

**GENERAL SYNOD**  
**DRAFT GENERAL SYNOD (REMOTE MEETINGS) (TEMPORARY STANDING ORDERS)**  
**MEASURE**

**REPORT OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS IN CHARGE**

**Chair:** Mr Geoffrey Tattersall QC (Manchester)  
**Members:** The Reverend Canon Paul Cartwright  
Mrs Sarah Finch (London)  
Mrs Anne Foreman (Exeter)  
The Venerable Dr Rosemarie Mallett (Southwark)

1. The draft General Synod (Remote Meetings) (Temporary Standing Orders) Measure received First Consideration at at this morning's sitting, following which it was revised in full synod. The draft Measure then stood committed to the Steering Committee in respect of its Final Drafting.
2. The Steering Committee met during the lunch adjournment to consider the final drafting of the Measure. The Committee now returns the draft Measure (GS 2176A) to the Synod for Final Drafting and Final Approval. The amendments made at the Revision Stage are shown in bold text.
3. Under Standing Order 61, on the Final Drafting Stage the Steering Committee may propose 'drafting amendments' or 'special amendments' or both. These two categories of amendments are defined in SO 61(6) as follows –
  - “drafting amendment” means an amendment to clarify any remaining uncertainties of meaning or to improve the drafting, and
  - “special amendment” means an amendment, other than a drafting amendment, considered necessary or desirable by the Steering Committee and which does not reopen an issue which has been decided by the Synod or any Revision Committee in relation to the Measure or Canon.
4. The Steering Committee has agreed one drafting amendment. The amendment is to clause 3(6) and is to insert after “If standing orders under section 1 have ceased to be in operation” the words “**(whether under this section or section 4)**”. This is shown in bold text in GS 2176A, page 2, lines 44-45.
5. Clause 3(6) is the provision that enables the General Synod to revive special standing orders that have ceased to be in operation. At the Revision Stage the Synod agreed amendment 511 in the name of Mr David Lamming so that, if special standing orders have ceased to be in operation, the debate on whether to revive them can nevertheless be held at a remote meeting of the Synod.
6. During the Revision Stage, Mr Clive Scowen questioned whether the Synod's ability to revive special standing orders that have ceased to be in operation applied in the case where the Synod had revoked special standing orders (as well as in the case where they had simply expired). The Steering Committee was advised that the ability to revive special standing orders (whether at a physical or a virtual meeting) does apply in such a case. However, the Committee has agreed the drafting amendment referred to above to put the matter beyond doubt.
7. The Steering Committee is not proposing any Special Amendments to the draft Measure.

On behalf of the Committee  
**Geoffrey Tattersall**  
Chair

24 September 2020