

GENERAL SYNOD

FEBRUARY 2025 GROUP OF SESSIONS

BUSINESS DONE AT 6.45 P.M

ON TUESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2025

FUTURE OF CHURCH SAFEGUARDING (GS 2378) (RESUMED DEBATE OF ITEM 9)

- 36 The amendment (Order Paper II) was lost following a counted vote by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	6	26
Clergy	34	128
Laity	46	126

4 abstentions were recorded in the House of Bishops, 6 in the House of Clergy, and 12 in the House of Laity.

- 37 The Amendment (Order Paper II) was lost.

- 38 The Amendment (Order Paper II) was carried following a counted vote by Houses. The voting was as follows:

	IN FAVOUR	AGAINST
Bishops	23	14
Clergy	114	65
Laity	106	86

1 abstention was recorded in the House of Bishops, 2 in the House of Clergy, and 3 in the House of Laity.

- 39 The Amendment (Order Paper II) fell.
- 40 The Amendment (Order Paper II) lapsed.
- 41 The Amendment (Order Paper II) lapsed.
- 42 The Amendment (Order Paper II) was carried following a vote of the whole Synod. The voting was as follows:

IN FAVOUR 315

AGAINST 24

36 abstentions were recorded.

- 9 The motion (as amended),
- a) thank all those involved in Church safeguarding, particularly the victims and survivors who give so generously of their wisdom and experience, often at great personal cost, and parish safeguarding officers who make sure that safeguarding is a priority in every level and all those who support them in dioceses;
 - b) affirm its commitment to greater independence in safeguarding in the Church of England;
 - c) thank the Response Group for its work for greater independence in safeguarding in the Church of England; and, noting the significant reservations around model 4 in paragraph 62 of GS 2378 and the legal advice from VWV dated 31st January 2025, endorse model 3 as the way forward in the short term and call for further work as to the legal and practical requirements necessary to implement model 4;
 - d) and lament and repent of the failure of the Church to be welcoming to victims and survivors and the harm they have experienced and continue to experience in the life of the Church.”

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

IN FAVOUR 392

AGAINST 9

6 abstentions were recorded.

VARIATION IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

Under Standing Order 9(1)(a), the order of business for the sitting was varied by the Chair with the general consent of the Synod so that Item 511 Safeguarding (Clergy Risk Assessment) Regulations 2025 (GS 2369) would follow Item 11.

The order of business for the morning sitting on Wednesday 12th February was varied by the Chair with the general consent of the Synod so that the Most Revd Urmas Viilma, Archbishop of Evangelical Lutheran Church of Estonia would address the Synod following the Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada and Item 16 (Appointment of one member of the Archbishops' Council) would not be taken.

REPORT OF THE CROWN NOMINATIONS COMMISSION (GS 2379)

10 The motion,

‘That the Synod do take note of this Report.’

was carried.

DICOESAN FINANCES REVIEW UPDATE (GS 2380)

11 A presentation was given under Standing Order 107.

SPECIAL AGENDA I

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

SAFEGUARDING (CLERGY RISK ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2025 (GS 2369)

511 The motion

‘That the “Safeguarding (Clergy Risk Assessment) Regulations 2025” be approved.’

was carried.

EVENING WORSHIP

The Synod was led in an act of worship by the Diocese of Coventry.