

GENERAL SYNOD
FEBRUARY 2025 GROUP OF SESSIONS
BUSINESS DONE AT 12.40 P.M.
ON TUESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2025

WORSHIP

The Synod was led in an act of worship by members from the Diocese of London.

AFFIRMING THE RACIAL JUSTICE AGENDA: AN UPDATE AND NEXT STEPS ON ‘*FROM LAMENT TO ACTION*’ (GS 2377)

6 A presentation was given under Standing Order 107.

7 The motion,

‘That this Synod:

- (a) noting that the Archbishops’ Commission for Racial Justice has completed its mandated three-year term to monitor the implementation of the recommendation in *From Lament to Action* and that the Committee for Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns (CMEAC) is to be replaced, commend the members of the ACRJ for their exemplary service to the Church, and those dedicated members of CMEAC, past and present;
- (b) recognise the positive outcomes to date on the implementation of the recommendations in *From Lament to Action* but affirm the need for further effort in order to embed racial justice in the life and practice of the Church;
- (c) recommend that the national Church gives full consideration to the ACRJ’s Appeal, Key Findings and Recommendations; ensuring crucial resources remain available including an effective governance framework comprising a Racial Justice

Board, Panel, and Lead Bishop; that funding for the next triennium and the staffing be made available at the national and diocesan levels;

- (d) recommend that Dioceses share good practices and give priority to the collection and measuring of relevant data; and that deaneries and parishes are encouraged to participate in the racial justice programmes;
- (e) request that the NCIs through the Racial Justice Unit, undertake the necessary evaluations, including from *Lament To Action*, so that General Synod by 2027 can review the further progress made by Dioceses, the NCIs, TEIs and other related institutions and stakeholders on *From Lament to Action*.’

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

IN FAVOUR	311
AGAINST	1

6 abstentions were recorded.

FUTURE OF CHURCH SAFEGUARDING (GS 2378)

8 A presentation was given under Standing Order 107.

9 The motion

‘That this Synod:

- 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, endorse model 4 as the direction of travel, and request the lead bishop to engage with the relevant bodies with a view to implementation.’

36 The amendment (Order Paper II) was moved.

The Chair adjourned the sitting at 12.40pm