

## **GENERAL SYNOD**

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### **NOVEMBER GROUP OF SESSIONS 2013**

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#### **FIFTH NOTICE PAPER**

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INTENTIONAL EVANGELISM**
- ITEM 507: DRAFT CARE OF CHURCHES AND  
ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION  
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- ITEMS 503-504: DRAFT BISHOPS AND PRIESTS  
(CONSECRATION AND ORDINATION OF  
WOMEN) MEASURE; DRAFT AMENDING  
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- ITEM 12: THE WORK OF THE ELECTIONS REVIEW  
GROUP: ELECTORATE FOR THE HOUSE OF  
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## **Financial statement pursuant to Standing Order 98**

1. Financial Statements under Standing Order 98 set out the estimated financial effect of implementing recommendations of reports and taking forward motions if they are passed by the Synod. In most cases figures provided are approximate, recognising the inherent uncertainty in estimating various factors. Members are asked to take this statement into account alongside non-financial factors when considering these items of business.
2. Estimates of the financial implications of any amendments proposed by Members will be provided either in a subsequent notice paper or in an oral statement from a member of the Archbishops' Council's Finance Committee who is a General Synod member (usually the Chair).
3. An item is included in this memorandum only if (i) the estimated additional cost is £10,000 or more or (ii) the estimated opportunity cost (e.g. staff time likely to be involved) is £20,000 or more.
4. If the cost of work on any motion, if passed, would fall to the Archbishops' Council, it would be met from within the Council's 2014 budget which Synod approved at its July 2013 Group of Sessions. For any work not already scheduled, the relevant Director, in consultation with others, would consider whether other work of similar cost should be dropped or postponed or if additional, unbudgeted, staff resource could be provided by securing funding from another source. Estimates of staff time are usually an opportunity cost, illustrating the cost of other work that would need to be dropped or deferred. If it is not possible to drop or defer sufficient other work, there would be an impact on the timescale for delivery of the requested work.
5. All costs are estimated at 2014 levels unless otherwise stated. Costs include relevant salaries, employers' national insurance and pension contributions. They exclude office costs such as the printing and postage costs involved in the preparation of new legislation, and the opportunity cost of Synodical time.

**ITEM 5: CHALLENGES FOR THE QUINQUENNIUM:  
INTENTIONAL EVANGELISM**

6. If the motion is passed, an Archbishops' Task Group on Evangelism would be formed. If this had twelve members and met five times a year for the first two years, the meeting, travel and subsistence costs are estimated at £12,000. This sum would be reduced if meetings were arranged immediately before or after other meetings that some members would already attend. It is not possible to estimate realistically the cost of staff time to support the Task Group's work until it defines its work programme.
  - Estimated meeting, travel and subsistence costs of the proposed Task Group: £12,000 over the first two years.

**ITEM 507: DRAFT CARE OF CHURCHES AND  
ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION  
(AMENDMENT) MEASURE**

7. If item 507 is carried, the draft Measure would proceed to the Revision Committee Stage. It is estimated that no more than three meetings of the Steering and Revision Committees would be required, the additional costs of which would be below the normal £10,000 threshold for comment.
8. The cost of Legal Office staff time to steer the draft legislation through all the remaining Synodical and Parliamentary stages, which would depend on future decisions to be taken by the Synod, is estimated at around £20,000. The cost of staff time in the Cathedrals and Church Buildings Division would be very modest as the majority of the work would be undertaken pro-bono by the Division's Chair.
9. If the Measure becomes law several regional training events for Archdeacons are likely to be held: the cost of these is estimated to be below the normal £10,000 threshold for comment. There is likely to be some reduction in the amount of work on faculty matters carried out in diocesan registries as it is intended that certain works of a routine nature would no longer require a faculty. But it is not possible to reliably estimate the extent of any savings that might arise as this would depend on the weight and complexity of casework and as the level of registrars' fees is currently under review by the Fees Advisory Commission.

- Estimated cost of staff time to steer the draft legislation through all remaining Synodical and Parliamentary stages: £20,000.

**ITEM 10: REVIEW OF THE WORKINGS OF THE GENERAL SYNOD**

10. The cost of the type of review envisaged by the motion would depend on how wide its eventual scope would be as this would impact on factors such as the size of the review group, the number of meetings and the extent of staff support required. Paragraph 17 of GS 1914B raises the question of whether the main focus of the review should be (i) on the need for and operation of the various levels of the synodical system or (ii) whether there should be a wider exercise looking at organisational and governance issues in the Church of England more generally.
11. In the first of these options the meeting cost of the review group and the cost of staff time supporting its work are both likely to be below the thresholds for formal comment. However, the cost of a wider exercise would be more significant and would be likely to exceed those thresholds. It is also possible that a review group would wish to commission additional work or consultancy support.

**ITEMS 503-506: DRAFT BISHOPS AND PRIESTS (CONSECRATION AND ORDINATION OF WOMEN) MEASURE; DRAFT AMENDING CANON NO. 33**

12. If items 503 and 505 are carried the draft legislation would proceed to the Revision Stage in full Synod.
13. If items 503 and 505 are not carried, and items 504 and 506 are carried, the costs of the Revision Committee Stage would depend on the Committee's size and the number of times it would need to meet. It is estimated that no more than three meetings would be required and the additional costs of those meetings would be below the normal £10,000 threshold for comment. The cost of staff time to support those meetings will depend on the number and complexity of proposed revisions and is estimated at up to £25,000.
14. In either case, assuming that the Revision Stage is completed, the next stage in the legislative process would be a formal reference

to the dioceses under Article 8. The staff time spent and cost incurred nationally in respect of the Article 8 reference would be relatively modest, but some time would clearly need to be given at diocesan level, which would increase in any cases where dioceses decided to refer the matter to deaneries. It is not, however, possible to assess realistically the amount, and associated cost, of diocesan staff time involved.

15. The cost of staff time to revise the draft Declaration and Regulations to be made by the House of Bishops and to steer the package through all the Synodical and Parliamentary stages (including the Article 8 reference), which would depend on further decisions to be taken by the Synod, is estimated at £37,000.
16. Before their Final Approval, it would be possible for Article 7 references to be claimed by the Convocations and House of Laity in respect of the draft Measure and draft Amending Canon. In the event that they did so, the associated costs would not be expected to be significant.
  - Estimated cost of staff time of a Revision Committee Stage: up to £25,000.
  - Estimated cost of staff time to steer the draft legislation and other elements of the package through all remaining Synodical and Parliamentary stages: £37,000.

**ITEM 12:                   ELECTIONS REVIEW GROUP: ELECTORATE FOR THE HOUSE OF LAITY AND ONLINE ELECTIONS: SECOND REPORT BY THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

17. If the motion is passed, the cost of staff time needed to prepare draft legislation for First Consideration is estimated at £23,000.
18. If Synod subsequently decides to commit the draft legislation to the Revision Committee stage, the estimated cost of the Steering and Revision Committees is below the threshold for formal comment. The estimated cost of staff time required to steer the draft legislation through subsequent Synodical stages is estimated at £19,000.
  - Estimated cost of staff time to prepare legislation: £23,000 to First Consideration stage, rising to £42,000 by completion.

19. Any estimate of the financial effect of such potential legislation if it is brought into force is necessarily very provisional at this stage as it would depend on future decisions (e.g. the size of an electoral college) and external factors (e.g. the number of candidates). If the legislation proceeds, the indicative estimates below (relating to quinquennial elections, although there would also be a modest impact for any by-elections) will be updated at subsequent stages.
20. If the electoral college envisaged in part (a) of the motion were of broadly similar size to the current deanery synods, the estimated cost of diocesan staff time to form the electoral college is below the threshold for formal comment.
21. The cost of setting up and running a system to undertake elections on line as envisaged in part (b) of the motion is estimated at between £27,000 and £54,000. The actual cost would depend on how many dioceses opted in to the facility and what proportion of the electors in each diocese that opted in continued to vote by post (which would result in a higher cost). There would need to be discussion to decide how this cost would be divided between the Archbishops' Council and the dioceses.
22. If dioceses no longer needed to produce and post election addresses and voting forms for the majority of electors there would be an estimated saving of up to approximately £30,000 per quinquennium across the dioceses. There would also be a consequent saving in diocesan staff time in respect of producing and sending out paper copies of material for elections, checking the validity of voting papers and conducting the count, estimated at up to around £30,000 per quinquennium across the dioceses.
23. The cost of setting up and running an on-line nominations facility, as envisaged in part (c) of the motion, is estimated at £10,000 for per quinquennium. The division of this cost between the Archbishops' Council and the dioceses would need to be agreed.
24. The saving accruing to dioceses as they would no longer need to produce and post paper copies of material for the majority of electors is estimated at up to approximately £15,000 in each quinquennium across the dioceses. There would also be a consequent saving in diocesan staff time, but this is estimated to be below the threshold for formal comment.

25. In summary if the legislation envisaged in item 12 were to be completely in force the estimated financial effect is:

- Estimated cost of setting up and running on line systems: between £37,000 and £64,000 per quinquennium (split between the Archbishops' Council and the dioceses to be determined).
- Indicative estimate of savings to dioceses in aggregate for production and paper costs: up to £45,000 per quinquennium.
- Indicative estimated net saving of diocesan staff time in aggregate: up to around £30,000 per quinquennium.

**ITEM 17: NEW STANDING ORDER 130A (CIRCULATION OF DOCUMENTS)**

26. Synod members have for some time been invited to opt out of hard copy mailings of the majority of Synod papers. New Standing Order 130A seeks to formalise the actual position. Based on the volume of Synod documentation likely to be produced in a typical year with two Groups of Sessions, it is estimated there would be an annual saving of around £10,000 in printing and postage costs for every 120 of those entitled to receive hard copies of papers who elected to download them instead. If all recipients of papers elected to download them electronically the total saving is estimated at £70,000.

- Estimate of savings in printing and postage costs if 120 recipients of Synod papers elected not to receive most Synod documents in printed form: £10,000 per annum.

John Spence  
Chair, Archbishops' Council's Finance Committee

November 2013