Chamberlain has worked energetically for three significant years and Standing Committee thanks Mark for his work which concluded at the end of December 2024.

Mr Edwin Boyce has been our Diocesan Manager for over nine years. In that role he has served the Diocese with enthusiasm, huge commitment of time and energy, and brought wisdom and experience from previous roles in church, business and the military. As Diocesan Manager, Edwin has served Standing Committee brilliantly. We thank Edwin for his ministry among us and wish him and Essie well for their next chapter in life.

Looking into 2025 and beyond, we are committed to ensuring the ongoing viability of our mission and ministry across the Diocese, enabling us to faithfully proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

I thank each member of the Standing Committee for their enthusiasm and engagement in fulfilling their responsibilities. Their work supports the vision and mission of our Diocese and strengthens our collective effort to advance the Kingdom of God in association with the Regeneration of our Diocese.

+Peter Carrell, Bishop of Christchurch, and Chair of Standing Committee