

**GENERAL SYNOD
July 2013
QUESTIONS**

of which notice has been given under Standing Orders 105-109. Questions for written reply are marked with an asterisk.

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BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The Ven Julian Henderson to reply as Chair of the Business Committee:

The Ven Christopher Sims (Lichfield) to ask the Chair of the Business Committee:

- Q1.** Given that it is now two years since Synod overwhelmingly voted to ask the Archbishops' Council and House of Bishops to work together on "a national mission strategy that will support dioceses, deaneries and parishes in their own church growth and mission planning", why has time not been found in this group of sessions for a full debate on GS Misc 1054?

The Revd Michael Booker (Ely) to ask the Chair of the Business Committee:

- Q2.** Given the overwhelming vote in July 2011, why has the report of the Task Group appointed by the Archbishops (GS Misc 1054) not been scheduled for a full debate at this group of sessions?

The Revd Stephen Pratt (Lichfield) to ask the Chair of the Business Committee:

- Q3.** Given the Archbishop of Canterbury's personal emphasis on the priorities of prayer and evangelism, will the Business Committee consider setting aside time at the next group of sessions for focused corporate prayer for the renewal and growth of the Church?

Mrs Mary Judkins (Wakefield) to ask the Chair of the Business Committee:

- Q4.** In the light of the criticism to which many of those who voted against the draft legislation on women in the episcopate last November have been subjected, and the similar experience of others following debates in the Synod on controversial matters in the past, will the Business Committee give consideration to whether there are any steps it can take to encourage within and outside the Synod respect for, and better understanding of, the different viewpoints held by its members on such matters?

The Revd Professor Richard Burridge (Universities) to ask the Chair of the Business Committee:

- Q5.** What consultation, if any, was undertaken by the Elections Review Group with the University representatives about the proposals to abolish their constituencies, particularly in the light of their repeated offers to assist in the review process?

The Revd Professor Richard Burridge (Universities) to ask the Chair of the Business Committee:

- Q6.** What consideration, if any, was given by the Elections Review Group to the proposals regarding reform of the University constituencies put forward by the University members themselves during the last reform of Synod (when these seats were preserved but not reformed), and repeated subsequently in correspondence with the Chief Legal Adviser and Joint Registrar of the Provinces of Canterbury and York?

CROWN NOMINATIONS COMMISSION

The Archbishop of York to reply:

WRITTEN REPLY

Mr Malcolm Halliday (Bradford) to ask the Chair of the Crown Nominations Commission:

- Q7.** There are (as at the time of asking) six vacancies, or pending vacancies, in diocesan bishoprics (Durham, Bath & Wells, Exeter, Liverpool, Hereford and Guildford) requiring consideration by the CNC. Will the Commission please publish the dates of its meetings for these and indicate which diocese each meeting is intended to address?

The Revd Canon Dr Simon Cox (Blackburn) to ask the Chair of the Crown Nominations Commission:

- Q8.** In the light of the Pilling Report *Talent and Calling* (GS 1650) and the current and projected composition of the House of Bishops, especially in regard to Diocesans, what advice and guidance is being given to the central members of CNC in their task of selection?

Dr William Belcher (Gloucester) to ask the Chair of the Crown Nominations Commission:

- Q9.** Given that one of the great strengths commonly assigned to the Church of England is that it represents a 'broad church' of theological persuasion, what consideration has been given by the commission when making nominations to diocesan sees to the fact that there is currently no conservative evangelical representation in the House of Bishops?

DIOCESES COMMISSION

The Ven Peter Hill to reply as Vice-Chair:

Mr Malcolm Halliday (Bradford) to ask the Chair of the Dioceses Commission:

Q10. In the Dioceses Commission's Annual Report of 2008, it stated that it had "received a paper from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York setting the scene for its work" but that paper has not been published. The Synod motion subsequently proposed to be moved on behalf of the Wakefield Diocese entitled "Nature and Structure of the Church of England National debate" was 'parked' by the Business Committee on legal advice, until after the Commission's draft scheme proposing to create a new diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales had been considered by Synod, which it will do on Monday. Therefore, will the Commission, so that all facts are available before members, please publish immediately the Archbishops' paper and indicate how its steer may have influenced the Commission's final proposals in relation to the reorganisation of the West Yorkshire dioceses?

FAITH AND ORDER COMMISSION

The Bishop of Winchester to reply on behalf of the Chair:

The Revd Stephen Coles (London) to ask the Chair of the Faith and Order Commission:

Q11. Can the Chair of the Faith and Order Commission explain why it was thought either necessary or appropriate to write, without seeking any outside consultation, and then publish the report *Men, Women and Marriage*, before the group chaired by Sir Joseph Pilling and charged by the House of Bishops with considering the whole range of human sexuality, which has taken extensive soundings from beyond its ranks to enrich its reflection, had the opportunity to report either to the House or to this Synod?

The Revd Clare Herbert (London) to ask the Chair of the Faith and Order Commission:

Q12. Has the Faith and Order Commission any specific plans to seek to secure the debate of GS Misc 1046 "Men and Women in Marriage" by both the House of Bishops and the General Synod so that the teaching contained within it can be tested as an expression of the mind of the Church of England?

FEES ADVISORY COMMISSION

Mr Geoffrey Tattersall to reply on behalf of the Chair:

WRITTEN REPLY

Mr Stephen Barney (Leicester) to ask the Chair of the Fees Advisory Commission:

- Q13.** What steps has the Fees Advisory Commission taken, since it was reconstituted last year, to address the question of how diocesan registrars can be remunerated for the work they do, on a basis that is fair to all parties?

CHURCH COMMISSIONERS

Mr Andreas Whittam Smith to reply as First Church Estates Commissioner:

The Revd Canon Perran Gay (Truro) to ask the Church Commissioners:

- Q14.** If the Dioceses Commission's draft reorganisation scheme for West Yorkshire goes ahead, will the funding from the Church Commissioners for the West Yorkshire cathedrals under Section 21 and Section 23 of the Cathedrals Measure be assured on the same basis as for other cathedrals for the foreseeable future?

Dr Rachel Jepson (Birmingham) to ask the Church Commissioners:

- Q15.** Do the Church Commissioners still invest in the French multi-national company, Veolia, and if so, for what reasons?

Mr Andrew Mackie to reply as Third Church Estates Commissioner:

Dr Edmund Marshall (St Albans) to ask the Church Commissioners:

- Q16.** Will the Commissioners publish a booklet giving a descriptive review of the Orders that have so far been made under Section 47 of the Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 and Section 80 of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011?

WRITTEN REPLY

Dr Edmund Marshall (St Albans) to ask the Church Commissioners:

- Q1.** How many Orders have been made since 6 July 2012 under Section 47 of the Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 and Section 80 of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 in each diocese respectively?

WRITTEN REPLY

Mrs Anne Foreman (Exeter) to ask the Church Commissioners:

Q18. In which Dioceses have Bishop's Mission Orders ("BMOs") been made and how many BMOs are there in force in total?

PENSIONS BOARD

Mr Jonathan Spencer to reply:

Mr David Kemp (Canterbury) to ask the Chair of the Pensions Board:

Q19. Does the Pensions Board have any plans to review the CHARM retirement housing scheme?

The Revd Canon Dr Simon Cox (Blackburn) to ask the Chair of the Pensions Board:

Q20. In what ways will the recent decision, approved by the Synod, to opt into the Second State Pension Scheme and HM Government's decision to scrap the scheme in favour of a single State Pension affect the pensions of those in the Church of England Funded Pension Scheme, is the money already paid over effectively lost, and when will the clergy be informed of the consequences of these two decisions?

ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL

Mr Andrew Britton to reply on behalf of the Presidents:

Mr Colin Slater (Southwell and Nottingham) to ask the Presidents of the Archbishops' Council:

Q21. What additional expenditure has necessarily been incurred as a direct consequence of the decision in November by this Synod not to give Final Approval to the proposed legislation to enable women to become bishops – and from which budget heading(s) have these costs been met?

Mr Robert Hammond (Chelmsford) to ask the Presidents of the Archbishops' Council:

Q22. What guidelines are in place for Church House staff using Social Media, particularly Twitter, when referencing their National Church role and work but expressing what are stated to be personal views, and what procedures are in place for ensuring these guidelines are adhered to?

Mr Thomas Sutcliffe (Southwark) to ask the Presidents of the Archbishops' Council:

- Q23.** Does the Archbishops' Council issue guidance to its staff on the need to avoid behaviour which might be considered partisan in relation to controversial legislation which is before or about to be considered by the General Synod, all of whose members regardless of their alignments or opinions it is their job to serve?

The Bishop of Sheffield to reply on behalf of the Presidents:

Mr Andrew Presland (Peterborough) to ask the Presidents of the Archbishops' Council:

- Q24.** To what extent does the Council expect that the three pieces of work on lay ministry and discipleship referred to in paragraph 51 of *Challenges for the Quinquennium: Progress Report from the Archbishops' Council and the House of Bishops* will enable dioceses, deaneries and parishes to become better at equipping and encouraging their lay members to serve their local communities simply as Christians (as identified in paragraph 49 as a growing focus of interest), without needing any Church of England licence or accreditation?

HOUSE OF BISHOPS

The Bishop of Sheffield to reply on behalf of the Chair:

Mr Clive Scowen (London) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q25.** Two years after Synod voted overwhelmingly for the development of a national mission strategy, has the House of Bishops yet found time to give serious attention to the work of the Archbishops' Task Group on Making New Disciples (GS Misc 1054) and to how the House of Bishops might give leadership on the priority of and turning round decades of numerical decline by making new disciples of Jesus Christ?

The Revd Philip Plyming (Guildford) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q26.** What discussion has the House of Bishops had on the national mission strategy explored in GS Misc 1054, requested by this Synod in July 2011, and what further discussion is planned prior to the Synod debate on evangelism and church growth scheduled for November this year?

Miss Prudence Dailey (Oxford) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q27.** What consideration has the House of Bishops given to the provisions of Canon C7, in particular with regard to the requirement for candidates for ordination to have a sufficient knowledge of “the doctrine, discipline and worship of the Church of England as set forth in (inter alia) *The Book of Common Prayer*”?

The Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham to reply on behalf of the Chair:

Mr John Freeman (Chester) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q28.** Has the House considered whether the Church of England should have one professional body to oversee a uniform policy of Safeguarding of Young People and Vulnerable Adults so that we have one policy applying to all dioceses?

The Bishop of Dudley to reply on behalf of the Chair:

The Revd Charles Razzall (Chester) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q29.** What clinical therapeutic provision is available for clergy and their families subsequent to their suffering serious mental health problems?

The Revd Canon Gordon Oliver (Rochester) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q30.** What is a clergy Blue File, what is it for, and what is its status in relation to the Data Protection Act?

The Bishop of Winchester to reply on behalf of the Chair:

The Revd Canon Giles Goddard (Southwark) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q31.** Does the House draw any conclusions for its future practice from the public furore that followed the publication of the FAOC report “Men and Women in Marriage”?

The Archbishop of York to reply:

Mr Thomas Sutcliffe (Southwark) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q32.** Who proposed the names of the consultative group established by the House of Bishops to consider new legislation for the consecration of women bishops, and why were so few opponents of the legislation rejected in November 2012 included?

The Bishop of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich to reply on behalf of the Chair:

The Revd Canon Anthony Walker (Southwell & Nottingham) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q33.** What consideration has been given to holding a debate on the five “elements of vision” enunciated in GS 1886 paragraph 12 to allow the General Synod to affirm or deny that these are indeed principles that the whole Synod will support and hold together, and that can become a basis for moving forward towards enabling women to become bishops?

The Revd Canon Anthony Walker (Southwell & Nottingham) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q34.** Given that the House of Bishops is encouraging Synod in GS 1886 to put grace over law so that trust can flourish, what other examples might be given of the church operating by trust rather than law that might reassure members of Synod who find that church life is increasingly dominated by law (eg Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Measure, Clergy Discipline Measure etc)?

Mr Clive Scowen (London) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q35.** Why did the House of Bishops choose in advance of this Group of Sessions to recommend one of the options set out in the annex to GS 1886 as to the form which draft legislation for admitting women to the episcopate should take, thereby appearing to pre-empt the outcome of the facilitated discussions between synod members which are due to take place on 6 July?

The Bishop of Gloucester to reply on behalf of the Chair:

The Revd Jeremy Fletcher (York) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q36.** Two years after the Synod asked for additional texts to be made available for the baptism service, the House of Bishops has determined that the draft texts which have been prepared ‘are not yet ready’ to be sent to parishes for experimental use. Could the Chair of the House of Bishops describe the criteria the House uses to determine the readiness of liturgical texts to be tested by parishes, and how the texts before the House in May fell short of those standards?

Miss Vasantha Gnanadoss (Southwark) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q37.** Will the House of Bishops be giving a number of senior black, Asian and minority ethnic clergy the right to attend and speak at its meetings as participant observers until such time as a proportionate number of black, Asian and minority ethnic bishops are appointed?

The Revd Rosalind Rutherford (Winchester) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q38.** Why will the process for electing the first eight Regional Representatives with rights of attendance at sittings of the House of Bishops take over six months to complete (ie from the decision in mid-May until the term of office begins on 1 December)?

Canon Christine McMullen (Derby) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q39.** Many of us are delighted and heartened that eight senior women will be elected to attend the House of Bishops: will they attend complete meetings of the House or only the parts of it devoted to the matter of women Bishops?

Mrs April Alexander (Southwark) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q40.** Why is the eligibility of women to attend the House of Bishops and to belong to the electoral college so narrow as to exclude, for example, all sector ministries, women in academia, the Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Archbishop's own Chaplain and Bishops' chaplains, all of whom, if elected, would offer an extremely valuable perspective on the matters in hand?

Mrs Anne Foreman (Exeter) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q41.** Has the House of Bishops considered how they will hear the views of senior women clergy at any House of Bishops meetings held prior to the election of the eight women Regional Representatives?

Mrs April Alexander (Southwark) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

Q42. In view of the disappointment felt by many that a period up to 1 October is allowed for elections of women to attend the House of Bishops, what would prevent that date being brought forward by two weeks and the appointments taking place with immediate effect in order to secure places for women at the House of Bishops when that House discusses the outcome of this Synod with all its implications for women in the Church of England?

The Revd Dr Emma Ineson (Bristol) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

Q43. On what principles did the House of Bishops frame the rules for the welcome election of eight senior female clergy to attend meetings of the House? In particular why did they decide:

- (i) in forming the electoral colleges (and therefore the pool of potential candidates) to give priority to archdeacons and deans over senior female incumbents and effectively to exclude such incumbents who do not have diocesan responsibility;
- (ii) not to widen the franchise so that all female clergy with at least five years' experience of ordained ministry could vote and stand for election;
- (iii) that (male) bishops should have the right to select members of the electoral college; and
- (iv) that, unlike any other synodical election, the "first past the post" method of election should be used?

The Revd Clare Herbert (London) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

Q44. In the light of the high regard expressed for Civil Partnerships by both archbishops and other bishops recently, such as when the Archbishop of Canterbury said in the House of Lords "It is clearly essential that stable and faithful same-sex relationships should, where those involved want it, be recognised and supported with as much dignity and the same legal effect as marriage" when will the Liturgical Commission be tasked by the House of Bishops to begin work on an authorized rite for the blessing of civil partnerships for the use of those clergy who wish to conduct such services?

The Very Revd David Brindley (Deans) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

Q45. In view of the Archbishop of Canterbury's view expressed in the House of Lords in a speech on 3 June that faithful same-sex relationships should be 'recognised and supported with as much dignity and the same legal effect as marriage', when will the House ask the Liturgical Commission to produce proposals for appropriate liturgical recognition of those relationships?

Mrs Joanna Monckton (Lichfield) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

Q46. As the Church of England is "episcopally led and synodically governed", why did the House of Bishops not consult with the House of Laity and the House of Clergy before declaring that priests in civil partnerships who live in accordance with the Church's teaching on human sexuality could henceforth be considered for episcopal appointment, as reported in the statement issued on 4 January 2013?

The Revd Canon Simon Butler (Southwark) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

Q47. In the recent debates on same-sex marriage in the House of Lords, Lords Spiritual have spoken of the bishops' historic and present support for the legislation enacting Civil Partnerships. In preparation for the forthcoming debate in Synod on Mr John Ward's Private Member's Motion on the registration of Civil Partnerships will the House of Bishops:

- (a) take time to consider how best that support can be shown in the life of the church; and
- (b) during the course of that forthcoming debate report to this Synod its conclusions?

The Revd Canon Dr Judith Maltby (Universities) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

Q48. The House of Bishops' Advice to the Clergy (GS 1449B, 2002) on the re-marriage of divorced persons states "While it would be unreasonable to expect that the couple should not even have known each other during the former marriage(s), was the relationship between the applicants – so far as you can tell from the information made available to you – a direct cause of the breakdown of the former marriage?" What is the position of the House of Bishops on the conduct of marriages in church in cases in which one or both of the couple has a former civil partner still living?

WRITTEN REPLY

The Revd Canon Dr Christopher Sugden (Oxford) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

Q49. Is the House of Bishops aware of the fact that concerns have been raised with the Royal College of Psychiatrists that its 2007 submission to the Anglican Communion's 'Listening Exercise' seriously misreported some of the research papers which they cited in that submission?

The Archbishop of York to reply:

WRITTEN REPLY

Mr Adrian Vincent (Guildford) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

Q50. In the light of:

1. what is said in the Seven Principles of Public Life about the need for openness about decisions and the reasons for them; and
2. the fact that the Summary of the Decisions taken at the December 2012 meeting of the House did not state in clear terms that a policy decision had been taken by the House about the eligibility of clergy in civil partnerships for consecration to the episcopate, following the work undertaken by the group chaired by the Bishop of Sodor and Man,

has the House reconsidered the advisability of only publishing a Summary of Decisions rather than its Minutes? And if not, will it now do so?

WRITTEN REPLY

Mr Adrian Vincent (Guildford) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

Q51. In the light of:

1. the fact that meetings of the House are no longer meetings solely of bishops; and
2. the reference in the statement by the House of 21 May 2013 to the House having "committed itself to creating a climate of transparency ...",

has the House reconsidered whether its meetings should in future be held in public rather than in Committee of the whole House under Standing Order 14?

WRITTEN REPLY

The Revd Canon Robert Cotton (Guildford) to ask the Chair of the House of Bishops:

- Q52.** How long after the appointment of the first Provincial Episcopal Visitors was it decided to invite them to meetings of the House of Bishops and under what Standing Order, and what was the basis for their participation in such episcopal meetings (eg speaking or voting rights)?

HOUSE OF LAITY

Dr Philip Giddings to reply:

Mrs Pamela Bishop (Southwell and Nottingham) to ask the Chair of the House of Laity:

- Q53.** Following the release of the helpful document HL(13)02 in May 2013 on the role of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the House of Laity during debates, what, if any, consideration has been given to publicising any further information on the specific roles and responsibilities of laity serving on committees or in positions of leadership within General Synod?

SECRETARY GENERAL

Mr William Fittall to reply:

The Revd Canon Perran Gay (Truro) to ask the Secretary General:

- Q54.** What is the Church of England's involvement at national level in plans to commemorate the centenary of the First World War?

The Revd Prebendary Roderick Thomas (Exeter) to ask the Secretary General:

- Q55.** Why does the decision of the House of Bishops in December 2012 in relation to civil partnerships and the episcopate necessitate the removal in GS Misc 1044 of all the relevant factors which can properly be taken into account by the CNC in considering episcopal appointments which previously appeared in paragraph 29 of GS Misc 992 (with the exception of the factor relating to the existence of a civil partnership)?

The Revd Canon Giles Goddard (Southwark) to ask the Secretary General:

Q56. Why are the practices of undertaking enquiries into candidates for the episcopate involved in marriage after divorce, and of seeking assurances from candidates to the episcopate in civil partnerships (as described in paragraphs 22 and 29 of GS Misc 1044 respectively) not routinely extended to all candidates, to avoid even the slightest appearance of discriminatory treatment?

The Revd Hugh Lee (Oxford) to ask the Secretary General:

Q57. When a Synod body, like a revision committee, decides to meet in public, what arrangements are made for informing members of Synod and others of the date, time and venue of its meetings and for providing them with all the papers that will be considered at that meeting in the same way as all the papers to be considered at a meeting of General Synod are available to the public?

Professor Anthony Berry (Chester) to ask the Secretary General:

Q58. On the basis that the Church of England would wish to continue to contribute to the legitimacy, credibility and effectiveness of the second chamber and that doubts about these attributes have been expressed of late in relation to that chamber, has the extended episcopal group on Lords reform had any discussions or made any plans to have discussions about how they might respond to proposals for reform, bearing in mind the commitment to report back to Synod along lines agreed in February 2012?

BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Bishop of Oxford to reply:

WRITTEN REPLY

Canon Elizabeth Renshaw (Chester) to ask the Chair of the Board of Education:

Q59. Can the Board of Education report on progress to date following the publication of the Chadwick Report on *The Church School of the Future*?

Mr Robin Hall (Southwark) to ask the Chair of the Board of Education:

Q60. What progress has there been in producing new resources for the teaching of Christianity in schools?

The Revd Christopher Hobbs (London) to ask the Chair of the Board of Education:

Q61. What national training resources and strategies are provided to Head Teachers, leadership teams and Governors to help church schools enhance the Christian ethos in church schools?

Mr Samuel Margrave (Coventry) to ask the Chair of the Board of Education:

Q62. In the light of the recent BBC report of a pupil at primary school being refused lunch because his father had not paid that day's meal allowance, can the Board confirm that no Church of England school has or will refuse a child lunch on grounds of parental failure to pay, and that if there is an issue of financial hardship a school will seek to help the parents and avoid affecting the child?

Miss Vasantha Gnanadoss (Southwark) to ask the Chair of the Board of Education:

Q63. In December 2009 the Education Division made a submission to the Maurice Smith review and expressed the view that existing provisions to prevent the promotion of racism in schools were adequate. Has this submission been re-evaluated in the light of the statement by the House of Bishops concerning the Church's teaching on racial equality (GS Misc 972, January 2011)?

The Revd Eva McIntyre (Worcester) to ask the Chair of the Board of Education:

Q64. Has the Board drawn up a model application form for posts in Church schools, to be provided to employers as an example to follow, which includes the question on the NCI application form about membership of organisations that are incompatible with the Church of England's commitment to promoting race equality, as suggested by Canon Killwick (Question 36, November 2012)?

Dr Rachel Jepson (Birmingham) to ask the Chair of the Board of Education:

Q65. What progress has been made by the Board on developing recommended policies and staff-training materials relating to bullying of LGBT people, and have any recommendations of the Board in those respects been implemented in any Church of England schools?

Mr Robin Hall (Southwark) to ask the Chair of the Board of Education:

Q66. How many incidents of homophobic bullying were recorded in Church of England schools in the last school year (or the most recent school year for which statistics are available)?

Canon Elizabeth Renshaw (Chester) to ask the Chair of the Board of Education:

Q67. Changes to funding for pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) in the 2013/14 funding allocation will require schools/academies to contribute the first £6,000 of the cost of additional needs support. These changes will have a significant impact, resulting in staffing redundancies. This can only lead to pupils with SEN being denied the level of classroom support they need to access the full curriculum and this will have a greater impact at Church schools because of their inclusive nature. Will the Board of Education ask the Secretary of State for Education: “how can schools with high numbers of SEN pupils be expected to provide for the first £6,000 of their needs when schools receive less than £6,000 per pupil within the school budget, at the same time as the level of funding per pupil is also decreasing significantly?”

COUNCIL FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Bishop of Peterborough to reply:

The Revd Charles Read (Norwich) to ask the Chair of the Council for Christian Unity:

Q68. If a clergyperson or a Reader is invited to preach or lead a service in a Methodist Church in another benefice, do they need to seek the goodwill of the incumbent of that benefice before accepting the invitation?

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr Andrew Britton to reply:

Mr Ian Fletcher (Bradford) to ask the Chair of the Finance Committee:

Q69. New accounting rules from 2015 will affect the disclosure of multiemployer pension schemes in statutory accounts. What will be the effect on the disclosed Balance Sheet reserves figure of Diocesan Boards of Finance of this change?

MINISTRY COUNCIL

The Bishop of Sheffield to reply:

Mr Samuel Margrave (Coventry) to ask the Chair of the Ministry Council:

Q70. At the end of 2010 the Daily Mail carried the headline “Archbishop of Canterbury warns Anglicans to brace for shortage of vicars because of exodus to Catholic Church”. With this in mind, as well as a general shortage of clergy, and in particular younger clergy, what is being done to reform what is more generally a very protracted process in order to shorten the time between the first experience of a calling and the point of ordination as one of the next generation of priests the Church needs?

The Revd Canon Gary Jenkins (Southwark) to ask the Chair of the Ministry Council:

Q71. Paragraph 48 of GS 1895 refers to under-representation from certain social and economic backgrounds amongst the clergy and calls for national programmes to encourage vocations ‘so that the face of ministry reflects the face of our communities.’ What steps are being taken to devise and implement vocational guidance and training courses which encourage people from non-academic backgrounds and/or of a non-academic disposition to enter ordained and licensed lay ministry on equal terms with others, reflecting the integrity of the faith and leadership qualities?

Mr Adrian Greenwood (Southwark) to ask the Chair of the Ministry Council:

Q72. Paragraph 24 of GS Misc 1054 quotes Archbishop William Temple in *Towards the Conversion of England* as stating that the clergy’s “primary responsibility [is] training the laity for evangelism.” Has consideration been given to whether this is or should be the case?

Mr Adrian Greenwood (Southwark) to ask the Chair of the Ministry Council:

Q73. Whatever the answer to question 72, how is this primary responsibility considered to be demonstrated currently in (a) the processes and criteria for the selection and (b) the curriculum and courses for training of candidates for ordained and licensed lay ministry, and has consideration been given to whether any changes could be made so as better to enable clergy to discharge this responsibility?

The Revd Thomas Seville CR (Religious Communities) to ask the Chair of the Ministry Council:

- Q74.** Mindful that the Church of England's response to the government's changes of the rules for funding in higher education was the primary ground for the development of the Common Awards project, what more does the project aspire to and what are the terms of reference for those elements beyond the financial?

The Revd Christopher Hobbs (London) to ask the Chair of the Ministry Council:

- Q75.** What is the anticipated saving, in terms of overall cost, as well as administrative cost and time to the colleges and courses, in moving to the "Common Awards" national validation agreement?

The Revd Thomas Seville CR (Religious Communities) to ask the Chair of the Ministry Council:

- Q76.** Given the agreement with the University of Durham concerning Common Awards, what can we be told of the hidden costs which are likely to devolve to colleges and courses in the CA scheme?

The Ven Jonathan Smith (St Albans) to ask the Chair of the Ministry Council:

- Q77.** How many people were ordained to the diaconate and the priesthood in the Church of England in 2012 and, of those, how many were ordained by Provincial Episcopal Visitors or other bishops acting under arrangements made by the diocesan bishop under the Episcopal Ministry Act of Synod 1993?

Mr Robert Hammond (Chelmsford) to ask the Chair of the Ministry Council:

- Q78.** Has the Ministry Council considered the role of Oak Hill Theological College in the matter of the ordination of the Revd Pete Jackson by the Bishop of Kitui in Kenya, particularly in regard to the provision of formation and assessment reports to a candidate's sponsoring and ordaining bishop(s), as is the established practice in the Church of England?

Miss Rachel Beck (Lincoln) to ask the Chair of the Ministry Council:

- Q79.** Has the Ministry Council considered the role of Oak Hill Theological College in the matter of the recent ordination by the Bishop of Kitui in Kenya of a candidate to serve in a church plant in Sheffield, particularly in regard to the provision of assessment reports to a candidate's sponsoring and ordaining bishop, as is the established practice in the Church of England?

The Revd Charles Read (Norwich) to ask the Chair of the Ministry Council:

- Q80.** What has happened to the document *Reimagining Ministry*?

The Revd Hugh Lee (Oxford) to ask the Chair of the Ministry Council:

- Q81.** Following the excellent 'New pattern of Priesthood' consultation with SSMS on 18 May this year and the consecration earlier that week of the first bishop to have been trained on a non-residential course rather than residentially in a Theological College, what is the Ministry Division doing to help dioceses and others use appropriately SSMS that are an enormous resource for the Church not only numerically but also in their experience outside the Church that they bring to a new pattern of priesthood?

WRITTEN REPLY

The Rt Revd Pete Broadbent (Southern Suffragans) to ask the Chair of the Ministry Council:

- Q82.** Has the Ministry Council considered what advice it might wish to give to bishops in relation to clergy ordained deacon in other provinces of the Anglican Communion specifically in order to minister within the Church of England?

WRITTEN REPLY

Mr Ian Fletcher (Bradford) to ask the Chair of the Ministry Council:

- Q83.** A review of the situation arising when clergy are in charge of two churches of either similar or different sizes by Lichfield Diocese in June 2012 concluded that there was need for specific training to be made available in these situations. Is the church nationally aware of this conclusion, which mirrors good practice in secular occupations, and what training is generally available?

COMMITTEE FOR MINISTRY OF AND AMONG DEAF AND DISABLED PEOPLE

The Bishop of Salisbury to reply:

Ms Susan Cooper (London) to ask the Chair of the Committee for Ministry of and Among Deaf and Disabled People:

- Q84.** What is the Church of England doing to enable the 1 in 50 people within our churches who are on the autism spectrum to lead a full and welcomed life within the church, share their gifts, and be able to access the same opportunities and vocations as others?

MISSION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL

Mr Philip Fletcher to reply:

The Revd Andrew Dotchin (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich) to ask the Chair of the Mission and Public Affairs Council:

- Q85.** What is the Church of England's advice on human blood and organ donation, and how is this advice communicated to the nation and the Church?

The Revd Andrew Dotchin (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich) to ask the Chair of the Mission and Public Affairs Council:

- Q86.** Can consideration be given to the provision of means by which members of the General Synod can express their personal support for blood and organ donation by subscribing to a publicly available document, whether at this group of sessions or otherwise?

Mr Andrew Presland (Peterborough) to ask the Chair of the Mission and Public Affairs Council:

- Q87.** What consideration has the Council given to encouraging Church of England parishes to use existing social action models (such as the community franchises being promoted by the Cinnamon Network; the 'Ready-to-go' projects recently set out in a directory by the Church Urban Fund; and ready-made youth work projects, such as XLP's new mentoring model) – not only as ways of contributing to the common good, but also for facilitating church growth – building on the research findings that social action projects can lead to church growth, as set out by the Church Urban Fund in its *Growing Church through Social Action* report?

The Revd Canon Simon Butler (Southwark) to ask the Chair of the Mission and Public Affairs Council:

Q88. The Archbishop of Canterbury recently addressed a Citizens UK Summit meeting in London at which he spoke of the importance of community organising as a tool for addressing current social challenges. Will the Mission & Public Affairs Council take the opportunity of the growth of Citizens UK across the country to assess the importance of community organising as a mission tool for parishes and individual Christians and perhaps find some way of providing guidance and encouragement to parishes considering getting involved?

WRITTEN REPLY

Dr John Dinnen (Hereford) to ask the Chair of the Mission and Public Affairs Council:

Q89. Following the debate in General Synod last July, how is the Church of England helping the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme (EAPPI) in its work for peace in Israel and Palestine?

WRITTEN REPLY

Dr John Dinnen (Hereford) to ask the Chair of the Mission and Public Affairs Council:

Q90. What is the Council doing to enable the Church of England to hear the widest possible range of Jewish views on Israel and the occupation of Palestine?