

GENERAL SYNOD

PENSIONS (PRE-CONSOLIDATION) MEASURE

REPORT OF THE REVISION COMMITTEE

Chair: The Rt Worshipful Charles George QC, Dean of the Arches and Auditor
(*ex officio*)

Ex officio members

(Steering Committee): The Rt Revd James Langstaff, Bishop of Rochester (Chair)
Mr Carl Fender (Lincoln)
The Rt Worshipful Peter Collier QC (Vicar General, York) (*ex officio*)
The Revd Paul Cartwright (Leeds)
The Rt Revd Alistair Magowan, Bishop of Ludlow
Ms Josile Munro (London)
The Ven. Dr Anne Dawtry, Archdeacon of Halifax (Leeds)

Appointed members: The Revd Canon Simon Butler (Southwark)
Mrs Mary Durlacher (Chelmsford)
The Revd Stewart Fyfe (Carlisle)
Mr David Lamming (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich)
The Ven. Dr Peter Rouch, Archdeacon of Bournemouth (Winchester)
Mr Michael Stallybrass (York)
The Revd Canon Jenny Tomlinson (Chelmsford)

Consultant: Mr Aiden Hargreaves-Smith (Diocesan Registrar of the Dioceses of Chelmsford and Gibraltar in Europe)

Staff: Mr Stephen Slack (Legal Adviser)
The Revd Alexander McGregor (Deputy Legal Adviser)
Mr Christopher Packer (Legislative Counsel)
Mr Sion Hughes Carew (Secretary)

References in this report to “the Committee” are references to the Revision Committee.

References to clauses reflect the clauses in GS 2032 unless otherwise indicated.

Decisions taken by the Committee were taken unanimously unless otherwise indicated.

1. The draft Pensions (Pre-consolidation) Measure (GS 2032) received first consideration at the July 2016 group of sessions. The draft Measure makes a number of amendments to the Church of England’s pensions legislation in advance of a consolidation which is to be introduced next year. A full explanation of each provision of the draft Measure as introduced was contained in the explanatory memorandum (GS 2032X).
2. The Committee met on three occasions to consider this draft Measure along with two other Measures and completed its remaining business by correspondence under Standing Order 56(4).
3. The Committee did not receive any submissions from members on the draft Measure.

4. The Committee made one amendment to the draft Measure. The Committee now returns the draft Measure as amended by it (GS 2032A) to the Synod. New text is shown in bold type in GS 2032A.
5. The amendment inserts a new paragraph after paragraph 5 in the Schedule to the Measure. The new paragraph amends section 34 of the Clergy Pensions Measure 1961. It does so by inserting a new provision which is consequential on the main amendment made by paragraph 2 of the Schedule inserting a new section 18A into the 1961 Measure. The main amendment provides for the Church of England Pensions Board to transfer the sums standing to the credit of the Clergy (Widows and Dependents) Pension Fund to the Church of England Funded Pension Scheme, along with the related liabilities in respect of widows and dependents.
6. Section 34 of the 1961 Measure requires there to be a valuation of the Clergy (Widows and Dependents) Pension Fund no less frequently than every five years. If that fund is transferred as provided for in the new section 18A there will no longer be any need for it to be valued separately. Following a transfer, it would be valued as part of the regular valuation of the funded scheme. The amendment disapplies the requirement for a separate valuation following such a transfer.

Charles George
Chairman of the Revision Committee

January 2017