

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

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.

Forthcoming Vacant Sees

Ely

Voting members:

The Most Honourable and Right Reverend Justin Welby (CNC2)

The Most Honourable and Right Reverend Stephen Cottrell

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

Further details to follow.

Coventry

CNC1: 26 June 2024

CNC2: 11 & 12 September 2024

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:

Mr Jonathan Hellewell

Canon Stephen Knott

Truro

CNC1: 6 September 2024

CNC2: 15 & 16 October 2024

Voting members:

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Stephen Cottrell

Miss Christina Baron

The Reverend Paul Benfield

The Reverend Laura Bushell Hawke

Miss Prudence Dailey

The Reverend Anna Mason-Hyde

The Reverend Esther Prior

Mr Clive Scowen

Mr Roger Smith

The Reverend Jo Stobart

Mr Mike Sturgess

Mr Simon Taurins

The Reverend Andrew Yates

Non-voting members:

Mrs Helen Dimmock (standing in for Mr Jonathan Hellewell)

Canon Stephen Knott

Durham

CNC1: 11 October 2024

CNC2: 26 & 27 November 2024

Voting members:

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Stephen Cottrell

The Right Reverend Martin Seeley (standing in for The Archbishop of Canterbury)

Ms Christina Baron

Dr Valerie Barron

The Reverend Paul Benfield

Miss Prudence Dailey

The Reverend Lis Goddard

Canon Dr Jamie Harrison

The Reverend Canon Claire Lording

The Reverend Canon Mark Miller

Mr Clive Scowen

The Venerable Rick Simpson

Canon Frances Stenlake

Canon Margaret Vaughan

Non-voting members:

Mr Jonathan Hellewell

Canon Stephen Knott

Carlisle

CNC1: 22 January 2025

CNC2: 13 & 14 March 2025

Further details to follow.

St Edmundsbury & Ipswich

CNC1: 4 March 2025

CNC2: 28 & 29 April 2025

Further details to follow.

Worcester

CNC1: 9 May 2025

CNC2: 12 & 13 June 2025

Further details to follow.

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)
- [Vacancy in See Committees Regulation 2024 \(GS 2334\)](#) (168.11 KB)
- [GS 2080 - Discerning in obedience report on the review of the CNC](#) (605.28 KB)
- [GS Misc 1044 - Archbishops' Guidelines on the Implementation of Choosing Bishops 2017](#) (148.11 KB)

Suffragan Bishops

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

Forthcoming vacant sees include Europe, Reading, Buckingham, Aston, and Warwick.

Deans

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.

Forthcoming vacant sees include Guildford and Southwell & Nottingham.

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