

PARISH GOVERNANCE

Model Rules

11 The Rules in Part 9 apply to each parish.

Scheme for amendment

12 (1) The annual parochial church meeting or a special parochial church meeting may make a scheme to amend or supplement, or to replace (either as a whole or in part), the Rules in Part 9 in so far as they apply to that parish.

(2) A scheme under this Rule may not make provision which would disapply or suspend or restrict the application of –

(a) Rule M8(4) to (8) (disqualification from nomination to be parochial representative);

(aa) Rule M12A (elected person: declaration as to disqualifications);

(b) Rule M13 (special parochial meeting);

(c) Rule M14 (extraordinary parochial meeting);

(d) Rule M15(2) and (3) (PCC: laity must outnumber clergy);

(e) Rule M15(13) (PCC: disqualification from membership);

(f) Rule M27(2) (PCC quorate only if majority present lay);

(g) Rule M36 (district church council: disqualification from membership);

(h) Rule M41 (joint council: disqualification from membership);

(i) Rule M42(5) (joint council: laity must outnumber clergy).

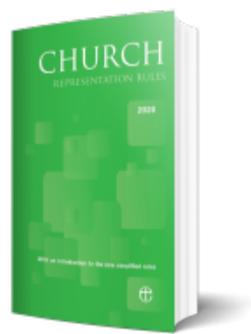
Procedure for making scheme

13 (1) A scheme under Rule 12 is valid only if it is approved by at least two-thirds of the persons present and voting at the meeting.

(2) A scheme approved under paragraph (1) must be referred to the bishop's council and standing committee and must be accompanied by –

- (a) a copy of the resolution of the meeting at which the scheme was approved, and
 - (b) a statement of the number of persons attending the meeting, the number voting for approval of the scheme and the number voting against.
- (3) The bishop's council and standing committee, having had a scheme referred to it under paragraph (2), may –
- (a) approve the scheme without amendment,
 - (b) approve the scheme subject to proposed amendments, or
 - (c) decline to approve the scheme.
- (4) The bishop's council and standing committee may approve a scheme only if it is satisfied that the scheme –
- (a) makes due provision for the representation of the laity of the parish,
 - (b) ensures effective governance of the parish,
 - (c) entitles the minister to chair the annual parochial church meeting and the PCC, and
 - (d) makes due provision for the allocation of property, rights, liabilities and functions to the PCC in circumstances where there is a scheme for the establishment of a joint council but the parish –
- (i) ceases to be connected to the other parish or parishes to which the scheme applies (see [Rule M37\(4\)](#)), or
 - (ii) is dissolved by a pastoral scheme which makes provision under section 31(1)(b) of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.
- (5) An amendment proposed under paragraph (3)(b) is passed only if it is approved by at least two-thirds of the persons present and voting at the annual parochial church meeting or a special parochial church meeting.
- (6) A scheme under [Rule 12](#) does not come into operation unless it has been approved by the bishop's council and standing committee.
- (7) A scheme under [Rule 12](#) comes into operation on the day specified in the scheme.
- (8) Where a scheme under [Rule 12](#) is approved under this Rule, a copy of the scheme –
- (a) must be filed in the diocesan registry, and
 - (b) must be sent to the secretary of the bishop's council and standing committee.

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