Here you will find an overview of each of the Committees and Commissions of the General Synod. Further information such as membership, future meeting dates can all be found here.
Appointments Committee

The Appointments Committee is a commission of the General Synod and the Archbishops' Council. It is responsible for making such appointments and/or recommendations on appointments to synodical and other bodies as the Synod or the Archbishops' Council require.

Members, meeting dates and more

The type of appointments for which they are responsible, include appointments to: synodical bodies, such as legislative steering or revision committees, the Standing Orders Committee etc. and Boards, Councils and Committees of the Archbishops' Council.

They are also responsible for appointing representatives of the Synod on the governing bodies of theological training institutions, governing bodies of mission agencies (Partnership for World Mission); representatives of the Church of England at ecumenical conferences and at the governing assemblies of other denominations.

Members

Chair - Ven Pete Spiers (Liverpool)

Elected by the House of Bishops

Vacancy

Elected by the House of Clergy

Rev Canon John Dunnett (Chelmsford)
Rev Andrew Moughtin-Mumby (Southwark)
Rev Canon Dr Andy Salmon (Manchester)

Elected by the House of Laity

Mrs Rebecca Chapman (Southwark)
Mrs Lucy Doherty (Portsmouth)
Mrs Sarah Finch (London)

Appointed by the Archbishops' Council

Dr Rachel Jepson (Birmingham)
Ven Luke Miller (London)

Secretary - Jenny Jacobs
Business Committee

The Committee is responsible for organising the agenda of the General Synod, enabling it to fulfil its role as a legislative and deliberative body. Many of its policies are available on the Members' Resources page.

Members

Chair (elected by General Synod)

The Revd Canon Robert Hammond (Chelmsford)

Elected by the House of Bishops

The Rt Revd Martin Gorick, Bishop of Dudley

Elected by the House of Clergy

Fr Paul Cartwright (Leeds)
Revd Mark Ireland (Blackburn)
Revd Jody Stowell (London)

Elected by the House of Laity

Mr Clive Scowen (London)
Mrs Michelle Obende (Chelmsford)
Mr Nic Tall (Bath & Wells)

Appointed by the Archbishops' Council

Mr Joseph Diwakar (Archbishops’ Council)
Revd Timothy Goode (Archbishops' Council)

Secretary

Jenny Jacobs (Acting Clerk to the Synod)
020 7898 1363

Assistant Secretary

Marija Mckean (Executive Officer - Synod Team)
020 7898 1550

Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee was established and is required by law (the Church of England Assembly (Powers) Act 1919) and included...
Constitution of the General Synod. Amongst other things, it is responsible for submitting Measures to Parliament for approval once they have received final approval by the General Synod.

Members, meeting dates and more

Members

Ex officio Members

The Most Revd and Rt Hon Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury (Joint Chair)
The Most Revd and Rt Hon Dr John Sentamu, Archbishop of York (Joint Chair)
The Revd Canon Simon Butler (Prolocutor of the Lower House of the Convocation of Canterbury)
The Revd Canon Chris Newlands (Prolocutor of the Lower House of the Convocation of York)
Dr Jamie Harrison (Chair of the House of Laity)
Canon Elizabeth Paver (Vice-Chair of the House of Laity)
The Rt Worshipful Charles George QC (Dean of the Arches and Auditor)
Mr Andrew Selous MP (Second Church Estates Commissioner)

Elected Members

The Revd Paul Benfield
Canon Peter Bruinvels
Mr Clive Scowen
The Rt Revd Dr Alan Smith (Bishop of St Albans)
The Ven. Jane Steen, Archdeacon of Southwark
Mr Geoffrey Tattersall QC (Deputy Chair)

Secretary - Alexander McGregor

Administrative Secretary - Conor Gannon

Standing Orders Committee

The Standing Orders Committee keeps under review the procedures and Standing Orders (rules) of the General Synod.

Members, meeting dates and more

Members
Chair - Mr Geoffrey Tattersall QC

Ex officio Members

The Revd Canon Simon Butler (Prolocutor of the Lower House of the Convocation of Canterbury)
The Revd Canon Chris Newlands (Prolocutor of the Lower House of the Convocation of York)
Dr Jamie Harrison (Chair of the House of Laity)
Canon Elizabeth Paver (Vice-Chair of the House of Laity)

Appointed Members

Mr David Robilliard
The Revd Preb. Simon Cawdell
Mrs Mary Durlacher
Mr Clive Scowen

Secretary - Conor Gannon

Clergy Discipline Commission

The Commission monitors the exercise of discipline and highlights and encourages best practice.

Please visit the Clergy Discipline Commission page for more information.

Crown Nominations Commission

The Crown Nominations Commission (CNC) considers vacancies in diocesan bishoprics in the Provinces of Canterbury and York, and candidates for appointments to them.

Members and more information

At each meeting of the Commission the Chair is taken by the Archbishop of the Province for the vacancy under consideration.

The Commission identifies two candidates suitable for appointment, whose names are submitted to the Prime Minister by the appropriate Archbishop or, in the case of the Archbishopric of Canterbury or York, by the chair of the Commission.

The names submitted are given in an order of preference decided upon by the Commission and the Prime Minister will submit the first name to Her Majesty The Queen for approval.

In 2016 the Archbishops of Canterbury and York commissioned a theological review of the CNC's work. The review is currently underway and
Members

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby (Archbishop of Canterbury)

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Doctor John Sentamu (Archbishop of York)

Elected members of the House of Clergy of General Synod:

The Reverend John Dunnett
The Very Reverend Doctor David Ison
The Reverend Canon Doctor Judith Maltby

Elected members of the House of Laity of General Synod:

Mr Anthony Archer
Ms Christina Baron
Ms Jane Patterson

Six members of the Vacancy-in-See Committee of the diocese whose bishopric is to become, or has become, vacant

Ex officio non-voting members

Canon Caroline Boddington (Archbishops' Secretary for Appointments)
Mr Edward Chaplin CMG OBE (Prime Minister's Appointments Secretary)

Dioceses Commission

The Dioceses Commission considers such matters as the reorganisation of diocesan boundaries, the creation and revival of suffragan sees, and the transfer of episcopal functions by diocesan bishops to suffragan and assistant bishops. The Diocese Commission was was established in 2008 under Part II of the Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 and reports to the General Synod.

Members and more information

Members

Chair - Dame Caroline Spelman

Vice Chair - Vacant
Elected Members

Mr Clive Scowen
The Revd Neil Patterson
Canon Robert Hammond
The Revd Dr Rob Munro

Appointed Members

Ms Ruth Martin
The Right Revd Paul Williams
The Ven Karen Lund
Mrs Sue Slater

Secretary - Ms Jenny Axtell

Faith and Order Commission

The Faith and Order Commission (FAOC) advises the House of Bishops, the General Synod and the Council for Christian Unity on ecclesiological and ecumenical matters and acts as a theological resource for the Church of England as a whole.

Members and more information

Members

Episcopal

The Right Revd Dr Christopher Cocksworth, Bishop of Coventry (Chair)
The Rt Revd Jonathan Baker, Bishop of Fulham
The Right Revd Dr Tim Dakin, Bishop of Winchester
The Right Revd Michael Ipgrave, Bishop of Lichfield
The Right Revd Anne Hollinghurst, Bishop of Aston

Non - episcopal

Professor Nicholas Adams
The Revd Canon Professor Loveday Alexander
The Revd Dr Andrew Atherstone
Professor Mike Higton
Dr Joshua Hordern
The Revd Dr Rosalyn Murphy
The Revd Dr Emma Ineson
The Revd Thomas Seville CR

Secretary - The Revd Canon Dr Jeremy Worthen

More on the Faith and Order Commission can be found by following the link at the bottom on this page.

Fees Advisory Commission

The Fees Advisory Commission makes recommendations as to certain fees to be paid to ecclesiastical judges, legal officers and others, and embodies those recommendations in Orders which are laid before the General Synod for approval. If approved, the Orders take effect unless annulled by either House of Parliament, and are published as Statutory Instruments.

Members and more information


Members

Chair - The Venerable Bob Cooper
Mrs Josile Munro
Mr Carl Fender
The Revd Christopher Smith
Vacant
Ms Anna Spriggs
Mrs Louise Connacher
The Rt Revd David Williams, Bishop of Basingstoke
Mr Bill Hussleby

Secretary - Suzanne Esson

Legal Advisory Commission
The Legal Advisory Commission gives advice on legal matters of general interest to the Church which are referred to it by the Archbishops' Council and its Divisions, Boards, Councils and Commissions, by the General Synod and its Houses and Commissions, by the Church Commissioners and the Church of England Pensions Board, and by diocesan clerical and lay office holders.

Members and more information

The Commission cannot accept requests for advice from private individuals or secular bodies. In addition, the Commission cannot normally give opinions on contentious matters, but it may be able to do so (depending on the circumstances) if the facts are agreed by all parties to the dispute, all parties join in referring the matter to the Commission for an opinion and it is not (and is not expected to become) the subject-matter of proceedings in the courts.

The opinions of the Commission and its predecessor, the Legal Board, on matters of general interest are published by Church House Publishing under the title Legal Opinions Concerning the Church of England.

Members

Ex officio
- The Right Worshipful Morag Ellis KC (Dean of the Arches and Auditor)
- The Right Worshipful Timothy Briden (Vicar-General of Canterbury)
- The Right Worshipful Peter Collier KC (Vicar-General of York)
- Mr Darren Oliver (Canterbury Provincial Registrar)
- Mrs Louise Connacher (York Provincial Registrar)
- The Reverend Alexander McGregor (Chief Legal Adviser to the Archbishop's Council and Official Solicitor to the Church Commissioners)
- Mr Christopher Packer (Legislative Counsel to the General Synod)

Appointed by the Appointments Committee of the Church of England
- The Worshipful David Pittaway KC
- Ms Araba Taylor
- The Worshipful Ruth Arlow
- His Honour Judge David Hodge KC
- Mr Stuart Jones
- Miss Cordelia Hall
- The Rt Revd Julian Henderson
- The Ven. Douglas Dettmer, Archdeacon of Totnes
- The Revd Paul Benfield
- Mr Robert Pearce KC
- Mr Andrew Roberts

Legal Aid Commission

The Legal Aid Commission operates under the Church of England (Legal Aid) Measure 1994, and administers the Legal Aid Fund which was originally set up under the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1963 and is continued by the 1994 Measure.

Members and more information

Legal aid under the 1994 Measure may be granted, subject to various conditions, for certain types of proceedings before Ecclesiastical Courts.
and tribunals; details of eligibility for legal aid and the Commission's procedures, together with an application form for legal aid, are obtainable from the Secretary, on request.

**Members**

*Chair*

His Honour Judge Andrew Rutherford

The Rt Revd Alistair Magowan - Bishop of Ludlow

The Ven. Clive Mansell (Rochester) - Archdeacon of Tonbridge

The Revd Canon Sally Lodge (Chelmsford)

The Revd Paul Benfield (Blackburn)

The Revd Geoffrey Harbord (Sheffield)

The Revd Canon Joyce Jones (Wakefield)

Mrs Isabel Adcock (Chelmsford)

Mrs Rosaline Brewer (York)

Mrs Carolyn Johnson (Blackburn)

Mr Aiden Hargreaves-Smith (London)

*Secretary*

Stephen York

020 7898 1703

**Liturgical Commission**

The Liturgical Commission at present has four primary functions:

- To prepare forms of service at the request of the House of Bishops;
- To advise on the experimental use of forms of service and the development of liturgy;
- To share information and advice on liturgical matters with other Churches both in the Anglican Communion and elsewhere;
- To promote the development and understanding of liturgy and its use in the Church.
All of the Common Worship texts and the Book of Common Prayer can be found under the Prayer and Worship webpages.

**Members**

*Chair* - The Bishop of Exeter

*Vice Chair* - The Bishop of Lichfield

Ms Shayne Ardron
The Revd Dr Andrew Atherstone
The Revd Philip Barnes
The Revd Mark Earey
Ms Kashmir Garton
The Revd Canon Dr Christopher Irvine
The Revd Canon Dr Simon Jones
Mr Simon Kershaw
The Revd George Lane
The Revd Fiona Mayer-Jones
Mrs Lucy Moore
Dr Bridget Nichols
The Revd Canon Dr Jo Spreadbury
The Revd Canon Dr Samuel Wells
The Revd Dr Jennifer Strawbridge

*National Liturgy and Worship Adviser* - Dr Matthew Salisbury

*Administrative Secretary* - Sue Moore

**Revision Committee**

[More information](#)

As required under Standing Order 55(2), each submission to the Revision Committee for the Miscellaneous Provisions Measure, Amending Canon No 42, Amending Canon No 43 is presented in the documents below. Please note that no proposals for amendment of Church of England Pensions (Application of Capital Funds) Measure were received.
Submissions to the Revision Committee for Miscellaneous Provisions Measure.

Submissions to the Revision Committee for Canon No 42.

Submissions to the Revision Committee for Canon No 43.

Representations to the Revision Committee for the Draft Diocesan Stipends Fund (Amendment) Measure.

Contact Us

If you have a question about any of our Committees, please get in touch using the Contact Form below. Please pick “General Enquiry” for the subject line

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Faith and Order Commission

Dioceses Commission

More work from the Dioceses Commission

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