

## GENERAL SYNOD

### Diocese of Lincoln Scheme for variation of membership of deanery synods Church Representation Rule 22

#### BACKGROUND:

- A. The Church Representation Rules provide that a member of the clergy who is licensed or beneficed in more than one deanery is the member of the deanery synod where he or she is resident, unless the clerical members of Bishop's Council direct that he or she be a member of another one (where they are licensed or beneficed) and in such a case they cannot be a member of both.
- B. Canon C23(4) provides that the Rural Dean is to be joint chair of the deanery synod (with the lay joint chair).
- C. The Acting Bishop of Lincoln wishes to make provision that is consequential upon the appointment of a member of the clergy as rural dean to more than one rural deanery and which would allow that member of clergy to jointly chair both of the deaneries where he is appointed.
- D. The appointment is in the context of Time to Change Together which is a diocesan initiative in which deaneries work together in deanery partnerships.
- E. Under Church Representation Rule 22 a diocesan synod may make a scheme to vary the provisions Part 3 of the Rules that relate to the membership of deanery synods so as both –
  - (a) to meet the special circumstances of the diocese or the deaneries, and
  - (b) to secure better representation of clergy or laity or both on the deanery synods.
- F. Diocesan Synod wishes to make use of Rule 22 to allow for a rural dean who is appointed to multiple deaneries to be joint chair (with the lay chair) of each deanery synod and further to allow in certain cases approved by Bishop's Council for a clerk in Holy Orders, deaconess or lay worker to be appointed to more than one deanery synod.

#### OPERATIVE PROVISIONS:

##### 1 **Membership of multiple deanery synods**

- 1.1. Part 3 of the Church Representation Rules shall be varied for the Diocese of Lincoln to allow both licensed lay and clerical members to be a member of more than one deanery synod.
- 1.2. Church Representation Rule 17 is to be varied by the amendment of Rule 17(1), 17(2) and 17(3) and the deletion of Rule 17(4) so that it will now read<sup>1</sup>:

“Direction to join a different deanery synod

17 (1) A clerk in Holy Orders, deaconess or lay worker who resides in the deanery and is licensed by the bishop to work throughout the diocese or in more than one deanery may be given a direction *to be a member of the deanery synod specified in the direction in addition to or instead of*

~~(a) not to be a member of the deanery synod for the deanery in which he or she resides. but~~

~~(b) instead to be a member of the deanery synod specified in the direction.~~

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<sup>1</sup> The words in italics have been added and the words which are struck through are to be deleted.

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(2) A direction under this Rule may be given to a clerk in Holy Orders only by the clerical members of the bishop's council and standing committee; and, when doing so, they must have regard to the number of parochial and non-parochial clergy in the deanery in which the clerk resides *and in the deanery in which the clerk is to be a member in addition or substitution for.*

(3) A direction under this Rule may be given to a deaconess or lay worker only by the lay members of the bishop's council and standing committee; and, when doing so, they must have regard to the number of deaconesses in the deanery in which the deaconess resides or (as the case may be) the number of lay workers in the deanery in which the lay worker resides *and in the deanery in which the deaconess or lay worker (as the case may be) is to be a member in addition or substitution for.*

~~(4) A person may not, as a result of a direction under this Rule, be a member of more than one deanery synod in the same diocese.~~

~~(5)~~ (4) A direction under this Rule may provide for –

(a) a specified category of clerks, deaconesses or lay workers (as the case may be) to choose some of their number to be members, and

(b) the term of office of a person so chosen.”

## 2. Operation<sup>2</sup>

This Scheme shall come into operation on the day after the end of the group of sessions during which it was laid before, or approved by, the General Synod.

APPROVED by the House of Bishops, and approved by two-thirds majority of those present and voting in each house of Clergy and Laity at the Diocesan Synod held at Lincoln on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2023

House	Numbers voting		
	For	Against	Abstained
Bishops	2	0	0
Clergy	32	0	0
Laity	35	0	0

<sup>2</sup> Note: Schemes: approval – Church Representation Rule 25

(1) A copy of a proposed scheme under Rule 22 must be given to each member of the diocesan synod at least 14 days before the meeting at which it is to be considered for approval.

(2) A proposed scheme under Rule 22 is approved by the diocesan synod only if –

(a) the house of bishops approves it,

(b) in the house of clergy, it is approved by at least two-thirds of the members present and voting, and

(c) in the house of laity, it is approved by at least two-thirds of the members present and voting.

(3) A proposed scheme under Rule 22 which is approved by the diocesan synod must be laid before the General Synod.

(4) If a member of the General Synod gives notice in accordance with its Standing Orders that the member wishes a proposed scheme under Rule 22 to be debated, the scheme does not come into operation unless it is approved by the General Synod.

(5) If a proposed scheme under Rule 22 is approved by the General Synod or no notice such as is mentioned in paragraph (4) is given, the scheme comes into operation –

(a) on the day after the end of the group of sessions during which it was laid before, or approved by, the Synod, or

(b) on such later date as the scheme may specify.