

GENERAL SYNOD

FEBRUARY GROUP OF SESSIONS 2024

NINTH NOTICE PAPER

ITEM 29: SAFEGUARDING INDEPENDENCE

1. Professor Jay's report states that more work needs to be done to ascertain the costs of independent delivery of safeguarding within the Church of England and that it would take some time to implement this. It is clear such action would have cost implications (including the redistribution of costs from diocesan funding to national Church funding). However, without that further work, it is not possible to estimate the costs of the part of Mr Adams' amendment which seeks to instruct the Archbishops' Council to proceed immediately to divest itself of its safeguarding responsibility so as to allow full independent delivery of safeguarding within the Church of England.

ITEM 30: SAFEGUARDING INDEPENDENCE

2. We do not have experience of instructing independent legislative counsel so have only been able to make an indicative estimate of the likely cost if Mr Billenness's motion is approved.
3. The estimated cost of instructing legislative counsel to prepare a draft Measure giving effect to Professor Jay's proposals in the manner recommended by Dr Wilkinson, publishing it for consultation and revising the draft Measure in the light of responses to that consultation in readiness for First Consideration to be in the region of between £50,000 and £100,000. The final cost would depend to some extent on the number and nature of responses to the consultation.
4. The cost of external consultants would depend on their brief, how the work was carried out and the resulting time commitment so is difficult to estimate at this stage. However, as can be seen in the answer to question 156 on the comparative costs of the Makin, Wilkinson and Jay Reviews, such costs can run to several hundred thousands of pounds.

5. If this motion is passed, any resulting costs would be an unbudgeted cost for the Archbishops' Council to bear from its reserves, reducing, stopping or delaying other work or seeking additional funding.

ITEM 44: FUTURE OF WORK

6. The estimated cost of the independent review of the impact that the Transforming Effectiveness / Simpler NCI's programme has had on culture, staff morale and staff effectiveness called for in Mrs Chapman's amendment is in the region of £30,000, though it would depend on the precise scope of that review.