

## Private Members' Motions explained

Private Members' Motions (PMMs) are one of a number of ways debates can be brought to the attention of the General Synod.

Any member of the General Synod can write and submit a PMM. In order to decide whether a PMM should be put on the General Synod's agenda the Business Committee requires a minimum of 100 expressions of interest in support for the motion to be debated in the form of signatures. By putting their name to particular motions, members are signalling that they think they should be debated. Information on how Synod members can sign PMMs can be found on the Members' Resources page.

When putting together the agenda for the next meeting of the Synod, the Business Committee thinks about the number of signatures each motion has received. Generally there is only space for one or two PMMs to be debated in each meeting of the General Synod (group of sessions). While the motion with the most signatures is often the one selected there can be reasons for selecting another that has also attracted considerable support (it might, for example, be more time-critical).

Once a motion has been open for signature for three groups of sessions, if it has not attracted 100 signatures, it expires.

Below are the current Private Members' Motions. They can be signed electronically by emailing to [synod.pmms@churchofengland.org](mailto:synod.pmms@churchofengland.org).

## Current Private Members' Motions

### SERVICE OF PRAYER AND DEDICATION

*Christina Baron (Bath and Wells) and Neil Patterson (Hereford) to move:*

**‘That this Synod request the House of Bishops to commend an order of Prayer and Dedication after the registration of a civil partnership or same sex marriage, for use by ministers in exercise of their discretion under Canon B5, being a form of service neither contrary to, nor indicative of any departure from, the doctrine of the Church of England in any essential matter, together with guidance that no parish should be obliged to host, nor minister conduct, such a service.’**

### SCRUTINY OF DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING

*Gavin Drake (Southwell and Nottingham) to move:*

**‘That this Synod requests the Archbishops’ Council to bring draft legislation to the earliest possible Group of Sessions, the purpose of which is to create statutory powers for a new or existing national body, giving them the authority to investigate, intervene, and if necessary to direct a particular course of action in cases where bishops or dioceses are not managing safeguarding cases appropriately, effectively, safely, or in line with the House of Bishops’ safeguarding guidance.’**

### ASSISTED SUICIDE

*Dr Simon Eyre (Chichester) to move:*

**‘That this Synod**

- **appreciate the enormous and untiring efforts of health professionals, including healthcare chaplains, in constantly developing and maintaining the excellence of palliative and end of life care provision in this country;**

- call on Her Majesty's Government to guarantee and expedite the adequate funding and resourcing of palliative care services within the NHS to ensure that the highest possible standards of care are achieved and made universally accessible; and
- affirm that the current legislation in relation to Assisted Suicide referenced in Section 2 of the Suicide Act 1961 (and its application through the DPP guidelines) should remain unchanged.'

**By filling in and submitting the following form, Synod members are including his or her name on the list of members who support a debate on the selected PMM.**

Indicates required field

First name

Last name

Synod number

Email address

Postcode   
ZIP/Postal Code

?By ticking this box, you confirm that you are the person listed above.

?By ticking this box, you confirm you are happy to share your data with the Archbishops' Council, Church Commissioners and Church of England Pensions Board.

We will not share this data with third parties.

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The Archbishops' Council, Church Commissioners and Church of England Pensions Board are the three main operating bodies of the Church of England. The other National Church Institutions can be found on our website.

PMM to be signed

Private Members Motions fall under Special Agenda III. The other Special Agendas are: Legislative Business (Special Agenda I); Liturgical Business (Special Agenda II); and Diocesan Synod Motions (Special Agenda IV)

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## Related Links

[Vicar presiding and preparing for the Eucharist in church at altar](#)

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### Liturgical Business

[A list of liturgical business currently on the General Synod's Agenda](#)

[Lots of people inside church standing around the font for baptism](#)

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### Diocesan Synod Motions

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