

## GENERAL SYNOD

### Appointment to the Archbishops' Council: Chair of the Finance Committee

1. Under the provisions of paragraph 1(3) of Schedule 1 of the National Institutions Measure 1998, the approval of the General Synod is required for appointments to the Archbishops' Council.
2. Andrew Britton was appointed Chair of the Archbishops' Council's Finance Committee in July 2007 for a term of five years. He was reappointed for one further year in July 2012 and this second term of office comes to an end on 30 September this year.
3. The process to identify a successor was initiated in February with advertisements in the Church press, on the Church of England website and in the *Financial Times*.
4. Five applications were received – all from men, two of whom were ordained - and were assessed on behalf of the Archbishops by three members of the Archbishops' Council – the Bishop of Dover, Philip Giddings and Andreas Whittam Smith – and by Su Morgan, the Director of HR and me. All of the candidates had interesting CVs. The panel invited for interview the two candidates who on paper appeared to have the strongest relevant mix of skills and experience.
5. After interview the panel strongly recommended the appointment of **John Spence**. John gave a stimulating and insightful interview that persuaded the Panel that he had the ideas, commitment and gospel passion for taking on the role. He has a good grasp of the importance of leadership – clerical and lay – and of church growth.
6. John worked for Lloyd's bank for 32 years, leaving in 2005. Despite suddenly losing his sight in mid career, he had 6 managing director roles including as Director of Branch Networks. He also chaired the Business Banking and Retail Committees of the British Bankers Association, where he led the work to secure the banks' agreement to the 'Responsible Lending Protocols'.
7. Subsequently he has undertaken a number of non-executive roles including with the Money Advice Service and HM Revenue and Customs. He has been Finance Chair of Business in the Community since 2004, chair of the Essex Community Foundation, a governor of Anglia Ruskin University, and chair of the Chelmsford DBF. He has been a Church Commissioner for since 2005, and chaired their Audit Committee until the end of last year.
8. Joining the Council will involve stepping down as chair of the Chelmsford DBF and resigning as a Church Commissioner (he is appointed until the end of 2013).
9. The Archbishops have accepted the Panel's recommendation and John Spence has confirmed his willingness to serve. The Archbishops' Council and the Appointments Committee have both welcomed the appointment.

#### Recommendation

10. The Synod is invited to approve the appointment of John Spence as a member of the Archbishops' Council from 1 October 2013 until 30 September 2018.

Church House  
Westminster SW1P 3AZ

William Fittall  
Secretary General

June 2013