

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 and other useful documents can all be found here.

Stained glass windowsill with light reflections

Adam Shaw

## 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* - Canon Margaret Swinson

*Elected by the House of Bishops*

The Rt Revd Julian Henderson, Bishop of Blackburn

*Elected by the House of Clergy*

The Revd Mark Lucas

The Revd Canon Giles Goddard

The Revd Andrew Moughtin-Mumby

*Elected by the House of Laity*

Lucy Docherty

Sarah Finch

Dr Rachel Jepson

*Appointed by the Archbishops' Council*

Canon Elizabeth Paver

*Secretary* - Jonathan Neil-Smith

020 7898 1373

## **Business Committee**

The Committee is responsible for organising the agenda of the 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, meeting dates and more](#)

### **Members**

*Appointed Members*

Canon Adrian Greenwood (*Archbishops' Council*)

Mr Joseph Diwakar (*Archbishops' Council*)

*Elected Members*

The Revd Canon Sue Booy (Oxford) - Chair of the Business Committee

The Rt Revd Pete Broadbent, Bishop of Willesden

The Revd Canon Graeme Buttery (Carlisle)

The Revd Canon Simon Cawdell (Hereford)

Mrs Anne Foreman (Exeter)

Mr Robert Hammond (Chelmsford)

The Revd Canon Joyce Jones (West Yorkshire and the Dales)

Mr Clive Scowen (London)

*Secretary* - The Revd Canon Dr Jeremy Worthen (*Acting Clerk to the Synod*)

020 7898 1488

*Assistant Secretary* - Alvin Lee (*Executive Officer - Synod*)

020 7898 1441

# Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee was established and is required by law (the Church of England Assembly (Powers) Act 1919) and included the 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 more information is available.

## **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 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* - Canon Prof. Michael Clarke

*Vice Chair* - The Revd Paul Benfield

#### *Elected Members*

Mr Anthony Archer

Mr Malcolm Halliday

The Revd Canon Geoffrey Hardbord

The Revd Dr Rob Munro

#### *Appointed Members*

Ruth Martin

The Rt Revd Christopher Foster

The Right Revd Dame Sarah Mullally

Canon Prof Hilary Russell

*Secretary* - Mr Jonathan Neil-Smith

# 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](#)

The Fees Advisory Commission is constituted under Part II of the Ecclesiastical Fees Measure 1986, as amended by the Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure 2000 and the Ecclesiastical Fees (Amendment) Measure 2011.

## Members

*Chair* - Mr John Alpass

The Rt Revd Alistair Magowan (Bishop of Ludlow)

The Revd Stephen Trott

Mr Bill Hesselby

Mr Niall Blackie

Mr Geoffrey Tattersall QC

The Revd Canon John Rees

The Revd Canon Joyce Jones

The Revd Christopher Smith

*Secretary* - Conor Gannon

## 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**

*Chair* - The Revd Canon and Worshipful Dr Rupert Bursell QC

*Vice-Chair* - The Revd Canon John Rees

The Rt Worshipful Charles George QC

The Rt Worshipful Timothy Briden

The Rt Worshipful Peter Collier QC

Mr Stephen Slack

Mr Christopher Packer

Prof. David McClean CBE QC DCL FBA

The Worshipful Mark Hill QC

The Worshipful Dr Charles Mynors

The Worshipful Morag Ellis QC

The Worshipful Ruth Arlow

Mr Peter Beesley

Mr Peter Foskett

Miss Cordelia Hall

The Rt Revd Christopher Lowson, Bishop of Lincoln

The Ven. Douglas Dettmer, Archdeacon of Totnes

The Revd Paul Benfield

The Very Revd Rogers Govender, Dean of Manchester

Mr Robert Pearce QC

His Honour Judge David Hodge QC

Mr Andrew Roberts

*Secretary* - The Revd Alexander McGregor

020 7898 1722

*Administrative Secretary* - Conor Gannon

020 7898 1371

# 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.

## Members and more information

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

## 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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- 2 Preview
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Subject

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**Preview**

## Related Commission and Committee Pages

[Bible open on the gospel according to Mark inside church](#)

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### Faith and Order Commission

[More information on the work of the Faith and Order Commission](#)

[Filled pews at Worcester cathedral service](#)

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### Dioceses Commission

[More work from the Dioceses Commission](#)

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