

GENERAL SYNOD

JULY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2017

EIGHTH NOTICE PAPER

Notice of motions and amendments received. Amendments will subsequently be marshalled, in the order in which they are to be taken, on the daily Order Papers.

ITEM 8

PRESENTATION FROM THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS ON THE PROPOSALS FOR THE PASTORAL ADVISORY GROUP ON HUMAN SEXUALITY AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TEACHING DOCUMENT (GS Misc 1158)

Further to paragraph 8 of GS Misc 1158, members will wish to note that **the Revd Christina Beardsley** has been appointed as a Core Consultant Member of the Co-ordinating Group for the Episcopal Teaching Document.

ITEM 9

PRESENCE AND ENGAGEMENT: REPORT FROM THE ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL'S MISSION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL (GS 2063)

Canon Peter Adams (St Albans) to move as an amendment:

At the end *insert*–

“(–) noting the importance of relationships between churches and people of other faiths in maintaining community peace and solidarity in many P&E parishes, encourage churches and Christian people throughout the nation to reach out to neighbours and colleagues of other faiths to offer solidarity and friendship in times of tension, condemning the attempts of extremists to divide us and challenging all hatred.”

**SPECIAL AGENDA III
PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS**

ITEM 12

CONVERSION THERAPY (GS 2070A AND GS 2070B)

The Revd Dr Sean Doherty (London) to move as an amendment:

Leave out everything after “That this Synod:” and *insert*–

“(a) note the statement of 16 January 2017 signed by The UK Council for Psychotherapy, The Royal College of General Practitioners and others concerning the practice of conversion therapy;

(b) affirm that all sexuality is equally affected by the Fall and that therefore Christian therapies and pastoral practices which assume otherwise are not warranted;

(c) affirm that pastoral care, prayer ministry and professional counselling are legitimate means of supporting individuals who choose them freely, provided that they respect the proper dignity of human beings and do not involve coercion or manipulation or make unwarranted promises about the removal of unwanted feelings; and

(d) ask the House of Bishops to draw up guidelines for work in this area to discourage inappropriate pastoral practices, and to encourage good ones.”

Canon Dr Jamie Harrison (Durham) to move as an amendment:

Leave out everything after “That this Synod:” and *insert*–

“(a) endorse the Memorandum of Understanding on Conversion Therapy in the UK¹ of November 2015, signed by The Royal College of Psychiatrists and others, that the practice of gay conversion therapy has no place in the modern world, is unethical, potentially harmful and not supported by evidence; and

(b) call upon the Church to be sensitive to, and to listen to, contemporary expressions of gender identity.”

¹ <https://www.psychotherapy.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Memorandum-of-understanding-on-conversion-therapy.pdf>

Pursuant to SO 26(4)(c), the following amendment may be moved only with the permission of the Chair:

Mrs Christina Baron (Bath and Wells) to move as an amendment to the amendment notified by Canon Dr Jamie Harrison (Durham):

At the end, *insert*–

“(–) call on the Archbishop's Council to become a co-signatory, on behalf of the Church of England, to the 2015 Memorandum of Understanding, subject to the agreement of the current co-signatories.”

SPECIAL AGENDA IV DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTIONS

ITEM 13

WELCOMING TRANSGENDER PEOPLE (GS 2071A AND GS 2071B)

Dr Nick Land (York) to move as an amendment:

Leave out everything after “That this Synod:” and *insert*–

“(a) recognise the dignity of all people as made in the image of God and so affirm our commitment to welcome unconditionally in all our churches people who experience (or who have experienced) gender dysphoria;

(b) acknowledge different understandings around gender dysphoria and the field of gender identity more widely;

(c) consider that the preparation of liturgies to mark gender transition raises substantial theological and pastoral issues that the Church of England has not yet considered; and

(d) ask the House of Bishops to consider the theological, pastoral and other issues that gender transition raises for the Church and to report back to General Synod by the end of this quinquennium.”

GROUP WORK LOCATIONS

EXHIBITION CENTRE

Digital Evangelism – P/X001

Crossing the Generations – P/T005a

**National events as opportunities for community witness –
P/L001**

Life Events – P/L002

CENTRAL HALL

Thy Kingdom Come

SPRING LANE

Inclusion and Outreach – SLB/118

MINSTER SERVICE – SECURITY

The York Minster security team has requested that, in order to facilitate security procedures, all members wear their Synod pass to the service at the Minster on Sunday morning.