

GENERAL SYNOD

**VACANCY IN SEE COMMITTEES (AMENDMENT)
REGULATION 2003**

**A REGULATION PASSED BY THE GENERAL SYNOD TO
AMEND THE VACANCY IN SEE COMMITTEES REGULATION
1993**

The General Synod hereby makes the following Regulation:-

- 1.(1) This Regulation may be cited as the Vacancy in See Committees (Amendment) Regulation 2003 and shall come into force on 1st December 2003.

- (2) In this Regulation "the 1993 Regulation" means the Vacancy in See Committees Regulation 1993.

General

2. Where the word "he" appears in any provision of the 1993 Regulation except paragraph 6(a)(ii), the words "or she" shall be inserted after the word "he".

Ex Officio Members

- 3.(1) In paragraph (1)(a)(ii) of the 1993 Regulation the words "or provost" in the first place where they occur shall be omitted and for the words "a residentiary canon of the cathedral elected by the dean or provost and the residentiary canons" there shall be substituted the words "a member of the Chapter of the cathedral

elected by the Chapter excluding from election any person who is a member of the Committee in any other capacity".

- (2) In paragraph (1)(a) of the 1993 Regulation –
 - (a) in sub-paragraph (iv) the words from "and excluding" to the end shall be omitted;
 - (b) in sub-paragraph (v) the words from "excluding" to the end shall be omitted;
 - (c) in sub-paragraph (vii) the words from "nor shall" to the end shall be omitted; and
 - (d) in sub-paragraph (viii) the words from "except that" to the end shall be omitted.

Elected Members

4. In paragraph 1(c) of the 1993 Regulation for the words "two additional persons who represent a special interest in that diocese" there shall be substituted the words "four additional persons who reflect a special interest in the diocese or whose nomination is in the opinion of the Bishop's Council and Standing Committee appropriate in order to secure a better reflection of the diocese as a whole".

Casual Vacancies

5. Paragraph 3 of the 1993 Regulation shall be amended as follows-
 - (a) in sub-paragraph (a), there shall be inserted, at the end, the words "provided that if a vacancy of the bishopric is announced before a vacancy on the Committee has been filled the vacancy on the Committee shall remain unfilled until the Committee has completed its consideration of the vacancy of

the bishopric and shall then be filled within six months of the completion of such consideration"; and

- (b) in sub-paragraphs (b) and (c) after the word "his" there shall be inserted the words "or her".

Procedure

- 6. Paragraph 4 of the 1993 Regulation shall be amended as follows-
 - (a) in sub-paragraph (c), in the first sentence, for the words from the beginning to "agreed" there shall be substituted the words "The Secretary of the Committee shall be a fit and proper person (not being a member of the Committee) appointed" and at the end of that sentence there shall be added the words "and if the Secretary is already a member of the Committee at the time of his or her appointment he or she shall forthwith resign his or her office as member"; and
 - (b) after sub-paragraph (f), there shall be ended at the end-
 - "(g) As soon as practicable following the announcement of a vacancy of the bishopric the diocesan secretary shall provide to each member a booklet, prepared by the Archbishops' Secretary for Appointments and approved by the Legal Adviser to the General Synod, containing –
 - (i) an explanation of the dual role of a diocesan bishop as the bishop of his diocese and as a member of the House of Bishops of the General Synod and, in the case of a bishop who is or may become a member of the House of Lords, of his role as a member of that House and of the importance of giving due weight to those roles when considering candidates for a vacant bishopric;

- (ii) a description of the procedures to be followed concerning the nomination of persons to fill a vacant bishopric;
- (iii) a copy of this Regulation, as amended, and of the document entitled "Guidance Notes and Code of Practice"; and
- (iv) recommendations concerning the procedure to be adopted for meetings of the Committee."

Functions

7. Paragraph 5 of the 1993 Regulation shall be amended as follows –
- (a) for sub-paragraph (a) there shall be substituted the following sub-paragraph -
 - "(a) The Committee shall hold at least two meetings, the first of which shall be held as soon as practicable after the vacancy which the Committee is considering has been announced. At its second meeting the Committee shall discuss the needs of the diocese. It shall then prepare a statement setting out those needs and shall send it to the Crown Nominations Commission of the General Synod, together with such factual information about the diocese and its organisation as the Commission may request.";
 - (b) for sub-paragraph (b) there shall be substituted the following sub-paragraph-
 - "(b) The Committee shall elect by ballot from amongst its members persons to be members of the Crown Nominations Commission in connection with the

discharge by the Commission of its function in relation to the vacancy of the diocesan bishopric, numbering such number of members as may be required by the Standing Orders of the General Synod. Such election shall normally be taken as the final business of the second meeting of the Committee held to consider the vacancy and shall be conducted by the method of the single transferable vote in accordance with the Regulations of the General Synod currently in force. No candidate shall be eligible for election unless proposed and seconded by members of the Committee other than the candidate and no member shall propose or second a candidate if he or she has proposed or seconded another candidate.";

- (c) in sub-paragraph (c) for the words "the Crown Appointments Commission" there shall be substituted the words "the Crown Nominations Commission" and there shall be added at the end the words "and in making such an appointment shall have regard to the desirability of maintaining, amongst those members, a similar balance of opinion and of the interests which those members represented"; and
- (d) sub-paragraph (d) shall be omitted.

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