

# GENERAL SYNOD

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## JULY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2018

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### FIFTEENTH NOTICE PAPER

#### SPECIAL AGENDA III PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

The following Private Members' Motions have been received and will be available for signature in the Central Hall:

#### **WINDRUSH LEGACY AND COMMITMENT**

*The Revd Andrew Moughtin-Mumby (Southwark) to move:*

'That this Synod, commemorating in 2018 the martyrdom of the Revd Dr Martin Luther King, Jr., noting with joy the 70th anniversary of the arrival of the Empire Windrush liner in the United Kingdom in June 1948 bringing nearly 500 Commonwealth citizens, mainly from the Caribbean, to mainland UK; and the eventual arrival of approximately half a million people from the West Indies, who were called to Britain as British subjects to help rebuild the post-war United Kingdom:

- a) lament, on behalf of Christ's Church, the conscious and unconscious racism experienced by countless Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) Anglicans in 1948 and subsequent years, when seeking to find a spiritual home in their local Church of England parish churches, the memory of which is still painful to committed Anglicans who in spite of this racism from clergy and others, have remained faithful to the Church of England and their Anglican heritage;
- b) express gratitude to God for the indispensable contribution to the mission, ministry, prayer and worship of Christ's Church in this nation made by people of BAME descent in the Church of England;
- c) acknowledge and give joyful thanks for the wider contribution of the 'Windrush generation' and their descendants to UK life and culture in every field of human activity, including service

across the Armed Forces and other services during and after the Second World War; and

- d) resolve to continue, with great effort and urgency, to stamp out all forms of conscious or unconscious racism, and to commit the Church of England to increase the participation and representation of lay and ordained BAME Anglicans throughout Church life;

to the greater glory of the God in whose image every human being is made.

## **END TO PAUPERS' FUNERALS**

*Mr Sam Margrave (Coventry) to move:*

That this Synod, noting:

- a) the substantial rise in the number of 'pauper funerals' in England and the pain and hurt arising from them; and
- b) the call of the Gospel to meet people as Jesus does, in their time of need, as well as the duty of Christians to the poor as set out in Proverbs 31.8-9 and Deuteronomy 15.7-8;

call upon the Archbishops' Council to establish a Task Force including representatives of the Houses of Bishops, Clergy and Laity to:

- (i) undertake the formation of plans at national, diocesan and parish levels to utilise Church resources (whether in the form of finance, volunteers or buildings) to tackle the issues relating to and, where possible, end 'pauper funerals'; and
- (ii) work with other stakeholders to find ways, at an affordable price, to deliver a more compassionate send off for the departed and to meet the spiritual and emotional needs of those left behind.

## **LEGAL AID REFORM**

*Mr Carl Fender (Lincoln) to move:*

That this Synod, mindful that a justice system should be open and free from barriers of any kind, and also provide easy access to

enable the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in our society to seek professional help in bringing their claims before our courts and tribunals:

- a) recognise our legal aid system as an essential public service and fully endorse its preservation for the benefit of the nation;
- b) welcome the reports by Amnesty International and the Bach Commission about the impact of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 and note both their findings about its impact on the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in our society and their recommendations for reform of the current system; and
- c) call on Her Majesty's Government to respond positively to these reports and explore ways of alleviating the impact that the 2012 Act has had on these groups.

## **DEEMED ITEMS**

The deadline for giving notice of amendments and requests to debate the items of business listed below was 5.30 p.m. on Friday 6 July. No such notice was received in respect of any of them.

Therefore, under SO 40(5) the amendments to Standing Orders contained in items 32 – 33 and 37 – 41 of the First Notice Paper are deemed to have been approved.