

Report by the Business Committee

Introduction

1. This is a short group of sessions which comprises only two days of Synod business. However, members of the Synod will continue to meet for the purpose of the Shared Conversations from the afternoon of Sunday 10 July until lunchtime on Tuesday 12 July. Information regarding the Shared Conversations will be provided separately.
2. This report falls into three parts:
 - Part I introduces the Agenda for the July group of sessions and highlights distinctive features;
 - Part II comments on individual items of business;
 - Part III reports on other work and recent decisions of the Business Committee.

I: The July 2016 Group of Sessions

3. The Synod will meet at the University of York from 2.30 p.m. on Friday 8 July until 10 p.m. on Saturday 9 July.
4. The House of Laity will meet from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday 8 July.
5. The following Anglican and ecumenical guests will be present as observers on this occasion:
 - Mr Andreas H Aarflot, Adviser of the National Council, Department of Church Order, Church of Norway
 - Mr David Ritchie, Secretary General, Representative Church Body, Church of Ireland
 - Landesbischof Ralf Meister, Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland, and co-chair of the Meissen Commission
6. Landesbischof Ralf Meister, Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland, will deliver a brief greeting to the Synod on behalf of the ecumenical guests on Friday afternoon.

Synod Worship

7. The group of sessions will begin with an act of worship in the Central Hall. On the morning of Sunday 10 July, there will be a celebration of Holy Communion at York Minster at which the Archbishop of Canterbury will preside and the Archbishop of York will preach. The Shared Conversations will conclude with an act of worship in the Central Hall.
8. The Continuous Praying Presence will be based in the Berrick Saul Building and Synod members are welcome to join this where possible. All services, apart from those in the Central Hall and those taking place in group work groups, will take place in the Berrick Saul Building. Please refer to the Agenda for a list of services for the period Friday to Saturday.

Shape of the Agenda

9. The Agenda includes the following types of business:
 - Formal business and presentations
 - Brief address to Synod on behalf of the ecumenical guests
 - Regular items such as the debate on the Business Committee Report, Synod Question Time and the Archbishops' Council's Annual Budget
 - Legislative Business
 - Two 'take-note' debates: one on a report from the Education Office, one on the Church Commissioners' Annual Report
 - Debate on a motion on Renewal and Reform
10. In putting together the Agenda for this Synod, the Business Committee was aware that it had only 1.5 days for formal Synodical business prior to the start of the Shared Conversations. Most of the Friday is taken up with the usual formal and other Synodical business. The Take Note debate from the Development and Appointments Group is returning to Synod at the request of an earlier Synodical decision in 2014.
11. Priority is being given on Saturday to legislative and financial business, leaving only 45 minutes for other items. Within these constraints, the Business Committee has done its best to ensure that a variety of items are being considered by Synod this July.
12. Legislative business will be taken on the morning of Saturday 9 July and will continue after the lunch break. On Saturday afternoon, there will be a debate on a motion on the Renewal and Reform initiative, and a 'take note' debate on a report from the Education Office. On Saturday evening, the Synod will be asked to approve the Archbishops' Council's Budget for 2017.
13. The Synod will be prorogued on Saturday evening. The Shared Conversations will take place from Sunday afternoon to Monday lunchtime. Details of the Shared Conversations will be provided separately. All Synod members are encouraged to participate in the Shared Conversations.

Order of Business

14. Members are reminded that if at any time within the group of sessions an unexpected gap opens in the Synod's Agenda, business earlier in the Agenda which has not been reached or completed within the period allotted can be called by the Chair, unless other provision has already been made for it.
15. Synod members will note that the Synod timetable was published with indicative timings for items of business to help Synod members plan their time. It should be emphasised that these are purely indicative timings, and the length of time taken by any item is in the hands of the Synod.

Legislative Business

16. Owing to the short length of this group of sessions, legislative business will comprise the greater part of the Synod's Agenda. Special Agenda I contains 11 items of legislative business. Each new item of legislative business is accompanied by an explanatory memorandum which provides a detailed explanation of the provisions it contains.
17. Details of the individual items of legislative business are given below at the point where they are to be taken.

Private Members' Motions and Diocesan Synod Motions

18. Private Members' Motions ('PMMs') are listed in Special Agenda III. There are 5 current Private Members' Motions but none have yet reached the threshold of 100 signatures needed in order for the Business Committee to consider scheduling a debate.
19. Diocesan Synod Motions ('DSMs') are listed in Special Agenda IV. There are currently 7 DSMs awaiting debate. The 3 DSMs relating to the Anglican Communion Covenant remain 'parked', pending further discussions within the Communion.
20. The Business Committee has taken counsel from the House of Bishops who have requested a clear space in February to discuss any matters arising from the Shared Conversations. For this reason, the scheduling of the Blackburn Diocesan Synod Motion on "Welcoming Transgender People" will not be taken until July 2017.

II: Individual Items of Business

21. This section of the Report comments on individual items of business. They are discussed in chronological order.

Friday 8 July

22. The newly elected Pro Prolocutors of the Convocation of Canterbury and Deputy Prolocutors of the Convocation of York will be presented to the Archbishops.
23. By way of a response on behalf of the Ecumenical Guests, Landesbischof Ralf Meister, Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland, will address the Synod.
24. The Archbishop of York will share with the Synod his 'Pilgrimage of Prayer, Witness, and Blessing, which took place from Advent 2015 to Trinity 2016.
25. The Bishop of Chelmsford and Canon Margaret Swinson will then give an update on the meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council in Lusaka in April 2016. There will be no time for questions on this item. However, Members of General Synod are invited to write to the Clerk by close of business on Friday 1 July with any questions which they would like the Bishop of Chelmsford to speak to in his presentation.

Report by the Business Committee

26. There will be the usual debate on the Report from the Business Committee on the Agenda. This provides an opportunity for Synod members to raise points about the content and shape of the Agenda for this group of sessions, or about the Synod's business generally. Members may refer to a matter which is not in the Agenda at all but which, in their opinion, should be. However they should not get into the substance of the subject, but should confine themselves to its place in the Agenda or otherwise.

Approval of Appointments

27. Synod will be asked to approve the appointment of two members of the Archbishops' Council.

The Church Commissioners' Annual Report

28. The First Church Estates Commissioner, Sir Andreas Whittam Smith, will move that Synod do take note of the annual report of the Church Commissioners. The report reflects on the Commissioners' investment in the Church's growth and describes the various forms of statutory and discretionary support the Commissioners provide, featuring case studies which demonstrate how the funds have been deployed on the ground. The report also outlines the Commissioners' investment performance which enables them to provide these funds as well as making some additional, time-limited distributions (with Synod's encouragement) in support of the Renewal and Reform programme. It also comments on the Commissioners' policy in the area of responsible investment.

Nurturing and Discerning Senior Leaders: Report from the Development and Appointments Group of the House of Bishops

29. Synod members will recall that General Synod passed the following motion in July 2015.

“That this Synod do take note of the report of the Faith and Order Commission Senior Church Leadership: a resource for reflection and, in the light of widespread misunderstanding and concern about the new arrangements for discerning and nurturing senior leaders that have recently been introduced, following the report from the Lord Green Steering Group, invite: a) the House of Bishops to bring for scrutiny by Synod a report assessing the effectiveness of those arrangements and setting out what is intended from January 2017; and b) the Business Committee to schedule that report for debate not later than July 2016.”

30. The Bishop of Truro, Chair of the Development and Appointments Group, will present a report from the House of Bishops to Synod for a “take note” debate.

Questions

31. In accordance with the requirements of the Standing Orders, any member wishing to ask a question of any of the bodies or officers specified in Standing Order 112 must

give notice of it to the Clerk to the Synod by **12 noon on Tuesday 28 June 2016**. Questions sent by email should be addressed to questions@churchofengland.org.

32. Written answers to Questions will be available in the Questions Paper which will be emailed to Synod members at least **one clear day** before Question Time. Synod members will be able to ask supplementary questions at Question Time.

Saturday 9 July

Legislative Business

33. The morning will begin with Legislative Business. The nature and content of this business is summarised above. Any uncompleted Legislative Business from the morning will continue after lunch on Saturday.
34. The draft **Mission and Pastoral etc. (Amendment) Measure** will return to the Synod for the Revision Stage following its consideration by a Revision Committee. The Measure gives effect to the proposals recommended by the Simplification Task Group in its report GS 1980 which require primary legislation.
35. The draft **Legislative Reform Measure** is for First Consideration by the Synod. The Measure has been introduced following the motion which was passed by the Synod at the February group of sessions inviting the Archbishops' Council to initiate the legislative process to bring an 'Enabling Measure' to the General Synod for first consideration this July. The proposals which form the basis of the Measure were set out in *A New Enabling Measure* (GS 2018) in January 2016 which itself followed a consultation on proposals contained in GS Misc 1103. The Measure will facilitate removing or reducing burdens resulting from ecclesiastical legislation by making it possible, in certain cases, to amend or repeal some Acts of Parliament and Church Measures by way of orders approved by the General Synod.
36. The draft **Inspection of Churches Measure** has been introduced at the request of the Church Buildings Council. It replaces the regime for the inspection of churches provided for in the Inspection of Churches Measure 1955 with a new legislative framework. The draft Measure requires the Archbishops' Council to make regulations for the inspection of churches and the making of reports. It also requires the Church Buildings Council to issue guidance. The intention is to ensure that the inspection regime meets current needs, including by making it easier to make changes as the need for them is identified, without having to amend primary legislation.
37. Draft **Amending Canon No. 36** gives effect to two private members' motions which were passed by the Synod during the last quinquennium. It amends Canon B 8 (Of the vesture of ordained and authorized ministers during the time of divine service) in the manner sought by the Reverend Christopher Hobbs's private member's motion; namely to make the forms of vesture currently prescribed by the Canon optional rather than mandatory. A consultation of Synod members (GS Misc 1133) was carried out on this proposal from the end of January 2016 until 15 April. The majority of responses were in favour of proceeding. The Amending Canon also amends Canon B

38 (Of the burial of the dead) in the manner sought by Canon Mike Parsons' private member's motion; namely to allow those who have taken their own life, whatever the circumstances, to be buried in accordance with the normal burial service. It makes equivalent provision in relation to those who die unbaptized.

38. The draft **Statute Law (Repeals) Measure** repeals a large number of provisions contained in ecclesiastical statutes (Acts of Parliament and Measures) which are spent, obsolete, unnecessary or otherwise not now of practical utility. The proposed repeals were consulted on (in GS Misc 1128) between November 2015 and January 2016. The original list of enactments proposed for repeal has been modified in the light of responses to the consultation.
39. The draft **Pensions (Pre-consolidation) Measure** makes pre-consolidation amendments to the existing Church legislation concerning pensions. The purpose of these amendments is to make some minor changes to the existing legislation so that all of the Church legislation concerning pensions can then be consolidated.
40. As the Statute Law (Repeals) Measure and the Pensions (Pre-consolidation) Measure are unlikely to raise questions of policy or otherwise to be controversial, the Business Committee has determined that they do not need to be debated. This is subject to the usual proviso that they will nevertheless be debated if 25 members request that they should be. If the Synod is deemed to have given First Consideration to these Measures, or if they are debated and the Synod passes the motion on First Consideration, they will be considered by a Revision Committee and members may submit proposals for amendment to the Clerk by not later than Friday 12th August.
41. The draft **Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure** consolidates the statute law relating to the ecclesiastical courts and the care of church buildings. As a consolidation Measure it will be deemed to have received First Consideration without debate unless at least 5 members give notice not later than 5.30 pm on Friday 8th July that they wish it to be debated. It will not be committed to a Revision Committee unless the Synod expressly passes a motion to that effect.
42. **The Clergy Discipline (Amendment) Rules 2016** make amendments to the Clergy Discipline Rules 2005 principally to take account of amendments that were made to the Clergy Discipline Measure 2003 by the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.
43. **The Suspension Appeals (Churchwardens etc.) Rules 2016** set out the procedure for appeals against the suspension of churchwardens, PCC members and others. The relevant powers of suspension are concerned with addressing safeguarding issues and were conferred by amendments contained in the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.
44. **The Amending Code of Practice under the Clergy Discipline Measure 2003** amends the existing Code of Practice under that Measure, mainly to take account of the changes brought about by the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 and the Clergy Discipline (Amendment) Rules 2016.

45. **The Legal Officers (Annual Fees) Order 2016** provides for the annual retainers to be paid to diocesan and provincial registrars. **The Ecclesiastical Judges, Legal Officers and Others (Fees) Order 2016** prescribes the fees that are payable in respect of proceedings in ecclesiastical courts and tribunals and makes provision for related matters.
46. As the two sets of Rules, the amendments to the Code of Practice and the Fees Orders are unlikely to raise questions of policy or otherwise to be controversial, the Business Committee has determined that they do not need to be debated. This is subject to the usual proviso that any of these instruments will nevertheless be debated if a member requests that it should be by not later than 5.30 pm on Friday 8th July, or (in the case of those in respect of which amendments are permissible) if a member gives notice of an amendment by not later than 5.30 pm on Tuesday 5th July.
47. Special Agenda I contains detailed procedural notes in respect of each item of legislation.

Renewal and Reform

48. Legislative business will be followed by a debate on the vision and narrative for Renewal and Reform set out in GS 2038. The motion will be moved by a member of the Archbishops' Council.

'Take Note' Debate on 'A Church of England Vision for Education'

49. There will then be a 'take note' debate on a report from the Education Office on 'A Church of England Vision for Education'. The Education Office is developing a Foundation for Educational Leadership to grow and enhance the capacity of the Church's education network to promote a deeply Christian vision for education for the common good. The Foundation is underpinned by a theological vision for education. Synod is asked to take note of this vision for education and the progress being made in establishing the Foundation, within the context of recent legislation and the White Paper Educational Excellence Everywhere.

Archbishops' Council's Annual Report and Budget 2017

50. The Synod will be invited to approve the Archbishops' Council's expenditure budget for 2017 and the Council's proposals for apportionment amongst the dioceses, and the usual pooling adjustment in respect of additional maintenance grants to ordinands.
51. There are some presentational changes from earlier years. Firstly the focus of the items the Synod is invited to vote on is the total expenditure under each area of the Council's activity that is substantially funded by the diocesan apportionment rather than the expenditure net of external income. Secondly, looking to respond to Synod members' comments that the five vote system was confusing and to simplify presentation the Council has agreed to present its budget under three headings: Training for Ministry, Clergy Retirement Housing grant and "the work of the Council generally" (the latter following the language in Standing Orders). However, for the time being, the Synod will be invited to vote separately on National Church Responsibilities, Grants and Mission Agency pension contributions. Members' views on whether the budget motions should be simplified in future years by combining expenditure in these three areas into one vote

would be welcomed.

52. Proposed expenditure in 2017 is £37.7 million, £3.3 million (9.4%) above the equivalent 2016 level. The overall apportionment increase is lower at 3.5% due to funding attracted from external sources and greater use of the Council's restricted funds.

53. The increase in expenditure is driven by the following main factors:

- Increased investment in encouraging vocations, funding for an assumed 10% increase in the number of new ordinands from autumn 2017 and an inflationary increase in the costs of ordination training (£0.7m)
- The inclusion of grants made from Ministry Division restricted funds including for the growing context based parish support scheme (£0.7m)
- Additional provision for safeguarding compared with the level in the 2016 budget (£0.8m)
- The pilot digital evangelism project (£0.7m)
- An increase of 5% for the clergy retirement housing grant, the level of increase that has been agreed until 2020 (£0.2m)
- Additional resource for the extension and expansion of the occasional offices project (£0.1 m)

Prorogation

54. Synod will be prorogued on Saturday evening. Following the Minster service on Sunday 11 July, the Shared Conversations will begin at 2.30pm.

III: Other Work of the Business Committee

Security, Fringe meetings and Displays

55. Synod members are invited to note the Synod Security policy and the policy on Fringe Meetings and Displays. Both policies may be found on the Members' Resources page of the General Synod website at:

[https://www.churchofengland.org/about-us/structure/general-synod/members'-resources.aspx](https://www.churchofengland.org/about-us/structure/general-synod/members-resources.aspx)

56. The Business Committee revised the Policy on Fringe Meetings and Displays in April 2016. Synod members' attention is drawn to point 5. of the Policy which states as follows:

“By allowing a particular fringe event or display, the Business Committee is not to be viewed as showing support for the organisation arranging it, or for any views expressed or presented at or through the fringe event or display. These are entirely the responsibility of the organisers.”

57. Synod members are reminded of their responsibility to be vigilant at all times to ensure the security of Synod members, visitors and staff. As stated in point 5 of the security policy, Synod members are requested not to leave any items unattended around the Central Hall or its environs.

Pattern of General Synod meetings

58. The Committee launched a consultation on the “Pattern and Dates of Synod meetings” in Annex 2 of GS 2013. The consultation exercise closed on Friday 4 March. Following responses received, the Business Committee is now considering trialling scheduling a London group of sessions to include a Saturday in February 2018.

On behalf of the Business Committee

The Revd Canon Sue Booy
Chair of the Business Committee

Membership of the Business Committee

Chair

The Revd Canon Sue Booy

Elected by the House of Bishops

The Rt Revd Pete Broadbent, Bishop of Willesden

Elected by the House of Clergy

The Revd Graeme Buttery

The Revd Canon Simon Cawdell

The Revd Canon Joyce Jones

Elected by the House of Laity

Mrs Anne Foreman

Canon Robert Hammond

Mr Clive Scowen

Appointed by the Archbishops' Council

Mrs Lorna Ashworth

Canon Mark Russell

The Secretary to the Committee is the Clerk to the Synod (Dr Jacqui Philips) and the Assistant Secretary is Dr Emma Arbuthnot

Forecast of future General Synod business

February 2017

Legislative Business

- Mission and Pastoral etc. (Amendment) Measure – Final Drafting / Final Approval
- Legislative Reform Measure – Revision Stage
- Amending Canon No. 36 – Revision Stage
- Inspection of Churches Measure – Revision Stage
- Statute Law Repeals Measure – Revision Stage and Final Drafting / Final Approval
- Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure – Final Drafting / Final Approval
- Pensions (Pre-consolidation) Measure – Revision Stage and Final Drafting / Final Approval
- ? Measure giving effect to the recommendations of the Church Buildings Review – First Consideration
- ? Further Simplification legislation – First Consideration
- Safeguarding (Clergy Risk Assessment) Regulations

General

- Follow-up to “Unfinished Business” from the Committee for Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns and group work on “Unconscious Bias”
- Report from Task Group on Lay Leadership
- Debate on a motion from the Mission and Public Affairs council on the Presence and engagement programme

Ecumenical Matters

- ??Debate on inter-changeability of ministries between the Anglican and Methodist Churches
- Debate on the Anniversary of the Reformation

Diocesan Synod Motions

- Oxford Diocesan Synod Motion on ‘Fossil Fuels Investment’
- London Diocesan Synod Motion on ‘Fixed Odds Betting Terminals: Reduction Of Maximum Stake’
- Oxford Diocesan Synod Motion on ‘Review Of The Role Of The Crown Nominations Commission’

July 2017 and Beyond

Legislative Business

- Legislative Reform Measure – Final Drafting / Final Approval
- Amending Canon No. 36 – Final Drafting / Final Approval
- Inspection of Churches Measure – Final Drafting / Final Approval

- ? Measure giving effect to the recommendations of the Church Buildings Review – Revision Stage
- ? Further Simplification legislation – Revision Stage
- Miscellaneous Provisions Measure – First Consideration
- Miscellaneous Provisions Amending Canon – First Consideration
- Payments to the Churches Conservation Trust Order
- Usual fees orders (deemed)

Other Business

- Report from the Ministry Council on progress made on the proposals in GS 2020 *Renewal and Reform: Resourcing Ministerial Education*.
- Blackburn Diocesan Synod Motion on ‘Welcoming Transgender People’

RECORD OF BUSINESS DONE IN 2015-2020 QUINQUENNIAL

The roles and responsibilities of the Business Committee are set out in S.O. 125 of the Standing Orders of the General Synod. S.O. 125(6) lists the functions of the Committee. One of these, detailed in sub-paragraph (e) is the requirement

“to take such action as may be necessary to ensure that decisions of the Synod are implemented and that its work is carried on between groups of sessions”.

Legislative business concluded to date in the period 2015-2020 is listed in **Section 1**. **Non-legislative business** concluded to date in this quinquennium is included in **Section 2**, together with any follow-up actions arising from it.

Synod members are reminded that as a matter of course all business completed at a group of sessions is communicated to dioceses via the record of Business Done (published on the website) and other direct communications.

On behalf of the Business Committee

The Revd Canon Sue Booy

Chair of the Business Committee

June 2016

**SECTION ONE - LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS CONCLUDED IN THE 2015-2020
QUINQUENNium**

DATE OF FINAL APPROVAL	DATE ENACTED	LEGISLATION
25 November 2015		Ecclesiastical Judges, Legal Officers and Others (Fees) Order 2015 (GS 2007)
	15 th February 2016	Amending Canon No. 34

SECTION TWO – NON-LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS CONCLUDED IN THE 2015-2020 QUINQUENNium

DATE PASSED	MOTION	ACTION CALLED FOR	INTENDED AUDIENCE	FOLLOW-UP
25 November 2015	Motion on the Migrant Crisis (GS 2009)	Urge parishes and dioceses to provide practical resources and to pray for all those seeking to address the causes as well as the symptoms of this crisis, welcome aid provided by HMG to those suffering and call on it to increase number to be resettled significantly beyond its initial target of 20,000 over five years; call upon HMG to work with the UN High Commissioner to ensure that vulnerability to religiously motivated persecution is taken into account when determining whom to receive, to work with international partners to establish legal routes to places of safety and to take a fair share of refugees now within the EU.	Parishes and dioceses HMG	Action has moved from an exploratory to an operational phase. Some dioceses and parishes are now working directly with the Home Office Resettlement Team to set up practical and pastoral support for refugees. Several dioceses have appointed refugee support coordinators, and many have active projects under way. Parishes are also working with other partners in local refugee resettlement groups, and church representatives have been actively involved with the Home Office in preparations for a Community Sponsorship scheme. Lords Spiritual and others have continued with many other partners to urge a more generous government response and this has borne fruit to some degree in new commitments to resettle unaccompanied children, both from the conflict region and from Europe. The Government has also responded to requests for religious persecution to be taken fully into account, by allotting extra funds to UNHCR to support work outside the refugee camps.
25 November 2015	Church Buildings Review (GS 2008)	Welcome the report from the Church Buildings Review Group, commend it for discussion in dioceses, deaneries and parishes, invite the Archbishops' Council, the Church Commissioners and the Church Buildings Council to work together on the detailed implementation of the proposals in the report so as to enable the Business Committee to schedule the start of the relevant legislative process by July 2016 and invite the	Dioceses, deaneries and parishes, Archbishops' Council, Church Commissioners, Church Buildings Council,	Report presented to various groups within and outside the Church to support public consultation, which is open to 29 January 2016. Work begun on implementation of recommendations, including launch of a Festival Churches Association.

DATE PASSED	MOTION	ACTION CALLED FOR	INTENDED AUDIENCE	FOLLOW-UP
		Archbishops' Council, the Church Commissioners and the Church Buildings Council to develop a strategy to inspire, encourage and support churches and their dioceses to invest in their facilities to serve their communities and provide opportunities for mission.	Business Committee	
16 February 2016	Report from the Evangelism Task Group (GS 2015)	Called on the Synod to take note of the Report from the Evangelism Task Group.	General Synod Dioceses, deaneries and parishes	The Archbishops' invitation for all churches across England to pray for evangelism in the week leading up to Pentecost has been taken up in the most extraordinary way. Churches from every tradition, and from inner-cities to rural areas, have engaged with the call. Both in the six centrally organised Beacon Events and in many more local churches looking to follow the national lead, cathedral and churches have responded to the invitation with grace, tenacity, vision and most of all faith. Churches have hosted whole weeks of 24/7 prayer, prayer days, special events and half nights of prayer. Schools have put on special assemblies, and engaged in other creative ways. The demand for tickets for the Beacon Events at Winchester, St Paul's, Durham and Canterbury Cathedrals was so great that overspill areas with big screens had to be organized. Thousands of parish churches, from England, as well as the USA, Bermuda, Brussels, New Zealand and Israel, have joined in.
16 February 2016	Report of the Church of England	The Council for Christian Unity to oversee the implementation of the Commitments contained in the Columba Declaration, as set out in	Council for Christian Unity,	Report to be debated at Church of Scotland Assembly 25 May; if approved, Council for Christian Unity will (a) discuss formal responses to

DATE PASSED	MOTION	ACTION CALLED FOR	INTENDED AUDIENCE	FOLLOW-UP
	– Church of Scotland Joint Study Group (GS 2106)	paragraph 38 of the report, and set up the Contact Group proposed by it, ensuring that the Scottish Episcopal Church is invited to appoint a representative to attend its meetings.	Church of Scotland, Scottish Episcopal Church	the report from the Scottish Episcopal Church and the United Reformed Church, and (b) take forward matters relating to implementation, including Terms of Reference, initial priorities and membership for the Contact Group, in liaison with the Church of Scotland and the Scottish Episcopal Church.
16 February 2016	Proposed Enabling Measure (2016)	Invited the Archbishops’ Council to introduce legislation at the July 2016 group of sessions	Archbishops’ Council	First Consideration of draft Enabling Measure will be introduced to General Synod in July 2016.
16 February 2016	Diocesan Synod Motion on Blood and Organ Donation (GS2022A and GS 2022B)	Calls on all Church of England parishes to encourage their members to become blood and organ donors.	Church of England parishes	Action lies with the dioceses and parishes.
17 February 2016	Diocesan Synod Motion on ‘The Impact of Sanctions on Benefit Claimants’ (GS2019A and GS2019B)	Called on HMG to implement the recommendations set out in <i>Feeding Britain</i> in respect of the use of sanctions upon benefit claimants, to initiate a full independent review of the impact and efficacy of the sanctions and conditionality regime and to encourage every part of the Church of England to offer practical and pastoral support to those experiencing benefit sanctions, building on the Church’s work with food banks, credit unions and debt advice.’	Her Majesty’s Government, dioceses and parishes	A report of the debate was sent to the Department for Work and Pensions.

DATE PASSED	MOTION	ACTION CALLED FOR	INTENDED AUDIENCE	FOLLOW-UP
18 February 2016	Debate on a Motion on Renewal and Reform: Resourcing Ministerial Education (GS 2020)	Re-affirmed the objectives set out in GS1979, welcomed the objectives set out in GS2020, endorsed the funding arrangements agreed by the Archbishops' Council, requested a progress report back to Synod from the Archbishops' Council by July 2018.		The Ministry Council established a Steering Group in February 2016 to carry forward the implementation, with a membership which represents widely the interests of stakeholders, including dioceses and TEIs. A programme of consultation has begun and will be completed in September 2016, leading to shadow running of the new arrangements in some dioceses and TEIs in 2016-17 so that the new arrangements are in place by September 2017. In parallel the Lay Ministries Working Group will report on current and future patterns of lay ministry in November 2016, including options for new forms of lay ministry and their resourcing.
18 February 2016	Take Note Debate on a Report on 'Renewal and Reform: Resourcing the Future' (GS2021)	The Synod was asked to Take Note of the report setting out the implementation plans for the Resourcing the Future review of the distribution of the Church's national funds.	Dioceses and parishes	On-going implementation of the work-stream on Resourcing the Future. This includes the Peer Review process, and the applications for Strategic Development Funding.