

## HOUSE OF BISHOPS

## SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

---

A meeting of the House of Bishops was held in the Guard Room, Lambeth Palace on 8-9 December 2014. Those matters reported below were taken in Committee of the whole House, under SO 14.

1. The House received presentations on the Task Group reports and discussed them in small groups and in plenary. The House:
  - a. The House welcomed the paper on **Discipleship** and agreed that the paper should go forward in amended form for debate at the General Synod in February 2015.
  - b. The House agreed the summary of proposals on **Resourcing Ministerial Education** and agreed that these should be engaged with in discussions at General Synod in February 2015.
  - c. The House welcomed the proposals in the Task Group report on **Resourcing the Future** and in the paper on **Use of Commissioners' Funds**.
  - d. The House agreed the implementation plan drawn up by the Development Advisory Group in the light of the Task Group report on **Senior Clerical Leadership**.
  - e. The House discussed the **Simplification Task Group paper** and the paper on **Optimising the Role of the NCI's**. The House welcomed both reports. It agreed that the work of the Simplification Task Group should continue into the next Quinquennium and that the work on Regulation 29 should begin immediately. The House agreed that the Simplification report should be discussed at the February 2015 General Synod.
  - f. The House agreed, with slight amendment, the **proposed motions** regarding the Task Groups to go to General Synod in February 2015.
2. The House welcomed the preparatory work done on a possible draft Pastoral Letter to be issued in good time before the General Election and agreed the next steps including engagement with the College in January.
3. The House welcomed the paper on the **Review of Continuing Ministerial Development** and commended its recommendations for implementation in dioceses.
4. The House received a short oral report of the **Recent Immersion Experience in India** by the senior Regional Representatives. The House agreed that the report should also be shared with the Synod in February.
5. The House received a briefing following the Dioceses Commission's decision to approve the filling of the **See of Maidstone**.
6. The House received an update on the paper on **Next Steps on the Shared Conversations**.
7. The House reviewed current safeguarding issues. In particular, it considered a draft FAOC paper on the **Theology of Safeguarding**, agreed to the proposed **Safeguarding Quality**

**Assurance Process** and agreed the establishment of a **Sub Group of the House on Safeguarding Practice Guidance**.

8. The House agreed to the proposals to amend **Canon 35**.
9. The House welcomed plans to debate Mission in Rural Multi-Parish Benefices and to schedule group work and debates on the Task Group reports at the February 2015 Group of Sessions.

Church House  
Westminster SW1P 3AZ  
December 2014

William Fittall  
Secretary General