

GENERAL SYNOD

Summary of decisions by the House of Bishops and by its delegated committees

July 2023 – November 2023

1. This summary of decisions includes those made by the House and by committees delegated under its Standing Orders to handle business on its behalf.

THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS

2. The House of Bishops has met twice since the July 2023 group of sessions.
3. All the matters reported were taken in a Committee of the whole House under Standing Order 14.

House of Bishops 18 July

4. The House began by reflecting on the General Synod in July. The Bishop of London briefed the House on next steps on Living in Love and Faith and the Archbishops briefed the House on the independent work on the future of safeguarding to be led by Professor Alexis Jay.
5. The House considered and approved the work led by the Bishop of Sodor and Man on materials to support deliverance ministry that had been reviewed by the Faith and Order Commission (FAOC) and the Liturgical Commission, and requested work to develop a plan to communicate these. It then spend time, led by the Bishop in Europe, reflecting on the war in Ukraine and the response of the House of Bishops, once again drawing on work by FAOC.
6. The House received the first annual report of the Steering Group on the Five Guiding Principles. It also received a briefing on conversion therapy with a request for comments ahead of decisions later this year.

House of Bishops 9 October

7. The House met at the Emmanuel Centre in London to agree the papers to be presented to the General Synod on Living in Love and Faith. There were no other items on the agenda.
8. The House of Bishops will meet again on 30 October to 1 November.

THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS STANDING COMMITTEE

House of Bishops Standing Committee 8 September

9. The Standing Committee considered agenda items for future meetings of the House of Bishops, in particular for the 30 October to 1 November meeting. It agreed that it would be important for discussions to cover diocesan finances and the Church's engagement with public policy in the run-up to a General Election, drawing on the work of the Lords Spiritual.
10. The Standing Committee also reflected on its way of working and whether it might be possible to increase participation in and visibility of the House's

work, in particular to non-member bishops. It asked for proposals to be presented to the House. In the meantime it asked for papers to be shared with the College and to invite those who have been announced as bishops but not yet consecrated to join the College.

STANDING COMMISSION ON THE FIVE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

11. The Standing Commission met during the July group of sessions.

William Nye
Secretary to The House of Bishops
November 2023