Representations to the Revision Committee for the Draft Diocesan Stipends Fund (Amendment) Measure

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1. Mr Clive Scowen (358 - London)

1. I have no points to make on the substance of the draft Measure, except to suggest that, since it is considered that the Archbishops’ Council is the obvious charity to use in view of its role, that intention could be reflected better if the words “a charity” in the proposed new section 5b(2)(b) were changed to “the Archbishops’ Council or another charity”.

2. On section 2(3), I wonder why the Measure is not to extend to the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands, or at least why it does not contain the customary provisions enabling it to be applied by the island legislatures. Presumably the effect would be to prevent the Diocese of Sodor and Man giving any of its stipends fund. Would it also inhibit money being given to that diocese? Does it inhibit the Diocese of Salisbury from giving moneys which had their origins in the Channel Islands?

2. Mr Andrew Orange (430 – Winchester)

I am on the committee for the Diocesan Stipends Funds (Amendment) Measure.

I wonder if you can see a good way to reword section 1, just to tighten up on one point which I now explain:

It is possible that there would be money standing to the credit of the income account of the Diocesan Stipends Fund (DSF) only because a diocese had made a policy decision to pay its stipends from other sources, for example parish share or an exceptional legacy. It is also possible, as with a bank account, that there would be a credit for short-term timing reasons during the year.

I think the intention of section 1 (if I may put it in colloquial language) is “if the stipends have been paid from DSF and there’s money left over, money may be applied in accordance with this section” – which is fine, but currently it doesn’t quite say that. My own amateur suggestion:

Insert after ‘diocese’ in line 5 - “at the end of a financial year, which exists after defraying from DSF all the necessary costs falling under 5(1) and for which the diocesan board of finance is satisfied there will be no further costs in that year, may be applied in accordance with this section”