

## ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL

The Archbishops' Council presents this report on its activities since the February Group of Sessions in accordance with the requirements of the National Institutions Measure 1998.

Chaired by the Archbishop of Canterbury or, in his absence, the Archbishop of York, the Council meets six times a year. It has met on three occasions since its last report was prepared – on 17 March, 10-11 May and 7 June.

In considering the matters before it, the Council aims to hold together issues of policy and resource.

### GOVERNANCE

#### The new Council

The full membership of the newly elected Council as set out below. The new Council has now been working together for four months and is getting into its stride.

#### Joint Presidents

The Most Revd and Rt Hon Dr Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury

The Most Revd and Rt Hon Dr John Sentamu, Archbishop of York

#### Prolocutors of the Lower Houses of the Convocations of Canterbury and York

*(ex officio)*

The Ven Christine Hardman (Canterbury)

The Revd Canon Glyn Webster (York)

#### Officers of the House of Laity *(ex officio)*

Dr Philip Giddings (Chair)

Tim Hind (Vice-Chair)

#### Elected by the House of Bishops

The Rt Revd Dr Steven Croft, Bishop of Sheffield

The Rt Revd Trevor Willmott, Bishop of Dover

#### Elected by the House of Clergy

The Revd Canon Robert Cotton

The Revd Mark Ireland

#### Elected by the House of Laity

Paul Boyd-Lee

Christina Rees

#### Appointed by the Archbishops with the approval of the General Synod

Andrew Britton

Mary Chapman

Professor John Craven

Philip Fletcher

The Revd Dr Rosalyn Murphy

Mark Russell

#### A Church Estates Commissioner

Andreas Whittam Smith, First Church Estates Commissioner

## **Appointments**

The Synod will be invited to approve the re-appointment of Professor John Craven and Philip Fletcher (GS 1831).

## **STRATEGY**

### ***Challenges for the new Quinquennium (GS 1815)***

Following positive debate of GS 1815 by Synod in February, the Council and the House of Bishops have continued to work closely to produce proposals for how work under the three themes identified by the Archbishop of Canterbury in his Presidential Address in November last year – the Common Good, supporting spiritual and numerical growth, and re-imagining ministry – can be taken forward by the Church at national level to support the Church at local level. GS Misc 993 sets out the proposals.

### **National Mission initiatives**

To support the themes identified in the Archbishop of Canterbury's Presidential Address in November last year, the Council has agreed to fund two new mission initiatives to build on the success of the Weddings Project. A new Beginnings/Thanksgivings Project and a Funerals Project will begin as soon as possible once funding has been secured. Details will be given in due course.

### **Legacy service**

The Council has also agreed to support a pilot legacy service. This will be primarily focused on parishes, and will aim to make leaving gifts to a number of Church of England entities much simpler by enabling a single gift to be routed through the Council in their will.

### **Consequences of the Government's Higher Education funding changes for theological training**

The Council received a report from a working party of the Ministry Council chaired by the Bishop of Sheffield on the possible consequences of the Government's Higher Education (HE) funding changes for theological education. The Council endorsed the recommendations in the report circulated to the Synod as GS 1836.

## **STIPENDS**

The Council approved stipend recommendations for 2012 based on an increase in the National Stipend Benchmark (NSB) of 2%.

## **FEES**

In preparation for the coming into force of the Ecclesiastical Fees (Amendment) Measure, the Council, advised by RACSC, has agreed a completely new Fees Order calculated on the basis of actual cost rather than simple annual increases in historic fee levels. The new-style Fees Order will be presented to Synod as GS 1832 and, as the legislation now permits, will be made for three years.

## **BUDGET AND APPORTIONMENT**

The Council agreed a budget to present to Synod for approval, involving an overall increase of 1.5% in the apportionment (before pooling adjustments for the cost of maintenance grants) for 2012.

## **POLICIES**

The Council has agreed new Risk, Investment and Expenses policies. The current table of expense allowances is attached to this report.

## **THE ECONOMIC SITUATION**

The Council has continued to receive regular updates on the position around the dioceses in the light of the difficult economic context.

## **GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT**

The Council discussed a number of current legislative and other public affairs issues of particular relevance to the Church, including the Council's response to the Government consultation on civil partnerships on religious premises.

Church House  
Westminster SW1P 3AZ

15 June 2011

William Fittall  
Secretary General

## Expense Allowances 2011/12 (valid from 6 April 2011)

### Subsistence and Care Allowances

The day and overnight allowance rates have been increased to bring them in line with comparable organisations. Care allowances are increased in line with national minimum wage rates.

	2011/12 £	2010/11 £
<b>Subsistence Allowance (when travelling on church business other than to normal place of work)</b>		
More than 5 hours	n/a	6.65
More than 10 hours	n/a	14.75
Breakfast (if journey started before normal daily departure time <b>and</b> no later than 6.30am)	6.00	n/a
Lunch (additional cost over and above normal lunch costs)	5.00	n/a
Dinner Allowance (if staying away from home or not returning home before 10pm)	17.50	n/a
<b>Overnight Allowance inc Breakfast</b>		
Inner London	120.00	112.00
Elsewhere	100.00	97.55
<b>Care Allowances (members only)</b>		
	<b><u>From 1 Oct11</u></b>	<b><u>From 1 Oct10 To 30 Sept11</u></b>
Day	6.08 per hour	5.93 per hour
Overnight	36.00	32.91
Weekend (one overnight)	51.00	50.00
Weekend (two overnights)	83.00	81.50

**The allowances are not a fixed sum but a maximum amount up to which a claimant can seek reimbursement of his/her actual costs.** The national minimum wage rates referred to above (£5.93 per hour) are those quoted for workers aged 21 years and older and will increase again on 1 October 2011 (£6.08 per hour).

Care allowances are not available to members of staff of the NCIs

### Mileage Allowances

The tax free rates for cars and cycles set by HMRC are as follows:

#### **Cars**

On the first 10,000 miles in the tax year	45p per mile
On each additional mile over 10,000 miles	25p per mile

#### **Motor cycles**

24p per mile

#### **Bicycles**

20p per mile

These figures represent the maximum amount, which can be paid to employees (including clergy) for work related mileage in their own vehicles, where public transport is not a viable option, without any tax or national insurance being incurred.

## **Public Transport Rate**

Where a person could use public transport but chooses instead to use their private vehicle, the amount reimbursed per mile will be reduced to 30p. The balance up to the full HMRC rate can be treated as an allowable expense in the individual's tax return.

## **Congestion Charge**

The congestion charge will be an allowable expense where the use of a car within the zone is unavoidable (regardless of which mileage rate is claimed). However surcharges and penalty charges imposed will not be allowable.

## **Loss of Earnings (Members only, not applicable to staff)**

Loss of earnings allowance is based on the movements in the Average Weekly Earnings figure (that which is seasonally adjusted, includes bonus payments but excludes arrears of pay).

The loss of earnings rate has been increased in line with the rise in the AWE index in the year to December 2010. The new daily rate is **£152.30** (2010/11: £149.28).

The rate is not a fixed sum but a maximum amount up to which Synod members can claim depending upon their actual loss of earnings. If, for example, a Synod member suffers loss of earnings of £75 then he/she can only claim up to £75. If a Synod member suffers loss of earnings of £300 then he/she can only claim up to a maximum of £152.30.

Loss of earnings can be claimed by a Synod member who is:

- **self employed** on the basis of a self-certificate that he/she has forgone that amount of income. For those who are self employed the amount is taxable as the allowance is being paid to compensate him/her for loss of profit;
- **in paid employment** on receipt of certification from the employer (i) that unpaid leave is being taken and (ii) of the cost to the employee (i.e. pay forgone after tax deducted). For those who are in paid employment the amount is not taxable provided that the payment is calculated to do no more than replace the salary that the employee would otherwise have received from his/her employer.

**All expense claims except mileage claims MUST be supported by appropriate receipts or other documentation attached to the claim form**

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