

GENERAL SYNOD

Appointments to the Archbishops' Council

1. Up to six members of the Archbishops' Council are appointed under the provisions of section 1(2) of Schedule 1 to the National Institutions Measure 1998. Appointments are made by the Archbishops, subject to the approval of the Synod. The appointed members are currently:

Professor John Craven (1.7.2006 – 31.7.2013)

Philip Fletcher (1.1.2007 – 31.12.2014)

Andrew Britton (1.10.2007 – 30.9.2012)

Mary Chapman (1.1.2010 – 31.12.2014)

The Revd Dr Rosalyn Murphy (1.1.2010 – 31.12.2014)

2. The Synod is invited to approve two appointments: that of Andrew Britton for a further term until 30 September 2013 and that of Rebecca Swinson for a term ending on 31 December 2016 in succession to Mark Russell, who left the Council after seven years at the end of 2011.

Re-appointment of Andrew Britton

3. Andrew worked for a number of years as a senior official at HM Treasury and was subsequently Director of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research. He has also been a visiting professor at the University of Bath.
4. Andrew was appointed to the Council for five years in September 2007 to chair its Finance Committee. The Archbishops have concluded that this September would be a bad moment for a change in this role given the timing of two important actuarial reviews in the spring of 2013. The triennial review of the Church Commissioner's liabilities will be the backdrop for important decisions by the Commissioners and the Council over the distribution of funds for 2014-2016. In addition the actuarial review of the Clergy Pension Scheme will necessitate further consideration by the Clergy Pensions Task group, which Andrew chairs.
5. Given the major changes currently affecting the financial markets and their implications for the Church, the Archbishops believe that the Council would be best served by the re-appointment of Andrew Britton for a further year to 30 September 2013.

Appointment of new member

Background

6. On 31 December 2011, Mark Russell's appointment came to an end. Mark was appointed for a five-year term in 2005 when a youth worker in Chorley Wood. He subsequently became Chief Executive of Church Army and was re-appointed to the Council in 2009 for a further two years. A selection process has now been completed to identify a new appointed member of the Archbishops' Council in succession to Mark.

Recruitment process

7. During October and November of last year an open recruitment process was undertaken, with advertisements both in the Church press and online. The advertisements signalled that skills and experience in the areas of children, young people and education would be particularly welcome, with the aim of identifying a person who could act as an advocate for children and young people on the Archbishops' Council and as a link to its Education Division.
8. The Archbishops invited the Bishop of Sheffield to chair the selection panel on their behalf and invited the Revd Prebendary David Houlding (Chair of the Appointments Committee of the Church of England), Philip Fletcher (appointed member of the Archbishops' Council and

chair of its Mission & Public Affairs Council) and Mary Hawes (the National Children's Adviser) to assist the Bishop in the task of identifying candidates for appointment.

Applicants

9. 50 applications were received of which 20 were from women. 6 declared themselves to be from a minority ethnic background. 9 were under 30; 17 were aged between 31 and 45; 24 were 46 or over. 17 were clergy.

Shortlist

10. Five candidates were shortlisted and were interviewed by the selection panel on 24 November. 2 of these were women, 2 were clergy, 2 were under 30 and 3 were aged between 31 and 45. The three candidates thought best to fit the present needs of the Council met the Archbishops on 10 January. The candidate whom the Archbishops wish to recommend for appointment is **Rebecca Swinson**.

Rebecca Swinson

11. Rebecca graduated from the University of Leicester in 2007 with a first degree in Biological Sciences. She has a Master's degree from Cranfield University and currently works in the Clinical Neuroscience Department at St George's, University of London researching into strokes.
12. Despite her youth, Rebecca has a long and active involvement with the Church of England at parish, diocesan and national level, through her membership of her PCC, Diocesan Synod and the Church of England Youth Council, which she chaired for two years, and the General Synod, where she represented the CEYC for two years before she was elected its chair.
13. Rebecca's love for the Church of England in all its manifestations, her care to nurture and grow the Church in all areas of its mission and ministry and her breadth and depth of vision were clear both in her written application and at interview. The Archbishops are confident that the Council will benefit greatly from her passion and vision.

Recommendations

14. The Archbishops wish to recommend:
 - i. the re-appointment to the Archbishops' Council of Andrew Britton for a term ending on 30 September 2013;
 - ii. the appointment to the Archbishops' Council of Rebecca Swinson for a term ending on 31 December 2016.

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William Fittall
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