

GENERAL SYNOD
JULY 2023 GROUP OF SESSIONS
BUSINESS DONE AT 3.15 PM
ON SATURDAY 8 JULY 2023

VARIATION

Under Standing Order 9(1)(a), the order of business was varied by the Chair with the general consent of the Synod so that:

- Item 14 Diocesan Synod Motion (Responding to the Climate Emergency (GS 2306A and GS 2306B) would be taken at Tuesday morning's sitting, immediately after item 510.
- The debate on the Archbishops' Council's Audit Committee Annual Report would be taken immediately after Item 11 at Sunday's afternoon sitting (a debate having been requested).
- Item 511 Legislative Business (Safeguarding Code of Practice Reviews Code of Practice (GS 2295)) would be taken at Sunday's afternoon sitting immediately after item 13;

SPECIAL AGENDA IV:

DIOCESAN SYNOD MOTION

THE CONTRIBUTION OF FAITH TO THE REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS (GS 2294A AND GS 2294B)

10 The motion

‘That this Synod, recognising that faith and belief can have a positive impact on an offender's behaviour:

- a) note with pleasure the decision made by the Probation Service to recognise faith and belief as a protective factor in reducing reoffending, and its desire to work in partnership with churches, prison and community chaplains and faith communities to support rehabilitation;

- b) commend the value of partnership working with the Probation Service as an important additional support in churches' welcome of people leaving prison, including training of clergy and authorised lay ministers;
- c) call on dioceses to nominate a contact person or office to link the Probation Service locally to clergy, parishes and chaplaincies.'

was moved.

56 The motion (Order Paper III) was lost.

57 The motion (Order Paper III) was carried.

10 The motion (as amended)

'That this Synod, recognising that faith and belief can have a positive impact on an offender's behaviour:

- a) note with pleasure the decision made by the Probation Service to recognise faith and belief as a protective factor in reducing reoffending, and its desire to work in partnership with churches, prison and community chaplains and faith communities to support rehabilitation;
- b) commend the value of partnership working with the Probation Service as an important additional support in churches' welcome of people leaving prison, including training of clergy and authorised lay ministers;
- c) call on dioceses to nominate a contact person or office to link the Probation Service locally to clergy, parishes and chaplaincies.'
- d) call on dioceses to enable a swift welcome of offenders after release into an appropriate church community, subject to agreed and clear safeguarding boundaries; and to make this part of the brief for their Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

was carried following a counted vote of the whole Synod. The voting was as follows:

IN FAVOUR 331

AGAINST 2¹

3 abstentions were recorded.

¹ The number of electronic votes recorded. Ms Sophie Clarke (House of Laity) requested that it be recorded that she accidentally voted against the motion. She wished to vote in favour of the motion.