The Archbishops' Advisers for Appointments and Vocations team is a key team within the Office of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, supporting and advising the Archbishops and the wider Church on the appointments process for senior clergy. The team supports the work of the Crown Nominations Commission in identifying new Diocesan Bishops, those involved in appointing Suffragan Bishops, and the selection panels who nominate new cathedral Deans. The team supports senior clergy in their vocation and discernment, working closely with the Ministry Development team and others to develop a diverse pipeline of candidates for senior roles. The team also helps to ensure that senior clergy are equipped for the Church of England's missional challenges and for the vital role it plays in the life of the nation.

Diocesan Bishops
Forthcoming Vacant Sees

**Sodor & Man**

**CNC1:** 17 January 2024  
**CNC2:** 13 & 14 March 2024  

**Voting Members:**
- The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Stephen Cottrell  
- The Right Reverend Stephen Lake (standing in for The Archbishop of Canterbury)  
- The Reverend Paul Benfield  
- The Reverend Alex Brown  
- Miss Debbie Buggs  
- Miss Rosemary Clarke  
- Miss Prudence Dailey (standing in for Mr Temitope Taiwo)  
- The Reverend Lis Goddard  
- The Very Reverend Nigel Godfrey  
- Dr Timothy Grass  
- The Reverend Jeanette Hamer  
- Miss Marilyn Payne  
- Mr Clive Scowen (standing in for Ms Christina Baron)  
- The Reverend Jo Stobart

**Non-voting members:**
- Mr Jonathan Hellewell  
- Canon Stephen Knott

**Exeter**

**CNC1:** 29 February 2024  
**CNC2:** 9 & 10 April 2024  

**Voting members:**
- The Most Honourable and Right Reverend Justin Welby  
- The Most Honourable and Right Reverend Stephen Cottrell  
- Ms Christina Baron  
- The Reverend Canon Andrew Cornes  
- Miss Prudence Dailey  
- The Reverend Prebendary Karl Freeman  
- Mr Simon Friend  
- The Very Reverend Jonathan Greener  
- Mr Tim Hamilton  
- Mrs Annie Jeffries  
- The Reverend Canon Claire Lording  
- The Reverend Esther Prior  
- The Reverend Carl Robinson  
- Mr Temitope Taiwo

**Non-voting members:**
- Mr Jonathan Hellewell
Voting members:
The Most Honourable and Right Reverend Justin Welby (CNC2)
The Most Honourable and Right Reverend Stephen Cottrell
The Right Reverend Martin Seeley (standing in for The Archbishop of Canterbury at CNC1)
Miss Christina Baron
The Reverend Canon James Blandford-Baker
Miss Debbie Buggs
Canon Dr Felicity Cooke
The Reverend Canon Andrew Cornes
The Reverend Canon Sarah Gower
The Venerable Dr Alex Hughes
Canon Simon Kershaw
The Reverend Esther Prior
Mr Clive Scowen
The Reverend Jo Stobart
Mr Christopher Townsend

Non-voting members:
Mr Jonathan Hellewell
Canon Stephen Knott

Voting members:
The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby
The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Stephen Cottrell
Ms Christina Baron
Miss Debbie Buggs
The Reverend Canon Andrew Cornes
The Reverend Lis Goddard
The Reverend Canon Jonathan Jee
The Reverend Canon Claire Lording
Dr Sarah Mount
The Reverend Dr Simon Oakes
Mr Tim Pollard
Mrs Alicia Sampson
Mr Clive Scowen
The Very Reverend John Witcombe

Non-voting members:
Nomination and appointment process

The nomination and appointment of a Diocesan Bishop is through the Crown Nominations Commission (CNC) which meets at least twice to consider each appointment, or 'vacancy in see'. The work of the CNC is governed by General Synod Standing Orders 136 - 141.

The process for choosing a Diocesan Bishop begins in the diocese with a comprehensive consultation process, running in parallel with the discernment of the diocese's Vacancy in See Committee. However, because of the variety of the roles which diocesan bishops have - not only within the Church of England but also locally and nationally - the choice is not made by representatives of the diocese alone.

Diocesan representatives work alongside representatives of the Church of England, elected from the General Synod. Details of the national ‘Central Members’ of the Crown Nominations Committee can be found here. The Archbishop of Canterbury is Chair of the Crown Nominations Committee and presides at meetings of the Commission when an appointment in the Province of Canterbury is being considered. The Archbishop of York is Vice-Chair of the Commission and presides at meetings of the Commission when an appointment in the Province of York is being considered. The Sovereign (advised by the Prime Minister) makes the final appointment to the vacant see.

Resources

- Membership of the Crown Nominations Commission since 2017 (215.5 KB)
- GS Misc 1171 - Discerning in Obedience (Report on the Review of the CNC) September 2017 (1.1 MB)
- GS 2080 - Discerning in Obedience (Report on the Review of the CNC) 2018 (605.28 KB)
- VISC Regulations as amended to 16.11.23 (214.63 KB)
**Suffragan Bishops**

**Nomination and appointment process**

The nomination and appointment of Suffragan Bishops is made through the Diocesan Bishop, supported by an Advisory Group.

**Forthcoming vacant sees**

- Burnley
- Woolwich
- Wolverhampton
- Europe
- Warwick

**Deans**

**Nomination and appointment process**

The nomination of a Dean to either a Crown or Parish Church Cathedral is made by a panel convened for this purpose. The panel is led by a Chair, nominated by the Archbishop of the Province.

**Upcoming vacancies**

- Lincoln
- Chichester
- Lichfield
- Worcester
- Chelmsford
- Guildford

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