

GENERAL SYNOD

Instructions under SO 37(f) regarding Electronic Divisions

The Business Committee have updated the instructions regarding Electronic Divisions under SO 37(f), a copy of which in their revised form is attached.

Canon Sue Booy
Chair of the Business Committee

Instructions given by the Business Committee under Standing Order 37(f) for the conduct of divisions conducted by electronic means

In exercise of its powers under Standing Order 36(f) of the Standing Orders of the General Synod, the Business Committee of the General Synod **HEREBY ISSUES** the following instructions for the conduct of divisions conducted by electronic means:

1. Members must take a handset from the designated locations. On leaving the hall they must return their handset to one of the designated locations. (The designated locations are the following locations or such other locations as the Business Committee may from time to time specify in writing:
 - (a) in London:
 - (i) the landing outside the Bishop Partridge Hall; and
 - (ii) the exit from the Hoare Memorial Hall to the ambulatory; and
 - (b) in York: the Concourse.)
2. In order to record a vote or an abstention on a question members must (a) insert their voting card into their handset and (b) enter the randomly generated number which will be displayed on screens in the hall immediately before the vote. Subject to paragraph 3, Members not in possession of a voting card may not therefore record a vote or an abstention on a division conducted by electronic means.
3. If satisfied that the voting card issued to a member is defective, with the result that the member would not be able to record a vote or abstention by electronic means, the Registrar shall allow that member to record a vote or abstention with him, which shall be treated as having been recorded by electronic means.
4. Members must not allow their voting card to be used by any other member for the purposes of recording a vote or an abstention in a division conducted by electronic means.
5. Members must not communicate the randomly generated number to any person outside the hall.
6. Unless the Chairman directs otherwise, the length of the period during which members may record a vote or an abstention ('the voting period') will be one minute.
7. The Chairman must announce, or cause to be announced: (a) how long the voting period will last, (b) that the voting period is beginning, (c) before the voting period ends, that it will end in a specified period of time and (d) that the voting period has ended.
8. The Registrar will be responsible for the operation of the electronic voting system. In doing so he must give effect to the Chairman's directions.
9. At the end of the voting period the Registrar must give the Chairman a written statement of the result of the division, which the Chairman must then announce.