

## GENERAL SYNOD

### Report on the Archbishops' Council's Activities

#### Introduction

The Archbishops' Council presents this report on its activities since the General Synod Meeting in July 2019. It has met twice on 24 September 2019 and 5 and 6 December 2019.

#### Meeting of the Archbishops' Council, Lambeth Palace, 24 September 2019

1. The Council reviewed a number of **finance matters**, including an update on the implementation of the 2020-22 spending plans and the national giving strategy. The Council was provided with an overview of the scope and expected outcomes for its Comprehensive Budget Review.
2. The Council were given an update on the recent developments in the **Ministry** division, including the appointment of the new Director of Ministry. The Council agreed to continue some central funding for the Ministry Experience Scheme.
3. The Council were presented with an update on **Safeguarding** from the new Director of Safeguarding. This included a discussion of the Capability Procedure and it was agreed that the Capability Procedure should be used as a way to address problems with clergy whose approach to safeguarding is deficient.
4. The Council received an update on progress in the **Mid-Year Review**. The Council noted progress against the objectives and fed into plans for the 2020 Business Plan.
5. The Council considered a number of items relating to culture and values. This included a review of the behaviours of the Council, and an update of the **Inclusion and Belonging** programme in the NCIs.
6. The Council discussed **Brexit** and the risks associated with Brexit.
7. The Council approved a number of Deemed Items of business, including the Special Purposes Fund: recommended loan for Contact Management System development and Serious Incident Reporting.

#### Meeting of the Archbishops' Council, Wilson Carlile Centre, Sheffield, 5 and 6 December 2019

8. The Council reviewed a number of **strategic matters**, including the outline Business Plan for 2020 for the Archbishops' Council. The discussion on the strategic plans for the Council included reference to resources and priorities for work related to the environment.
9. There was an update on **Renewal and Reform**, specifically looking at progress in the light of the 2018 Statistics for Mission.
10. The Council reviewed the **Risk Register** for the Council and the Strategic Risk Register for the Church. They were also provided with an update on progress for the review of the current processes and procedures for reporting **Serious Incidents** to the Charity Commission.

11. The Council were provided with an update on **Safeguarding**, including an overview of the plans for the Safeguarding Team in light of the appointment of the new Director of Safeguarding.
12. The Council received an update on the refurbishment of Church House. The Council discussed a number of **financial matters**. This included a proposal to support the **Parish Giving Scheme** with a grant to implement an online facility for regular and one-off donations. The Council was also provided with an update on progress to develop Social Impact Investment.
13. The Council was updated on the work of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Commission on the relationship of the **Channel Islands** to the wider Church of England.
14. The Council approved a number of Deemed Items of business: arrangements for signing documents; schedule of financial authority; National Minimum Stipend 2020/21; Central Stipends Authority Report; AC Appointments; Legislative Reform and the Evangelism & Discipleship Terms of Reference.

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William Nye LVO  
Secretary General

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