ITEM 27: MISSION IN REVISION: A REVIEW OF THE MISSION AND PASTORAL MEASURE 2011

DEEMED ITEMS:

LEGAL OFFICERS (ANNUAL FEES) ORDER 2020
Financial statement pursuant to Standing Order 108

Financial Statements under Standing Order 108 set out the estimated financial effect of implementing recommendations of reports and taking forward motions if they are passed by the Synod. In most cases figures provided are approximate, recognising the inherent uncertainty in estimating various factors. Members are asked to take this statement into account alongside non-financial factors when considering these items of business.

Estimates of the financial implications of any amendments proposed by Members will be provided in a subsequent notice paper or in an oral statement from a member of the Archbishops’ Council’s Finance Committee who is a General Synod member (usually the Chair).

As agreed with the Business Committee in 2016, an item is included in this memorandum if (i) the estimated financial impact (either actual costs or savings or the opportunity cost or saving - e.g. the cost of clergy or staff time) is £20,000 or more or (ii) it is thought a statement on the estimated financial impact of a proposal is thought likely to be helpful to members. These thresholds are applied to the whole of any time-limited project or a period of three years for on-going activities.

If the cost of work on any motion, if passed, would fall to the Archbishops’ Council, it would need to be met from within the Council’s 2022 budget envelope which Synod is being asked to approve at this Group of Sessions, or subsequent budgets. For any work not already scheduled, the relevant Director, in consultation with others, would consider whether other work of similar cost should be dropped or postponed, or if additional, unbudgeted, staff resource could be provided by securing funding from another source or drawing on reserves. Estimates of staff and clergy time are usually an opportunity cost, illustrating the cost of other work that would need to be dropped or deferred. If it is not possible to drop or defer sufficient other work, there would be an impact on the timescale for delivery of the requested work.

All costs are estimated at 2022 levels unless otherwise stated. Costs include relevant salaries, employers’ national insurance and pension contributions.
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If the motion is carried, then certain staff in the Church Commissioners’ Pastoral and Closed Churches Team and the NCIs’ Legal Office would devote time working to bring forward draft legislation for consideration by the Synod no later than July 2022. The estimated cost of staff time for this work over the next twelve months is £250,000. It is also estimated that in the region of £30,000 to £50,000 would be spent on external consultancy advice, events and brochures. These costs would all be met by the Church Commissioners.

Although it is not quantifiable at this stage the overriding aim of the any changes proposed will be to achieve savings and efficiencies at diocesan and national level.

- Estimated cost of staff time developing proposals for draft legislation: £250,000.
- Estimated cost of external consultancy advice etc: £30,000 - £50,000.

DEEMED BUSINESS: LEGAL OFFICERS (ANNUAL FEES) ORDER 2021

As noted in paragraph 12 of GS 2229-2230X if the Order is approved, retainers for Registrars in 2022 will be £100,000 more than in 2021. £58,000 of this increase will be borne by Diocesan Boards of Finance (DBFs) with the remaining £42,000 of the increase being borne by the Church Commissioners.

- Increase in Registrars’ annual retainers: £100,000 (£58,000 to be funded by DBFs and £42,000 by the Church Commissioners).

Canon John Spence
Chair, Archbishops’ Council Finance Committee

July 2021