

GENERAL SYNOD**Appointment of Clerk to the Synod**

1. Dr Colin Podmore, Director of the Archbishops' Council's Central Secretariat and Clerk to the General Synod, left to take up his new role as Director of Forward in Faith at the end of March.
2. An open competition has been held to find his successor. The span of subjects for which the post-holder is responsible remains unchanged (support for the Synod and other key national bodies, ecumenical relations and faith and order, research and statistics and safeguarding). The balance of the role has, however, been adjusted as a result of a reorganisation which, without creating an additional post, has involved establishing a new post of Secretary for Ecumenical Relations and Theology, reporting to the Director.
3. The panel responsible for the selection process consisted of the Bishop of Rochester, the Ven Julian Henderson (Chair of the Business Committee), the Ven Christine Hardman (the Prolocutor of the Southern Province) Su Morgan (HR Director) and me. We received 18 applications (13 male and 5 female; 1 was Asian and 2 did not declare their ethnicity; 2 declared a disability). Seven longlisted candidates (4 male and 3 female) underwent a written test and an interview. Three shortlisted candidates (2 female and 1 male) were then invited for a more extensive final interview.
4. The unanimous recommendation of the panel was that Dr Jacqui Philips should be appointed. Under Standing Order 123A the Business Committee has appointed her as Clerk to the Synod and the Synod is now invited to confirm the appointment.
5. Jacqui Philips has an Oxford DPhil in English Literature and an MA from Durham in 17th Century Studies (John Bunyan). Her first degree from Cambridge is in English Literature. Jacqui has been a researcher to an MP, managed public affairs for the BioIndustry Association as well as working in the Public Policy Unit at Barclays Bank, was senior Policy Adviser to the CBI in Brussels, Head of Public Affairs for the Royal & Sun Alliance Group Corporate Centre. Her last job before coming to the Council was Director, European Government Affairs and Industry Relations, Metlife.
6. Jacqui is completing a Certificate in Theology. She took up post on 8 April 2013. Synod is asked to confirm her appointment as Clerk to the Synod.

William Fittall
Secretary General
June 2013

CHURCH HOUSE
WESTMINSTER