General Synod

Appointment of Chair of the Church of England Pensions Board

Background

1. This item of business is contingent on the passing of the Legislative Reform Order amending the Church of England Pensions Measure 2018 (GS 2193A), and would only take effect if the Legislative Reform Order completes its final Parliamentary stage.

2. If the Legislative Reform Order is passed by the Synod, the existing Pensions Board will be dissolved at midnight on 30 June 2021 and a new Board created. All members of the Board will cease to hold office at that point and elections and appointments to the new body will be held in the period preceding 1 July 2021 to ensure continuity in the governance of the Board’s operations.

3. The Chair of the Pensions Board is appointed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York with the approval of the General Synod, pursuant to the Church of England Pensions Measure 2018. In order that the Board is not left without a Chair from 1 July 2021 until the Synod meets later in the month, the appointment has been brought to this Group of Sessions.

Clive Mather

4. The General Synod approved the appointment of Clive Mather as Chair of the Pensions Board at its meeting in February 2019 (GS 2114) for a period from 1 May 2019 to 31 March 2023.

5. Clive Mather had an extensive career with Shell which spanned all its major businesses globally. His last executive role was as President and CEO of Shell Canada Limited where he took a high profile on environmental issues. He has held several non-executive roles including Chair of Tearfund and Tearfund USA, Chair of the Garden Tomb Association and President of Relational Peacebuilding Initiatives, a Swiss Association based on the relational values of the Jewish and Christian faiths.

6. The Archbishops have approved Clive Mather’s reappointment for a term from 1 July 2021 to 30 April 2024. This will be a total first term of five years, the period appointable under the changes under the Legislative Reform Order.

Recommendation

7. One of the Archbishops will move a motion inviting the Synod to approve the appointment of Clive Mather as Chair of the Church of England Pensions Board for a term from 1 July 2021 to 30 April 2024.

William Nye
Secretary General
February 2021