

## **Appointed member of the Dioceses Commission – Autumn 2024 to April 2027**

A casual vacancy has arisen amongst the appointed members of the Dioceses Commission. The Commission is composed of four members appointed by the Appointments Committee, four members elected from the General Synod, and a Chair and Vice-Chair appointed by the Archbishops.

The Dioceses Commission would welcome expressions of interest from those with relevant experience of the structures and functioning of dioceses, as well as the carrying out of episcopal ministry within dioceses, regionally and nationally. Experience of organisational collaboration and leading through change would also be helpful.

The Commission enjoys a diverse membership with good representation from different backgrounds and from across the church ecology. The Commission would particularly encourage expressions of interest from the laity, women and those from a UKME background. The appointed members do not need to be appointed from amongst General Synod members, all bishops, clergy and laity are therefore welcome to express interest, though see footnote for some restrictions<sup>1</sup>.

### ***About the Dioceses Commission:***

The Dioceses Commission is an independent statutory body that reports to the General Synod. Its role and function is set out in the [Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007](#). Its principal duties and powers relate to:

- The provincial and diocesan structure of the Church of England;
- Good practice in diocesan administration and;
- The creation and filling of suffragan sees.

A key component of the Dioceses Commission's work is to receive and to consider proposals to fill suffragan sees once in vacancy. These are in the form of written proposals received by members in advance and then discussed with the submitting bishop at a Commission meeting, taking into account the mission and needs of the diocese. The Commission recently carried out a major consultation with phase two of the 'Bishops and their ministries' consultation looking at diocesan structures and the role of suffragan bishops. As a result, it is undertaking work to explore how to encourage and facilitate increased collaboration and sharing of services between dioceses, and between dioceses and the National Church Institutions. As part of its wider work to keep diocesan structures and episcopal ministry under review, the Commission is deepening its engagement with other bodies such as the Standing Commission on the House of Bishops Declaration on the Five Guiding Principles.

The Commission meets four times a year in March, June, September and December for a 1-day meeting. Two meetings are in London, one is online and one is held outside of London. Provision can be made for online participation if needs be. The remaining meetings of 2024 are 23 September and 11 December. More information about the Dioceses Commission can be found on the [CofE webpages](#).

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<sup>1</sup> To note: as set out in the Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 Schedule II S.4: "appointed and elected members cannot be members of the "Archbishops' Council, the Church Commissioners, their Assets Committee, their Audit Committee or any other committee of the Commissioners constituted by the Board of Governors or otherwise established under section 5(4) of the Church Commissioners Measure 1947 (10 & 11 Geo 6 No. 2) or any joint committee of the Commissioners and the Archbishops' Council appointed under that section".