

GENERAL SYNOD

Appointments to the Archbishops' Council and Pensions Board

Background

1. Under Regulation 3 of the Church of England Pension Regulations 1997 and Schedule 1, paragraph 1(3) of the National Institutions Measure 1998 the consent of the General Synod is required for appointments as Chair of the Church of England Pensions Board and for appointments to the Archbishops' Council.

Chair of the Pensions Board

2. The Synod approved the re-appointment of Allan Bridgewater as Chair of the Pensions Board until 31 December 2007 at the February Group of Sessions in 2005.
3. Allan, formerly Chief Executive of the Norwich Union and then Chair of Swiss Re (GB) has served as Chair of the Pensions Board since January 1998. It had been his intention to step down at the end of this term of office. But in view of the significant time of change and challenge that the Board is facing the Archbishops have invited him to accept appointment for one further year and he has very kindly agreed to do so. The Archbishop of York will move a motion listed in the agenda for Synod to approve his re-appointment until 31 December 2008.

Appointments to the Archbishops' Council

4. Three terms of office end at the end of this year – those of Michael Chamberlain, Katherine McPherson and Anne Sloman.
5. Michael Chamberlain has served on the Council as Chair of the Finance Committee since 1999. Michael had intended to step down at the end of his last term of office at the end of last year. But given the significant financial challenges facing the Church at the time the Synod agreed last July that he should be re-appointed for one further year (the minimum permitted under the National Institutions Measure) until 31 December 2007. Michael signalled privately that he would not in fact wish to continue for much after the July 2007 Synod and he has now indicated that he will leave office on 30 September.

6. With a view to identifying a possible replacement, advertisements were placed in the national Church press, the *Times*, *Sunday Times*, *Financial Times* and key websites aimed specifically at minority ethnic communities. An interview panel chaired by Dr Christina Baxter met some of those who had expressed an interest in the role and submitted a report to the Archbishops. They then met and offered the position to Mr Andrew Britton, who has accepted their invitation.
7. Andrew is a graduate of Oriel College, Oxford, where he gained a degree in Modern History, and the London School of Economics, where he gained his MSc in Economics. He worked for a number of years at HM Treasury, including as an Under-Secretary. He left there to be Director of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research. He has also subsequently been a visiting professor at the University of Bath.
8. In the Church sphere, Andrew was a member of the former Board for Social Responsibility and was a member of the Deployment, Remuneration and Conditions of Service Committee until last year. He has been Chair of the Southwark Diocesan Board of Finance since 2000 and is also Chair of the Consultative Group of DBF Chairs and Secretaries. He has been a Reader since 1986 and is a lay Canon of Southwark Cathedral.
9. Andrew will stand down as Chair of Southwark DBF and of the Consultative Group of DBF Chairs and Secretaries on appointment to the Archbishops' Council.
10. The Archbishop of York will move a motion proposing that Andrew Britton be appointed to serve on the Council as Chair of the Finance Committee for a five-year term commencing on 1 October 2007.
11. Katherine McPherson and Anne Sloman were appointed for five-year terms beginning on 1 January 2003. Katherine has been involved since then in work on the Council's behalf on the Ethical Investment Advisory Group and the HR Panel and Anne has been deeply involved with the Clergy Terms of Service legislation, Communications and the Church buildings campaign. There has been a significant turnover in membership of the Council over the past two years, both among elected and appointed members, and the Archbishops have concluded that Anne and Katherine should have the opportunity to serve for a further period. Both have agreed to do so. The Archbishop of York will, therefore, move motions to re-appoint both for a further two years – until 31 December 2009.

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William Fittall
Secretary-General