TABLE OF LEGISLATIVE AND NON-LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS TRANSACTED 2015-2020

Updated February 2020
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<td>Amending Canon No. 41 (GS 2105B)</td>
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</table>
### Action called for

**Motion on the Migrant Crisis (GS 2009)**

**Intended Audience**
Parishes and dioceses; Her Majesty’s Government

Urge parishes and dioceses to provide practical resources and pray for those seeking to address the causes and symptoms of this crisis, welcome aid provided by HMG to those suffering. Call on HMG to increase number resettled significantly beyond its initial target of 20,000 over five years; call upon HMG to work with the UN High Commissioner to ensure that vulnerability to religiously motivated persecution is taken into account when determining whom to receive, to work with international partners to establish legal routes to places of safety and to take a fair share of refugees now within the EU.

### Follow-up

The National Refugee Welcome Coordinator works with parishes and dioceses to support refugee sponsorship. Meetings with the Home Office and other government departments have focused on the situation post-2020, pushing for continuation of the government scheme and continued support of community sponsorship. We press for religious persecution to be given proper consideration when identifying families for resettlement, and in asylum casework. We are engaged with Safe Passage to ensure that commitments made as part of the EU continue. External funding has secured the Coordinator’s post until early 2020 by which time sustainable structures for dioceses will be in place.

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### Action called for

**Church Buildings Review (GS 2008)**

**Intended Audience**
Dioceses, deaneries and parishes; Archbishops’ Council; Church Commissioners; Church Buildings Council; Business Committee

Welcome the report from the Church Buildings Review Group, commend it for discussion in dioceses, deaneries and parishes. Invite the Archbishops’ Council, the Church Commissioners and the Church Buildings Council to work together on the detailed implementation of the proposals in the report to enable the Business Committee to schedule the start of the relevant legislative process by July 2016. Invite the Archbishops’ Council, the Church Commissioners and the Church Buildings Council to develop a strategy to inspire, encourage and support churches and their dioceses to invest in their facilities to serve their communities and provide opportunities for mission.

### Follow-up

New terms of reference have been agreed for the member-level Strategic Church Buildings Support Group, which includes the Church Buildings Council, Mission, Pastoral and Church Property Committee, and Mission and Public Affairs Council. This group will now be co-chaired by the Chair of the Church Buildings Council and Third Church Estates Commissioner, and look specifically at legislative reform scoping around buildings.

No further progress has been made on implementing the outstanding recommendations of the Church Buildings Review. The Archbishops have asked for a review of this lack of progress on full implementation and legislation.
### Motion

**Report from the Evangelism Task Group (GS 2015)**

**Intended Audience**
*General Synod; Dioceses, deaneries and parishes*

**Action called for**

Synod took note of the Report from the Evangelism Task Group.

**Follow-up**

The final report from the Evangelism and Discipleship Task Group was presented to Synod in February 2019. The Evangelism and Discipleship Team is developing specific interventions and resources to support momentum in evangelism and discipleship, including digital and initiating new activities at the local level recognising that we should only do nationally what is done best nationally.

### Motion


**Intended Audience**
*Council for Christian Unity; Church of Scotland; Scottish Episcopal Church*

**Action called for**

The Council for Christian Unity to oversee the implementation of the Commitments contained in the Columba Declaration, as set out in paragraph 38 of the report, and set up the Contact Group proposed by it, ensuring that the Scottish Episcopal Church is invited to appoint a representative to attend its meetings.

**Follow-up**

Report was debated and approved at Church of Scotland General Assembly 25 May 2016; Council for Christian Unity has reviewed formal responses to the report from the Scottish Episcopal Church and the United Reformed Church, and taken forward matters relating to implementation, including Terms of Reference, initial priorities and membership for the Contact Group, following liaison with the Church of Scotland and the Scottish Episcopal Church; the Contact Group met for the first time in November 2017, including the representative from the Scottish Episcopal Church and will continue to take this implementation forward.

### Motion

**Blood and Organ Donation (GS 2022A and GS 2022B)**

**Intended Audience**
*Church of England parishes*

**Action called for**

Calls on all Church of England parishes to encourage their members to become blood and organ donors.

**Follow-up**

Sustained activity by MPA – 4 major policy debates, 6 national initiatives. Founder associate of Flesh and Blood Churches campaign. +Carlisle and MPA’s policy adviser conducted series of seminars for clergy, lay leaders and ordinands on end of life issues, including organ donation: 12 seminars conducted. Through meetings and workshops, MPA officers and NHSBT explored the introduction of an opt-out system of organ donation in England including participation by BME communities. +Carlisle and the MPA’s policy adviser met with the undersecretary of State for Health to discuss the issue. NHSBT representatives met with CoFE healthcare chaplains in October 2019.
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**Action called for**

Called on HMG to implement the recommendations set out in Feeding Britain in respect of the use of sanctions upon benefit claimants, to initiate a full independent review of the impact and efficacy of the sanctions and conditionality regime and to encourage every part of the Church of England to offer practical and pastoral support to those experiencing benefit sanctions, building on the Church’s work with food banks, credit unions and debt advice.

**Follow-up**

MPA’s Emergency Use Only report highlighted the impact of sanctions on food bank use. A major study by York University found sanctions increase destitution and are largely ineffective in promoting employment. MPA is on the advisory group of a pilot scheme, led by The Children’s Society, to improve crisis support provision in the UK, following its report on the decline in local welfare assistance schemes. MPA is also a member of End Hunger UK, which is calling on Government to reduce household food insecurity by tackling the underlying causes of poverty, including the sanctions system and other changes to UC.

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<td>18 February 2016</td>
<td>Debate on a Motion on Renewal and Reform: Resourcing Ministerial Education (GS 2020)</td>
<td>Archbishops’ Council</td>
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**Action called for**

Re-affirmed the objectives set out in GS 1979, welcomed the objectives set out in GS 2020, endorsed the funding arrangements agreed by the Archbishops’ Council, requested a progress report back to Synod from the Archbishops’ Council by July 2018.

**Follow-up**

For the progress report requested in the February 2016 Synod motion, please read GS Misc 1190.
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<tr>
<td><strong>Motion</strong></td>
<td>Take Note Debate on a Report on 'Renewal and Reform: Resourcing the Future' (GS 2021)</td>
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<td><strong>Intended Audience</strong></td>
<td>Dioceses and parishes</td>
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**Action called for**
The Synod was asked to Take Note of the report setting out the implementation plans for the Resourcing the Future review of the distribution of the Church's national funds.

**Follow-up**
Allocations of the £25.4m of Lowest Income Communities funding (plus £9.8m transitional funding) were made in 2019. Dioceses have reported on their use of this funding and an analysis of the responses was considered by the Strategic Investment Board. Plans for the use of Restructuring Funding allocated in 2017-19 have been received from all 21 of the dioceses eligible to receive it. £19.5m of Strategic Development Funding was awarded to dioceses in 2019, supporting 11 awards to 11 dioceses. In addition, £1m of Strategic Development Funding was awarded to non-diocesan organisations in 2019.

Over two-thirds of dioceses will have taken part in a second peer review by the time the February 2020 Synod takes place.
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<th>08 July 2016</th>
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**Action called for**

The Synod welcomed the Archbishops’ call for unity and called on Bishops to identify diocesan champions for unity within local communities.

**Follow-up**

With the rise in hate crime since the referendum, MPA staff have supported bishops with information and analysis to inform local responses. The House of Bishops Brexit Working Group continues to monitor this and encourage the development of resources to support dioceses to address the challenges raised.

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<th>Motion on a Vision and Narrative for Renewal and Reform <em>(GS 2038)</em></th>
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**Action called for**

Synod welcomed the vision and commended it as a framework for implementation of Renewal and Reform across the Church.

**Follow-up**

The Vision and Narrative has been adopted by all the workstreams as they continue their work under Renewal and Reform.

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<th>Take Note Debate on “A Church of England Vision for Education” <em>(GS 2039)</em></th>
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**Action called for**

Synod took note of the report.

**Follow-up**

The Vision has been well received very widely and has become the underpinning document for the Education Office’s work and the Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership. Further work will help dioceses and educationalists to ensure the vision has impact in their local context. The Education Office is clear in the message that this the Church of England’s vision for education, not restricted to Church of England Schools, and so the vision is at the heart of our attempts to shape and develop policy across the educational landscape.
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<td>Draft Inspection of Churches Measure (GS 2028 and GS 2028x)</td>
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**Action called for**

Synod adjourned the debate.

**Follow-up**

The debate was adjourned. The changes needed to DAC appointment and lengths of service, and quinquennial inspection regulations have been achieved through a Miscellaneous Provisions Measure in July 2018, to bring the appointment of DAC members, and carrying out of QI inspections in line with modern codes of conduct on fair competition.

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<td>09 July 2016</td>
<td>Nurturing and Discerning Senior Leaders (GS 2026)</td>
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**Action called for**

Synod took note of the report.

**Follow-up**

Three Cohorts, with just over 160 clergy from across dioceses, have continued to be engaged in the Strategic Leadership Development Programme (SLDP), with Cohort 1 completing the programme in November 2019. The 2018-19 cohort of Diocesan and Suffragan Bishops have completed the three modules of the programme in September ‘19. Team Coaching has taken place for three Bishop’s Leadership Teams. Transition coaching for Diocesan Bishops continues. Support for Deans continued in 2019 with transition coaching, a Smaller Cathedrals seminar and the Action Learning Set. One Learning Communities Learning Together(LCLT) seminar on Change Mindset took place in July. Further events are planned for the SLDP, Bishops, Deans and LCLT throughout the remainder of 2020.
### 13 February 2017

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<td><strong>Motion</strong></td>
<td>Anniversary of the Reformation (GS 2044)</td>
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<td>Council for Christian Unity; Dioceses and Parishes</td>
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**Action called for**

That the Synod give thanks to God for the blessings that the Reformation brought to the Church of England and welcome signs of convergence between the churches on the doctrine of salvation. That the Synod commend initiatives in this anniversary year to foster mutual understanding and reconciliation between churches, for the sake of our deeper renewal in the grace of God and our ability to share the gospel of salvation with all the world.

**Follow-up**

The Council for Christian Unity working together with the Lutheran Council of Great Britain held a day in Cambridge on the theme *Reformation then and now*. There was strong representation from the Church of England while the highlight of the year in this country was the major service at Westminster Abbey on 31 October 2017, at which the Archbishop of Canterbury preached and then made a presentation to representatives of the Roman Catholic Church and Lutheran World Federation regarding the Anglican Consultative Council’s resolution on the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine, referred to in the motion approved by Synod.

### 15 February 2017

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<td><strong>Motion</strong></td>
<td>Creation of a Suffragan See for the diocese of Leicester (GS 2052)</td>
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<td>Her Majesty in Council</td>
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**Action called for**

That the town of Loughborough be taken and accepted for a see of a suffragan bishop as if it had been included in the suffragan bishops Act 1534.

**Follow-up**

The Privy Council has agreed the creation of the Suffragan See of Loughborough and the Bishop is now in post.
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<td>15 February 2017</td>
<td><strong>Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (GS 2054A and GS 2054B)</strong></td>
<td>Her Majesty’s Government; dioceses and parishes</td>
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**Action called for**

The Synod welcomed the work of HM Government to review the maximum stake for Fixed Odds Betting Terminals and call on HM Government bring forward proposals to reduce the maximum stake from £100 to £2 and to grant local authorities power to make provision about the number and location of such terminals.

**Follow-up**

The Church of England took a leading role in the campaign, led by the Bishop of St Albans, and we are delighted that, after a sustained pressing of the case both privately and in public, the Government has decided on a £2 maximum. We continue to press for an early implementation date. The Bishop has sponsored a Bill to extend the powers of local authorities in this matter; we shall continue to advocate this, as we see how stake reductions impact the high street outlets; but our main focus is moving to online gambling, advertising, and the effects on children.

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<td>16 February 2017</td>
<td><strong>Setting God’s People Free: Report from the Archbishops’ Council (GS 2056)</strong></td>
<td>Archbishops’ Council; House of Bishops; dioceses and parishes</td>
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**Action called for**

The Archbishops’ Council is to develop the implementation plan referred to in section 5 of the report and work closely with the House of Bishops and the dioceses in taking it forward.

**Follow-up**

The implementation of Setting God’s People Free was initially funded as a three-year programmed from 2017 to 2020. Extension funding through Renewal and Reform has extended this to run until 2022. The recommendations in the report approved by Synod have been adopted as a key priority area of the Archbishop’s Council Evangelism and Discipleship team. Progress on implementation was reported back to General Synod in the July 2019 sessions (GS 2145). By the end of 2020 32 Dioceses will have participated in the Discipleship Learning Communities established to help integrate SGPF recommendations into diocesan plans. This includes taking practical steps to with worshiping communities to develop new resources for worship, faith formation and witness and to adapt diocesan communications, ministerial training and development. Additional support for dioceses and a full range of resources to enable the whole people of God to live out our faith in everyday life are also key elements of this work.
**Date Passed**  
16 February 2017  

**Motion**  
Mission and Administration (GS 2057A and GS 2057B)  

**Intended Audience**  
Archbishops’ Council  

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### Action called for

Considering the ratio of time and money spent in administration to that spent in mission, confirm that the principle of subsidiarity should not be applied to purely administrative functions and request the Archbishops’ Council to consult with the Church Commissioners and dioceses, with the objective of establishing centralized administrative facilities so that other functions which can be handled more efficiently thereby are transferred accordingly.

### Follow-up

**People and Data Programme**  
This is the substantial piece of work that is bringing together people data, systems and processes from across the Church of England. A huge amount of preparatory work has been completed. We have now moved into the build phase of the programme having successfully completed requirements gathering. Thanks to the thoughtful and timely input by colleagues from across the country we have reached this stage on time and on budget.

This next phase consists of building the framework of the system which we will use in the first round of testing - application walkthrough - during Spring 2020. This will be the first of six rounds of testing we will carry out before the system goes live. Work has been proceeding on setting up a National Clergy Register following the recommendation in the Gibb Report. The Synod gave final approval to a Miscellaneous Provisions Measure last July which gives the Archbishops’ Council power to make Regulations requiring bishops to provide the Council with information to produce a national register of authorised clergy, and the Council to publish the register. Subject to the Miscellaneous Provisions Measure completing its Parliamentary passage, it is intended to bring draft regulations to the Synod in July with a view to the Register going live in the first quarter of 2021.

**Pathways**  
A national service to better enable and support recruitment (Pathways), particularly through the provision of digital tools, was launched in August 2017. To date (January) there are 36 subscribers to the Pathways system. In 2019, we advertised 993 posts, of which 406 were for open ordained vacancies. 8 major updates were released including ability for all candidates to save as they complete their applications which was the highest indicated adjustment required. To support dioceses in using the Pathways system, localised control of templates was launched in 2019 and in 2020, webinars, and how-to videos will be added to the service.
### Motion

After the General Election, a still small voice of calm

**Intended Audience**
Dioceses, the whole Church of England

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**Action called for**

Please visit our website to see the full motion wording ([July group of sessions 2017 – Fourth Notice Paper](#)), which was passed unamended.

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**Follow-up**

Another General Election has now taken place. The success of the Conservatives in many hard-pressed communities may lead to strong attention to those areas’ needs, but what form this may take is uncertain. The church may be able to build constructively on the PM’s “One Nation” rhetoric. Bishops are involved in local ventures to rebuild community trust. MPA is linking between MHCLG’s unit monitoring community tensions and the dioceses so that the church’s grass roots knowledge can be fed into HMG policy.

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### Motion

Presence and Engagement: Report from the Mission and Public Affairs Council (GS 2063)

**Intended Audience**
Presence & Engagement Centres; dioceses; Presence & Engagement Task Group

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**Action called for**

Commend the national P&E programme and offer prayerful support for its work over the next five years, requesting that the fruit of this be made available through P&E Centres and as a report back to Synod. Encourage dioceses to incorporate cultivation of relationships with other faith communities into their mission plans. Re-affirm *Sharing the Gospel of Salvation* (GS Misc 956) and call on the P&E Task Group to continue supporting parishes bearing faithful witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ with sensitivity and confidence among people of other faiths.

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**Follow-up**

A range of work continues to support and resource churches for ministry in multireligious contexts. Recent areas of focus have included partnering with the Office of the Chief Rabbi on a twinning programme for priests and rabbis, continuing to broaden our networks among ordinands and curates, closer working with the Christian Muslim Forum and contributing to the Faith and Order Commission’s work on Christian-Jewish relations. P&E also continues to assist clergy welcoming Persians into their congregations, and encourage the appointment and greater utilisation of diocesan interfaith advisers.
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<td>08 July 2017</td>
<td>National Support for Local Churches: Report from the Archbishops’ Council (GS 2069)</td>
<td>Dioceses; parishes; Archbishops’ Council</td>
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</table>

**Action called for**
That the national team continues to create resources and training that supports local churches in their mission, evangelism and ministry.

**Follow-up**
The new Evangelism and Discipleship Team have and are producing lots of resources to support local churches. These include:

- The new Talking Jesus Course, which helps people to confidently talk about their faith.
- Mission Academy Live – which helps young people to share their faith with their friends.
- Various discipleship resources especially through the digital #LiveLent Course & the Ordinary Time campaign
- The Follow the Star campaign and especially the pocket-sized booklet inviting people to reflect on the Wise Men this Christmas
- Resources to help churches develop a culture of invitation
- Resources to develop a Welcoming community.

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<td>08 July 2017</td>
<td>Conversion Therapy (GS 2070A &amp; GS 2070B)</td>
<td>The Church; HM Government</td>
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**Action called for**
Endorsement of the Memorandum of Understanding on Conversion Therapy in the UK (2015). To be sensitive and to listen to contemporary expressions of gender identity. The Government to ban the practice of Conversion Therapy.

**Follow-up**
The Under-Secretary of State for the Care & Mental Health has been petitioned by the Clerk to the Synod. The Second Estates Commissioner and staff met the minister and officials at the DoH to reinforce the CoE’s opposition to Conversion Therapy. The Living in Love and Faith working group on Social and Biological Sciences has engaged with the evidence and reinforces Synod’s position on Conversion Therapy. The LLF process continues to engage with questions of gender identity. MPA staff joined a round table during 2019 to brief staff from the Government Equalities Office responsible for drafting legislation on Conversion Therapy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Passed</th>
<th>09 July 2017</th>
<th>Motion</th>
<th>Welcoming Transgender People (GS 2071A &amp; 2071B)</th>
<th>Intended Audience</th>
<th>House of Bishops</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Action called for**
Welcoming and affirming transgender people in the parish Church. Consideration by the House of Bishops on whether some nationally commended liturgical materials might be prepared to mark a person’s gender transition.

**Follow-up**
The HoB Delegation Committee considered and endorsed a draft text of Pastoral Guidance for using the Common Worship Rite of Affirmation of Baptismal Faith in the context of gender transition. This Guidance gives practical suggestions for how the rite of Affirmation can be used. It was written after consultation with a group of transgender clergy who endorsed the draft. The text received final approval at the December 2018 meeting of the House of Bishops. Subsequent consultation with clergy and laity anxious about the interpretation and application of the advice resulted in some amendment to the way the advice is presented.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Passed</th>
<th>09 July 2017</th>
<th>Motion</th>
<th>Clergy Wellbeing: Report from the House of Clergy (GS 2072)</th>
<th>Intended Audience</th>
<th>The Appointments Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Action called for**
Welcome and support for the proposal to establish a Covenant for Clergy Wellbeing. Invite the Appointments Committee to appoint a Clergy Wellbeing Working Group to bring proposals for such a Covenant back to this Synod by July 2019.

**Follow-up**
The Clergy Wellbeing Group has completed its work on its report, following the feedback it received on its draft report which it had put out for consultation in October 2018. This included separate discussions by the Houses of Clergy and Laity just prior to the February 2019 Group of Sessions. The Group’s report was debated at the Group of Sessions in July (see GS 2133). The group hopes that this – followed by the adoption of the proposed Clergy Covenant as an Act of Synod in February 2020 (see GS 2153 and GS Misc 1246) – will trigger subsequent debates and conversations at diocesan and parish level and in so doing help ensure that clergy wellbeing is taken more seriously than hitherto. The group anticipates that this next phase would be overseen by a facilitation group.
### Action called for

Include provision in the Schools Admission Code requiring admission authorities to allocate places to children of clergy (and other workers who are required to live in tied accommodation) in advance of the family arriving in the area. Call on admissions authorities to accept letters of appointment as proof of residence ahead of children of clergy (and others previously mentioned) moving to the area.

### Follow-up

The Secretary of State for Education has been petitioned by the Clerk to the General Synod.

### Motion

Schools Admissions Code ([GS 2073A & GS 2073B](#))  
Intended Audience: Secretary of State; admissions authorities.

### Action called for

Request that MPA Council investigate issues around the cost of applying for citizenship and made recommendations to HM Government. Encourage the Lords Spiritual to actively seek opportunities to address the issue of fees in debate. Urge parishes to raise the issue with their MP. Encourage parishes to support those who are struggling with the cost of citizenship fees to avoid debt and signpost responsible lenders.

### Follow-up

The motion was communicated to the Home Office, and pressure continues; especially about the deliberate setting of fee levels, including those for applications on behalf of children, at a level substantially higher than the cost of processing the application. The recent concern about the theme of a 'hostile environment' has brought fresh attention to the high fees, not only for citizenship but for immigration-related applications (especially on behalf of children), and we are pressing that fees should reflect costs, rather than being a revenue opportunity.
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<tr>
<th>Date Passed</th>
<th>Motion</th>
<th>Intended Audience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>8 February 2018</strong></td>
<td>Discerning in Obedience: A theological review of the CNC (GS 2080)</td>
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</table>

**Action called for**
The Synod took note of the Report – which included an implementation plan (see GS 2080).

**Follow-up**
This Synod discussed some proposed Standing Order changes (GS 2144) at July 2019 Synod. Members received a report from the Bishop of Lichfield who chairs the monitoring group established by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York (GS Misc 1232). It is proposed that a further report be produced in July 2020.

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<tr>
<th>Date Passed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>9 February 2018</strong></td>
<td>Companion Links and the Anglican Communion (GS 2081)</td>
<td>Dioceses; deaneries; and parishes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Action called for**
The motion calls for dioceses, deaneries and parishes to make international links a central part of their strategy for mission and discipleship.

**Follow-up**
The World Mission and Anglican Communion Panel continues to work with Dioceses to encourage development in world mission through the Diocesan Companion Links and the Partnership for World Mission agencies. The Panel and the World Mission Adviser are working through the Lambeth Conference Hospitality Initiative to further the aims and outcomes of GS 2081.
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<th>Date Passed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>9 February 2018</strong></td>
<td><strong>Food Wastage (GS 2077A and GS 2077B)</strong></td>
<td>Her Majesty’s Government; dioceses; parishes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Action called for**
Request that dioceses and parishes work with voluntary initiatives to lobby for local food retailers to review their food waste policy. Ask Government to take effective action to minimise food waste and encourage church members to do the same in their own homes.

**Follow-up**
Under Shrinking the Footprint MPA has been seeking to roll these actions into the wider programme of work that includes the Lent Plastics Challenge and green procurement. Church members will be encouraged to take personal responsibility for food waste as part of a wider commitment to environmentally sustainable actions. New arrangements for meals at General Synod and changes to the organisation of fringe meetings have reduced significant amounts of food waste.

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>9 February 2018</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mission and Ministry in Covenant (GS 2086)</strong></td>
<td>Faith and Order Bodies/Methodist Church</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Action called for**
The Faith and Order Commission to report back to the Synod at the next group of sessions on work carried out jointly with the Methodist Church to address the areas for further reflection outlined at paragraphs 26-29 of the covering note from the Faith and Order Commission to GS 2086; the Faith and Order Commission, in consultation with the Methodist Church, to explore and elucidate further the relationship between episcopal ordination and eucharistic presidency, as this touches on the full visible unity of our two churches.

**Follow-up**
The faith and order bodies of the Church of England and the Methodist Church met to consider how to take this forward. A group with membership from both churches was appointed to lead on the work that had been outlined. The co-chairs were the Bishop of Lichfield and the Revd Ruth Gee (former President of Conference). The subsequent report from the faith and order bodies formed the basis for a further debate on Mission and Ministry in Covenant at July 2019 Synod (see GS 2135).

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>9 February 2018</strong></td>
<td><strong>Petition for change of name to See of Kirkstall (GS 2085)</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Action called for**
Petition to Her Majesty in Council for the name of the See of Richmond to be changed to the See of Kirkstall.

**Follow-up**
The Privy Council has agreed to the renaming of the Suffragan See of Richmond to the See of Kirkstall.
### Action called for

(a) note the historic importance of religious communities in the life of the faithful in this country; (b) celebrate the many new expressions of the religious life through Recognised and Acknowledged Communities; and (c) call on the Business Committee to introduce a new Canon to the Synod by July 2018 to provide a framework for religious life in the Church of England.

### Follow-up

Draft Amending Canon No. 40 received its First Consideration at the July 2018 group of sessions and returned for the Revision Stage in February 2019. In addition, the Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) contained further provision relating to religious communities which received its Revision Stage in February 2019. Both items were presented to July 2019 Synod for Final Drafting and Final Approval (see GS 2103B and GS 2104B).

### Action called for

That women who have been told that their unborn child has Down's Syndrome are given comprehensive, unbiased information on the condition.

### Follow-up

Representatives of MPA, Ministry Division, Education, Communications and Lambeth Palace met with +Carlisle, representatives of Mencap and other organisations to discuss ways of putting ‘Valuing People with Downs Syndrome’ into practice. This has resulted in the creation of a ‘tool-kit’ for use by parishes and schools which will be launched during February 2020 Synod. The MPA policy adviser and +Carlisle have met with ministers and the Institute of Health Visitors to discuss NIPT. Current emphasis is on the introduction of protocols to ensure that women are enabled to make free and informed decisions at every stage of the NIPT process.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date Passed</th>
<th>7 July 2018</th>
<th>Motion</th>
<th>Safeguarding (GS 2092)</th>
<th>Intended Audience</th>
<th>National Church Institutions; House of Bishops and Archbishops’ Council</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Action called for**

That this Synod, recognising that safeguarding is at the heart of Christian mission and the urgent need for the Church of England to continue to become a safer place for all and a refuge for those who suffer abuse in any context:

a) endorse the priorities for action outlined in the report (GS 2092);
b) endorse as an additional priority the support of safeguarding at parish level to create a safer church of all;
c) call on the House of Bishops and the Archbishops’ Council to ensure that a plan of action is implemented as a matter of priority; and
d) call on the House of Bishops to introduce, as a matter of urgency, ways to improve relations between the Church and those survivors currently in dispute with the National Church Institutions including, where appropriate, by the use of mediation processes.

**Follow-up**

The House of Bishops and Archbishops’ Council, under the auspices of the National Safeguarding Steering Group, have been monitoring the implementation of actions contained in the report GS 2092, alongside other developments led by the National Safeguarding Team aimed at improving the consistency and quality of safeguarding practice and arrangements across the whole Church. The Safeguarding 2020 Business Plan has been endorsed by the Archbishops’ Council to make progress against these improvements. The Social Care Institute of Excellence, commissioned by the National Safeguarding Team, continues to work with the established Survivors Reference Group to develop a work plan, terms of reference and proposals for wider strategic survivor engagement with the Church for 2020.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date Passed</th>
<th>8 July 2018</th>
<th>Motion</th>
<th>Climate change and investment (GS 2093 &amp; GS Misc 1196)</th>
<th>Intended Audience</th>
<th>National Investing Bodies</th>
</tr>
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</table>

**Action called for**

The National Investing Bodies (NIBs) were urged to: engage urgently and robustly with companies rated poorly by the Transition Pathway Initiative (TPI) and, beginning in 2020, to start to disinvest from the ones that are not taking seriously their responsibilities to assist with the transition to a low carbon economy; ensure that by 2023 they have disinvested from fossil fuel companies that they have assessed, drawing on TPI data, as not prepared to align with the goal of the Paris Agreement to restrict the global average temperature rise to well below 2°C; and proactively to seek and scale up investment in renewable energy and low carbon technology.

**Follow-up**

Since the Synod debate in July 2018, the NIBs have continued to pursue action on climate change as their overwhelming ethical investment priority. TPI is now backed by investors representing over $16 trillion of assets and has become the tool to assess public commitments by companies by the global engagement initiative, Climate Action 100 (CA100+), which is itself supported by investors representing over $41 trillion of assets. The NIBs are seeking through their engagement to encourage as many companies as possible, in industries associated with the highest carbon emissions, to meet their climate expectations. Where companies are not prepared to change, the NIBs will implement new investment restrictions. The NIBs are expecting to implement their next round of climate-related restrictions in November 2020. The NIBs continue actively to seek low carbon investments that meet their investment criteria.
<table>
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<th>Date Passed</th>
<th>Motion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 July 2018</td>
<td>The Ethics of Nuclear Weapons (GS 2095)</td>
<td>Her Majesty’s Government; Anglican Communion and ecumenical partners</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Action called for**
That the Church of England work with its Anglican Communion and ecumenical partners in addressing the regional and international security concerns which drive nations to possess and seek nuclear weapons and to work towards achieving a genuine peace through their elimination.

**Follow-up**
Representatives of MPA are in conversation with the World Council of Churches and UK based ecumenical partners as to the scope for collaboration ahead of the Non Proliferation Treaty Review Conference in 2020.

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<tr>
<td>9 July 2018</td>
<td>Long Term Sustainability of the National Health Service</td>
<td>Her Majesty’s Government</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Action called for**
To engage with HMG to encourage action on the House of Lords Select Committee report.

**Follow-up**
The Bishop of Carlisle and the MPA policy adviser have met with the Undersecretary of State for Health to discuss the future of the NHS and related Social Care funding. A Green paper on Social Care was to be published during 2019, but was delayed due to Brexit and disagreement over its contents. Social Care funding and health/social care integration are to be addressed by government during 2020 and MPA will participate in any consultations. Currently, MPA and +Carlisle are involved in pursuing social prescribing initiatives (including ‘Green Health’ projects) as part of addressing future NHS sustainability.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Passed</th>
<th>10 July 2018</th>
<th>Motion</th>
<th>Report of the Cathedrals Working Group</th>
<th>Intended Audience</th>
<th>Archbishops’ Council; Bishops; Cathedrals and National Church Institutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Action called for**

In July 2018, it was agreed that General Synod:

a) welcome the recommendations in the Report of the Cathedrals Working Group (GS 2101A);

b) request the Archbishops’ Council to bring forward a draft Measure for the First Consideration at the July 2019 group of sessions to give effect to the recommendations that involve legislative change;

c) call on all concerned, including bishops, cathedrals and the National Church Institutions, to give effect to the recommendations which do not involve legislative change as soon as practically possible.

**Follow-up**

The NCIs have now established an internal Cathedrals Support Group (CSG), which is chaired by the Third Church Estates Commissioner. The purpose of the group is to oversee the delivery of the legislative and non-legislative recommendations emerging from the Cathedrals Working Group Report as endorsed by Synod. Workstreams include: Theology, Governance, Parish Church Cathedrals, Residentiary Canons, Finance, Risk and Audit, Cathedral Management, Safeguarding, The Role of NCIs & AEC and, Buildings.

Each of these streams has an agreed NCI lead who works closely with one or more cathedral links who are representatives nominated by the Association of English Cathedrals. The Chair of the CSG issues regular newsletters to the cathedrals community and others updating them on progress. In addition, a recent FAQs document was released by the CSG alongside its latest bulletin, detailing the legislative timetable over the next few years and answering other key questions raised.

Legislation was presented to the July 2019 Group of Sessions (see GS 2136 and GS 2136X). The revision stage is presented in the February 2020 Group of Sessions (see GS 2136A and GS 2136Y).
### Action called for

Formation of a Homeless Taskforce to undertake the formation of plans at national, diocesan and parish level to utilise Church resources to provide shelter and support services for the vulnerable on a nationwide basis, building on experience of government and Third Sector initiatives.

### Follow-up

A round table discussion with voluntary bodies concerned with homelessness took place at Church House on 28th June 2019, and the Church will act in a coordination role with the agencies. It has been proposed that the Mission and Public Affairs Council act as the ‘Taskforce’ and will act as the governance body for this work.

Dioceses have been asked to share examples of engagement with homelessness via the Diocesan Social Responsibility Officers’ network with the aim of producing models of good practice.

### Action called for

The motion calls on every diocese to have an environment programme with a designated member of the bishops’ staff team to lead the programme. It calls on Environmental Working Group, supported by the national teams for the Church of England Environmental Programme (CoEEP) and Mission & Public Affairs to prepare a framework plan to the Archbishops’ Council for the promotion, coordination and rapid acceleration of the CoEEP. It calls for tools to be made available to measure current energy consumption of cathedrals, churches and church halls with the aim of reducing CO2 emissions by 80% by 2050. Dioceses are encouraged to share best practice and the Archbishops’ Council is asked to assess what human and financial resources would be required to enable the work to be delivered.

### Follow-up

The Archbishops’ Council has committed to additional staff resources for environmental work. A National Environment Officer has been appointed. Work has been undertaken with the Research & Statistics team to identify and streamline existing data sources and establish a mechanism for a National Carbon Footprint tool to help parishes improve efficiency, save money and measure themselves against others without adding to volunteer workload. A brief with Historic England to provide expertise and training has been agreed by the EWG and funding is being sought.
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<tr>
<th>Date Passed</th>
<th>Motion</th>
<th>Intended Audience</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22 February 2019</td>
<td>Evangelism and Discipleship (GS 2118 and Annex A)</td>
<td>Dioceses, parishes, clergy and lay leaders</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Action called for**
Every worshipping community to make evangelism a planned priority and affirm the importance of prayer in evangelism, through involvement in ‘Thy Kingdom Come’. Dioceses to envision, equip and enable lay and ordained people to be more confident in sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. The Evangelism and Discipleship Team to report back to Synod no later than July 2020.

**Follow-up**
There has been great work by diocesan champions to promote Thy Kingdom Come and parishes have been using the resources. The Talking Jesus Course for training people in evangelism has been used by 17 dioceses. Churches have been encouraged to use Faith pictures which is a course developed by the Church Army to help Christians to speak to friends, neighbours and colleagues about their faith. Diocesan Missioners helped and equipped through the Mission Network gathering.

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<tr>
<td>22 February 2019</td>
<td>Growing Faith (GS 2121)</td>
<td>Dioceses, parishes, Fresh Expressions, Church of England schools, and colleges or university chaplaincies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Action called for**
Encourage all dioceses, parishes, fresh expressions, Church of England schools and college or university chaplaincies to ensure they weave the vision set out in GS 2121 through every strand of their strategies for mission and ministry.

**Follow-up**
The Growing Faith Adventure currently has 4 main workstreams:

i. Every diocese has a Growing Faith Champion to encourage the prioritisation of ministry with children and young people (especially in the intersection of the church, school and household) at every level of diocesan activity.

ii. Six Trailblazer Dioceses and six ‘case study’ dioceses are being enabled to develop simple principles and practices that can be widely disseminated to help other contexts to grow faith through the connection between church, school and household.

iii. Four Theological Education Institutions are involved in creating and piloting Growing Faith content for use in ordination training.

iv. A suite of digital resources produced for teenagers to be used through schools, churches and households is in development.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date Passed</th>
<th>22 February 2019</th>
<th>Motion</th>
<th>Estates Evangelism (GS 2122)</th>
<th>Intended Audience</th>
<th>Dioceses, Archbishops’ Council, Church Commissioners and NCIs</th>
</tr>
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</table>

**Action called for**
The motion urges every diocese to build ministry and mission on estates into its mission strategies, clergy deployment plans and SDF funding bids. Call upon the Archbishops’ Council, Church Commissioners and NCIs to enable the voices of people from estates and other marginalised communities to be heard and heeded.

**Follow-up**
£155,000 received from Allchurches Trust for the National Churches Estates Network and Estates Task Group to develop programmes for work on estates, especially work with children and young people and creating learning pathways for training people from estate churches for leadership roles. Pilot learning pathways to be in London and Birmingham. SDF grant received by Estates Evangelism Task Group in order to develop a major bid for national funding to bring estates evangelism into mission strategies across the country. Estates Theological Project – partnering academic theologians with estates clergy to develop theological resources for estates ministry and mission – well under way.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date Passed</th>
<th>23 February 2019</th>
<th>Motion</th>
<th>Mission and Ministry Among Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities (GS 2123)</th>
<th>Intended Audience</th>
<th>Dioceses, Mission and Public Affairs Council and public</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Action called for**
Church’s leadership, including the Lords Spiritual, other bishops, senior staff, the Mission and Public Affairs Division and others, are encouraged to speak out publicly against racism and hate crime directed against Gypsies, Irish Travellers and Roma, and to urge the media to stop denigrating and victimising these communities. Dioceses are requested to appoint a chaplain to Gypsies, Travellers and Roma, to provide pastoral care and to help combat racism in the Church and wider communities. The Mission and Public Affairs Council was requested to evaluate the importance of provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers in wider housing policy, and recommend Church bodies to play their part in lobbying for, and enabling land to be made available for such sites.

**Follow-up**
In November ’19 CNGTR held its first training day for chaplains and those working with and among Gypsies, Travellers and Roma. The training day was in response to February’s debate at General Synod and particularly the recommendation that all dioceses appoint a chaplain to Gypsies, Travellers and Roma. Diocesan bishops were informed of the planned training day and invited to nominate a delegate. The training day was attended by over 40 people, many of whom were interested in either pursuing chaplaincy work or communing with Gypsies, Travellers and Roma in their parishes.
### Encouraging Youth Evangelism (GS 2124A and GS 2124B)

**Intended Audience:** Dioceses, youth workers and young people

**Action called for**
The motion calls on the wider Church to encourage youth evangelism and support dioceses in investing resources to create more youth ministry posts and to consider fresh ways to reach young people.

**Follow-up**
Mission Academy Live, an online, ten session, video series has been developed to help walk young people through what it looks like for them to share their faith. Currently the resource has been used in just under 500 churches, where around 25% are Anglican churches. Our aim is to grow this to 650 churches using the resource by the end of 2020. Furthermore, a group of around 40-50 youth workers from across the Church of England has been established to help share innovative approaches to youth evangelism across the Church.

Further work on both aspects will be presented at the February 2020 Synod; more information can be found in GS 2161.

### Advertising and Gambling (GS 2125)

**Intended Audience:** Her Majesty’s Government and churches

**Action called for**
Call on Her Majesty’s Government to reduce the quantity and pervasiveness of gambling advertising and introduce a mandatory levy on gambling firms to fund independently commissioned research, education, and treatment programmes. Churches are encouraged to be an open place for people who have problems with gambling to seek support and support initiatives which educate children and young people about risks related to gambling.

**Follow-up**
Alongside others, the Bishop of St Albans has been working with stakeholders to make sure the concerns made in February are heard. Industry players have begun taking the issue of advertising seriously. The Minister responsible for sport (and gambling) has offered meetings on the matter. In addition, The Clerk to the Synod wrote to Mim Davies MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. The response can be seen in GS Misc 1230.

Elsewhere, the Bishop has pushed for oversight of the social and economic consequences of the gambling industry. Subsequently, Parliament will be conducting the first major review of the industry since 2012. Gambling advertising will be considered as part of any review and the Church can expect a robust presentation of the Synod’s views during this period.
**Date Passed**: 23 February 2019  
**Motion**: State of the Nation: Motion from the Presidents  
**Intended Audience**: Dioceses, parishes and Her Majesty’s Government

**Action called for**
All dioceses and parishes to hold in prayer their local MPs, politicians, members of Her Majesty’s Government and civil servants, seeking God’s strength and wisdom for the responsibilities they bear.

Affirm the Christian commitment to putting the voices of the poor and marginalised at the heart of the nation’s concerns; and calls upon the nation’s leaders, drawing on Christian hope and reconciliation, to work together for that common good at this time of division.

**Follow-up**
Churches were encouraged to host informal café-style meetings over the weekend of 30th March 2019 to bring together people of all standpoints and encourage open discussion. People were invited to ‘get together and chat over a cup of tea and pray for our country and our future’.

Resources were created under the slogan ‘together,’ and they included specially-chosen Bible passages, new prayers and prompt questions to start conversations.
### Serious Youth Violence (GS 2132)

**Date Passed:** 6 July 2019  
**Motion: Serious Youth Violence**  
**Intended Audience:** The National Church Institutions; the Diocesan Boards of Education; the dioceses, parishes, clergy and lay leaders

**Action called for**
- a) the National Church Institutions to contribute to understanding of Serious Youth Violence resources for those affected;  
- b) the Diocesan Boards of Education to recognize how the use of Exclusions impacts on serious youth violence and encourage alternative provision;  
- c) dioceses to collect information about locally based resource and support networks, provide training for church leaders, and partner with statutory organizations and wider civil society to provide pastoral care for people affected by serious youth violence.

**Follow-up**
Working with 'Power The Fight' a social action charity that has expert practitioners with extensive experience of developing and delivering training, workshops and resources aimed at ending serious youth violence (SYV). Ben Lindsay (Power The Fight founder and director) is senior pastor at Emmanuel New Cross Church. Working together on a proposal to offer a bespoke programme for C of E clergy and church communities and a schools programme for students and teachers that will help increase understanding of the issues that contribute to SYV and practical responses that they could take to actual or potential SYV in their communities.

### Clergy Wellbeing (GS 2133)

**Date Passed:** 6 July 2019  
**Motion: Clergy Wellbeing**  
**Intended Audience:** The General Synod Business Committee, the Clergy Wellbeing Working Group, the Appointments Committee, and the Wellbeing Facilitation Group

**Action called for**
- (a) the Business Committee, with the agreement of the Presidents, to make arrangements so that the Covenant can be affirmed and proclaimed an Act of Synod at the February 2020 group of sessions;  
- (b) the Clergy Wellbeing Working Group to oversee the transformation of the proposals contained in GS 2133 into actual practice, in particular by making the Shared Commitments and Big Conversation (at paragraphs 21 to 32 of GS 2133) available online in a way that enables their practical use by clergy, parishes, deaneries and dioceses by the end of 2019;  
- (c) the Appointments Committee to appoint members to a Clergy Care and Wellbeing Facilitation Group to encourage and evaluate progress in the field of clergy care and wellbeing across the Church of England, with a view to the Group reporting to the General Synod within the 2020-25 Quinquennium.

**Follow-up**
- (a) The Business Committee agreed the inclusion of the Act of Synod on the agenda of the February Synod  
- (b) The convenor of the Working Party – Canon Simon Butler – had held discussions with the Communications Unit about ways in which this material can be made available online
### Refugee Professionals (GS 2126A and GS 2126B)

**Intended Audience:** Dioceses, parishes, clergy, and lay leaders; Mission and Public Affairs

**Action called for**

(a) Each diocese, in collaboration with the Refugee Council or similar specialist organisations, to

(i) support adequate provision of, and access to, good English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) provision for asylum seekers and refugees;

(ii) support refugees in accessing the workforce, including the provision of practical support to receive the advice and training necessary for their accreditation in the UK;

(iii) support ‘Lift the Ban’ to enable asylum seekers have the right to work if their application takes more than 6 months;

(b) MPA to assist the above by offering research and advice on the best models for fulfilling these aims.

**Follow-up**

(i) Working to provide every Diocese with a comprehensive guide to refugee support, tailored to the demographic of each Diocese. Includes advice on Parish training and access to the Council of Europe’s toolkit on English provision for refugees, plus advice for setting up “Just Chat” initiatives at Parish and Diocesan level.

(ii) Work continues with Home Office Refugee Employment Network and Refugee Entrepreneur Training scheme

(iii) Support and engagement with “Lift the Ban” campaign ongoing in tandem with Churches Together in Britain and Ireland Refugee Network. Representations to the Home Office made by Refugee Welcome Coordinator on behalf of MPA.

### Mission and Ministry in Covenant (GS 2135 and GS 2086)

**Intended Audience:** The Faith and Order Commission, the House of Bishops, the Council for Christian Unity

**Action called for**

(a) the faith and order bodies to deliver the recommendations listed in the final paragraph of GS 2135

(b) the Faith and Order Commission to work with the Methodist Church’s Faith and Order Committee on drafting texts for the ‘formal declaration’, the inaugural service or services and the service of welcome referred to in the recommendations in the final paragraph of the report on further work, and for the guidelines for the practice of presbyters / priests from one church being received to serve in the other referred to in paragraph 142, with full draft texts being made available to the Synod; and

(c) the House of Bishops to report during the next quinquennium on the progress made on the work described in the previous paragraph, together with proposals for implementation.

**Follow-up**

The Faith and Order Commission has been consulting with the Methodist Church’s Faith and Order Committee on how the joint work asked for in the motion might be undertaken.
**Action called for**
(a) Every parish and diocese to be part of the continuing and thriving Mission-Shaped Church movement, form new disciples and new congregations through a contextual approach to mission with the unreached in their community.
(b) The Archbishops’ Council to bring to General Synod an update on the progress of the new project being led by the Head of Development for fresh expressions to develop fresh expressions in ten dioceses by July 2021.

**Follow-up**
The first phase of the FX Greenhouse Project, funded by SDF and launched at Synod, is nearing completion with 2 pilot dioceses signed up to begin in January 2020. We have 3 further dioceses planning to launch in Autumn 2020 and are in conversation with 5 further. This means we will hit our target of 10 dioceses, in which we will introduce this new approach to supporting parishes and lay teams undertake contextual mission which we hope will lead to the growth of over 140 fresh expressions of church.

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**Action called for**
(a) All dioceses to raise the profile of work with those diagnosed with dementia and their carers; and
(b) Her Majesty’s Government to report on progress on the achievement of the Prime Minister’s “Challenge on Dementia 2020”, and on what steps are being taken to join up health and social care to ensure the seamless transition

**Follow-up**
Meetings have taken place between diocesan dementia-care advocates and between MPA and Lambeth Palace staff to discuss the continued development of the Church’s role in dementia care. A meeting to review the Church’s work in this area is scheduled for 4th February 2020. Anna Chaplaincy was represented at the Lambeth Mental Health Conference in October 2019. §London, addressing the Queen’s speech, emphasised the Church of England’s long-standing support for health and social care integration, the need for this to be evidenced at local as well as national level and the Dilnot Report as a basis for future social care reform.
Action called for
(a) The Archbishops’ Council, the House of Bishops, and the dioceses to drive forward the changes in culture the Report demands especially in the area of lay and clergy mutuality and relationships;
(b) The Archbishops’ Council to maintain focus on this as a strategic priority throughout the next quinquennium; and to encourage further work.

Follow-up
(a) i) The new 4th cohort of the discipleship learning community is commencing with a further nine dioceses engaged in the process of embedding the two culture shifts in their contexts (taking the total engaged in this work to 33).
   ii) A report – *Inspiring Everyday Faith* – with key learning from the fist cohorts and recommendations for continuing actions will be presented at gatherings for dioceses and partners in March 2020.
   iii) Work continues with the Faith and Order Commission on the *Calling All God’s People* resources, which encapsulates the theological and practical implications of the second shift. This work is also scheduled for discussion with bishops responsible for leadership and vocation aspects of Renewal and Reform across the Renewal and Reform programme in Dec 2019.
   iv) A new network of Discipleship Enablers has been launched to support the work of widening engagement in discipleship initiatives with worshipping communities in dioceses.
(b) i) Ongoing work on SGPF is embedded in the 2020 Archbishops Council plan with funding for the next triennium in place.
   ii) It will be important to ensure SGPF is a priority within the AC objectives for the next quinquennium.