

GENERAL SYNOD**THE VACANCY IN SEE COMMITTEES
(AMENDMENT) REGULATION 2008****Explanatory Memorandum****Introduction**

1. In April 2008 the Archbishops' Council considered a paper from the Archbishops relating to the clerical representation of Vacancy in See Committees on the Crown Nominations Commission ("CNC"). This followed a request from the central members of the CNC that consideration should be given to amending the Vacancy in See Committees Regulation 1993 ("the 1993 Regulation") to ensure that a diocese's clerical representation on the CNC is wider than members of the Bishop's immediate staff team.
2. The Council supported a proposal contained in the Archbishops' paper that the Regulation should be amended so as to provide that at least one of the elected members of a Vacancy in See Committee must be a "parish priest". (This would have the result that the number of bishop's staff who could be elected would be limited.) The Council has therefore introduced the Vacancy in See Committee (Amendment) Regulation 2008 ("the Amendment Regulation") for approval by Synod.
3. An amendment has also been included to make it clear that the election of members of a Vacancy in See Committee to serve on the CNC must take place at a meeting of the Committee (and not, for example, by postal ballot).
4. The opportunity has also been taken to include amendments removing from the 1993 Regulation redundant provisions relating to representative archdeacon members of Convocation (since 2005 there have been none, following the changes made to the composition of the Convocations by Amending Canon No. 26).

Notes on paragraphs**Paragraph 1: Citation and commencement**

5. This paragraph makes provision for the title of the Amendment Regulation and prescribes the date on which it is to come into force.

Paragraph 2: Interpretation

6. This paragraph makes provision for the interpretation of the Amendment Regulation.

Paragraph 3: Provisions relating to representative archdeacons

7. Paragraph 3 removes from the 1993 Measure redundant provisions relating to representative archdeacons.

Paragraph 4: Election of members of the Crown Nominations Commission

8. Paragraph 4 amends the provisions relating to elections by a Vacancy in See Committee of members to serve on the CNC, making it clear that such elections must take place at a meeting of the Committee. It further provides that of those so elected, at least one must be an incumbent, priest in charge or team vicar.

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