

GENERAL SYNOD

**DRAFT VACANCY IN SEE COMMITTEES (AMENDMENT) REGULATION
200....**

**A REGULATION PASSED BY THE GENERAL SYNOD TO AMEND
THE VACANCY IN SEE COMMITTEES REGULATION 1993**

The General Synod hereby makes the following Regulation:-

- 1.(1) This Regulation may be cited as the Vacancy in See Committees (Amendment) Regulation 200... .
- (2) In this Regulation “the 1993 Regulation” means the Vacancy in See Committees Regulation 1993, as amended by the Vacancy in See Committees (Amendment) Regulation 2003.
- (3) This Regulation shall come into force on such date as the Archbishops of Canterbury and York shall jointly appoint.

Functions of the Committee

2. In paragraph 4(g) of the 1993 Regulation, at the beginning there shall be inserted the words “Subject to paragraph 5A below,”.
3. In paragraph 5 of the 1993 Regulation, at the beginning there shall be inserted the words “Subject to paragraph 5A below,”.
4. After paragraph 5 of the 1993 Regulation there shall be inserted the following paragraph–

Direction of Archbishop not to proceed with vacancy

“5A(a) Where a vacancy of the bishopric is announced and –

- (i) no steps have been taken under this Regulation to fill it; and
- (ii) the Dioceses Commission has decided to prepare a reorganisation scheme in accordance with section 7 of the Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 200... (“the 200... Measure) which would abolish the diocese in respect of which the vacancy has been announced or have, in the opinion of the Commission, such a significant effect on the diocese that it would be desirable to delay the appointment of a bishop to fill the vacancy,

the Commission may request the Archbishop of the province in which the diocese is situated to direct that no steps shall be taken under this Regulation in relation to the filling of the vacancy.

- (b) On receipt of a request under sub-paragraph (a) above, the Archbishop may, if he thinks fit, direct as provided in that sub-paragraph and this Regulation shall have effect accordingly.
- (c) Where the Archbishop has issued a direction under sub-paragraph (b) above, then if –
 - (i) the reorganisation scheme (other than a scheme abolishing the diocese) has been confirmed by Order in Council under section 8 of the 200... Measure, or
 - (ii) the General Synod has taken a decision not to approve the scheme under section 7 of the 200.... Measure, or
 - (iii) the Dioceses Commission has informed the Archbishop that it has decided not to proceed with the scheme, or
 - (iv) the Dioceses Commission has informed the Archbishop that it has decided that it would not be appropriate further to delay the filling of the vacancy,

the Archbishop may, if he thinks fit, revoke the direction.

- (d) If the Archbishop revokes the direction under sub-paragraph (c) above this Regulation shall have effect as if the announcement of the vacancy had been made on the day on which the Archbishop revokes the direction.
- (e) Any direction or revocation given under sub-paragraph (b) or (c) above shall be in writing and signed by the Archbishop and shall be sent to the Secretary of the Committee and the Archbishop shall send a copy thereof to
 - (i) the Archbishops' Secretary for Appointments,
 - (ii) the Secretary of the House of Bishops,
 - (iii) the Prime Minister's Secretary for Appointments, and
 - (vi) the Dioceses Commission.”.