

GENERAL SYNOD

THE CLERGY REPRESENTATION RULES (AMENDMENT) RESOLUTION 201-

In exercise of the powers conferred by paragraph 10 of Canon H 2 enabling the General Synod to make rules relating to representation in the Lower Houses of the Convocations of Canterbury and York, the General Synod hereby resolves that the rules contained in the Clergy Representation Rules 1975 to 2004 shall be amended as follows:—

ELECTION OF PROCTORS FOR UNIVERSITIES

1. For Rules 12 to 14 substitute—

“12. (1) The electors in the electoral area constituted under paragraph 3 of Canon H2 shall be the persons whose names are included in the register of electors maintained for the purposes of this paragraph.

(2) The presiding officer—

(a) shall establish and maintain the register of electors, and

(b) shall secure that the up-to-date register of electors is published on the Church of England website.

(3) A person shall be entitled to have his name included in the register of electors if he makes a written declaration to the presiding officer that he meets the first and second conditions and, where applicable, the third.

(4) The first condition is that the person is a priest or deacon of the Church of England who is authorised to officiate in a diocese in either province.

(5) The second condition is that the person—

(a) is employed to teach and research by a university in one of the provinces or by a college of such a university, or

(b) is a fellow of a college of such a university.

(6) The third condition is that—

(a) where the university in question is Oxford University, the person is a member of Congregation;

(b) where the university in question is Cambridge University, the person is a member of the Regent House;

(c) where the university in question is Durham University, the person is a member of Convocation.

(7) A declaration under paragraph (3) must include an explanation of how the person meets the conditions.

(8) The presiding officer shall be entitled to regard a declaration under paragraph (3) as accurate unless its inaccuracy in some respect is readily apparent.

(9) The presiding officer shall give reasonable notice of an election in the electoral area (including one to fill a casual vacancy, unless the election is to be conducted by the voting papers of a previous election) inviting applications for inclusion in the register of electors.

13. The presiding officer for the electoral area shall be the Joint Registrar of the Provinces of Canterbury and York or a person appointed by him.

14A. (1) This paragraph applies where, in the case of either province, no candidates from the universities in that province are nominated.

(2) If no more than three candidates from the universities in the other province are nominated—

(a) the presiding officer shall declare the candidate or candidates concerned to be elected, and

(b) the remaining vacancy or vacancies are to be filled as casual vacancies.

(3) Where there is only one vacancy to be so filled, it must be filled by a candidate nominated from the universities in the province from which no candidates have so far been nominated; and where there is more than one vacancy, at least one must be filled by a candidate of that description.

(4) If more than three candidates from the universities in the other province are nominated—

(a) an election shall proceed for the purpose of filling three vacancies, and

(b) the fourth vacancy is to be filled as a casual vacancy by a candidate of the description given in paragraph (3).

14B. (1) This paragraph applies where, in the case of either province, only one candidate from the universities in that province is nominated.

(2) The presiding officer shall declare that candidate to be elected.

(3) If no candidates from the universities in the other province are nominated, paragraph 14A(2) and (3) applies.

(4) If only one or two candidates from the universities in the other province are nominated—

(a) the presiding officer shall declare that candidate or those candidates to be elected, and

(b) the remaining vacancy or vacancies are to be filled as casual vacancies (by a candidate or candidates nominated from the universities in either province).

(5) If only three candidates from the universities in the other province are nominated, the presiding officer shall declare those candidates to be elected.

(6) If more than three candidates from the universities in the other province are nominated, an election shall proceed for the purpose of filling three vacancies.

14C. A candidate elected shall be eligible to appear only in the Lower House of Convocation of the province in which the university in question is situated.”

2. After Rule 20(5) insert—

“(5A) The presiding officer for the electoral area constituted under paragraph 3 of Canon H2 shall not add a name to, or remove a name from, the register of electors under rule 12 during the period—

(a) beginning with the sending of nomination papers under paragraph (1)(a) for an election in the electoral area, and

(b) ending with the declaration of the result of the election.”

CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS

3. In Rule 20(1), after “diocesan electoral registration officer” insert “(which shall, in the case of each elector who has notified the diocesan electoral registration officer that he wishes to receive and send nomination papers and receive election addresses by electronic mail, include the electronic mail address which the elector has authorised for those purposes),”.

4. In Rule 20(1)(a), after “nomination papers” insert “(which, in the case of a person who has authorised the use of an electronic mail address, shall be sent to that address)”.

5. In Rule 20(1)(b) after “register of electors” insert “or at some other address notified in writing to the presiding officer by the person concerned before the close of nominations”.

6. In Rule 20(1), after “any other person who requests them” insert “(and, if the person making the request authorises the use of an electronic mail address, the papers shall be sent to that address)”.

7. In Rule 20(2) for “is seeking re-election” substitute “has previously served as a member of a Convocation”.

8. In Rule 20(2), after “by post,” insert “as an attachment to electronic mail.”.

9. In Rule 20(2), omit the words from “, provided that” to the end.

10. After Rule 20(4) insert –

“(4A) It shall also be the duty of the presiding officer, before voting papers are issued, to post or cause to be posted on the website of the diocese concerned copies of all election addresses received by the due date in the prescribed form, together with a list of all the candidates.”

11. In Rule 20(6) for “is seeking re-election” substitute “has previously served as a member of a Convocation”.

12. For Rule 20(10) substitute—

“(10) The full return of the result and the result sheet shall, until the end of the first group of sessions of the new Synod—

(a) in the case of an election in a diocese or part of a diocese, be displayed in the diocesan office, posted on the diocese’s website and displayed at the General Synod office;

(b) in the case of any other election, be displayed at the General Synod office and posted on the Church of England website.”

13. After Rule 23(4) insert—

“(4A) In the case of an election to fill a casual vacancy in a diocese or part of a diocese, the presiding officer shall, within four working days of the declaration of the result to every candidate in the election—

(a) send a full return of the result and the result sheet to every person already elected in that diocese or part as a member of the Lower House of Convocation or the House of Laity of the General Synod (in addition to sending them to the persons specified in rule 20(9)); and

(b) post or cause to be posted on the diocese’s website the full return of the result and the result sheet.”

14. In Rule 23(5), for the words from the beginning to “any such person” substitute “Any person elected to fill a casual vacancy”.

15. After Rule 23(6) insert—

“(7) For the purposes of paragraph 23(1), the time when the period for holding a general election is due to begin is the time when the Convocations of the

Provinces are dissolved under section 1(2) of the Church of England Convocations Act 1966.”

FINAL PROVISIONS

16. (1) This resolution may be cited as the Clergy Representation (Amendment) Resolution 201- and the Clergy Representation Rules 1975 to 2004 and this resolution may be cited together as the Clergy Representation Rules 1975 to 201-.
- (2) Any reference in the resolution to a numbered rule is a reference to the rule bearing that number in the Clergy Representation Rules 1975 to 2004.
- (3) This resolution shall come into force on the same date as the date of the coming into force of Amending Canon No. 32; but nothing in this resolution shall have effect in relation to the composition of, **or the filling of vacancies in the membership of,** the Convocations in existence on the date on which this resolution comes into force.