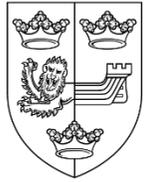


St Edmundsbury Cathedral



The Cathedral APCM on 20 October 2020 included breakout groups to consider what went well at the Cathedral during the first lockdown, what could have been better and what we are looking forward to next year. The breakout group feedback is recorded in the APCM Minutes (available on the Forum page of the Cathedral website). The feedback was positive and constructive. Here are the Cathedral's Management Team's responses to the feedback on what could have been better during lockdown.

APCM Feedback for What could we have done better ?	Management Team response
Communication - technical difficulties in early days	Steep learning curve about livestreaming during first lockdown. Knowledge and equipment greatly improved. In addition, a live-streaming operator has been recruited for the beginning of December.
social media could be more interactive	Yes. Following the growth in our digital ministry this year, a Digital Communications Management is being recruited.
some shielders were unaware what was happening at the cathedral	People without email are receiving information by post.
outreach	We have contributed significantly to community needs, including support for foodbanks, providing meals for the homeless, and offering free school meals.
clergy phone calls to congregation (generally rather than vulnerable)	Phone calls to vulnerable people have been prioritised.
pastoral care	Vulnerable people have been contacted by the Pastoral Support Team and clergy. Lots of appreciative feedback received. Notices in the Weekly Bulletin regularly ask for information about where supported is needed.
introductions to new clergy	Yes. There was a delay in sharing information.
introduced junior church earlier in lockdown	From the beginning of lockdown Junior Church met by Zoom. Meeting together inside at the 11.00 Service could have happened sooner.

services coming across as performances rather than participation	Acknowledged. This is a feature of Cathedral style worship.
seating arrangements for singles in services	Yes. This has been kept in mind more recently with singles seated nearer each other.
started choir activities earlier	We all longed for that, but Covid regulations have restricted what's possible.
allowed private prayer during other services or events	The Cathedral had to be closed to manage numbers in the building.
<i>followed</i> different rules from Church of England	Following the C of E's rules has been crucial. Promoting the Bishop's guidance is part of being a Cathedral and it is important for us to be a role model in the Diocese.
plays the rules according to the book	See above
does not need to go further than guidelines	Keeping people (congregation, volunteers and staff) safe is our guiding principle. We follow the guidelines as we understand them.
bring kneelers back	Kneelers and fabric covered furnishings have been removed to comply with current Covid regulations.
Wednesday 1pm Eucharist seating in the round	Seating in socially distanced rows necessary for Covid regulations.

Canon Matthew Vernon
2 December 2020