

**Tuesday 11 February 2025**  
**9.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.**

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**ORDER PAPER II**

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**OPENING WORSHIP**

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

**6** Presentation under SO 107.

*The Bishop of Dover to move:*

**7** ‘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
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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 of *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*.’
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**Not later than 10.45 a.m.**

## **FUTURE OF CHURCH SAFEGUARDING (GS 2378)**

**8** Presentation under SO 107.

*The Bishop of Stepney* to move:

**9** ‘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.’

*Mr Martin Sewell* (Rochester) to move as an amendment:

**36** ‘In paragraph (b) *leave out* “greater” and *insert* “total”.’

**Item 37 only to be moved if item 36 is not carried**

*Canon Robert Hammond* (Chelmsford) to move as an amendment:

- 37** ‘In paragraph (c), *leave out* “model 4” and insert “model 3.”.’

**Item 38 only to be moved if items 36 and 37 are not carried**

*The Bishop of Blackburn* to move as an amendment:

- 38** ‘In paragraph (c) *leave out* the words after ‘Church of England’ and *insert*:

“and, noting the significant reservations around model 4 in paragraph 62 of GS 2378 and the legal advice from VVV 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.”.’

**Item 39 only to be moved if items 37 and 38 are not carried**

*Mrs Tina Nay* (Chichester) to move as an amendment:

- 39** ‘*Leave out* paragraph (c) and *insert*

“Thank Professor Alexis Jay and Mr John O’Brien, as well as the Safeguarding Response Group for their generous work to propose new structures for their work to improve the Church’s work on Safeguarding.”.’

*Mr Clive Billenness* (Europe) to move as an amendment:

- 40** ‘At the end *insert*:

“( ) Noting that the work of the Response Group is now concluded, request that the Archbishops’ Council take the necessary steps to secure from His Majesty’s Government the creation of a public body, to be known as “The Church of England (Safeguarding Independence) Transition Board”,

comprising an independent chair and eight other members appointed by the Secretary of State and three members elected by the General Synod, one from each of its Houses, the purpose of the Board being to develop the structure of a new independent body to oversee safeguarding activities on behalf of the Church of England to the extent defined by Synod and

( ) Request the Archbishops' Council to consult with the Church Commissioners about how provision might be made to fully fund the costs of operating the Church of England (Safeguarding Independence) Transition Board.”.’

**Item 41 only to be moved if item 40 is not carried**

*Mr Sam Margrave* (Coventry) to move as an amendment:

**41** ‘At the end insert:

“( ) call on His Majesty's Government and the Prime Minister in consultation with the Charity Commission to bring forward legislative changes to enable Church Safeguarding measures that are fully independent.”.’

*Mr Sam Margrave* (Coventry) to move as an amendment:

**42** ‘At the end *insert*:

“( ) 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.”.’

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