

GENERAL SYNOD: JULY 2025

OUTLINE OF BUSINESS

Full details of each item will be on the Agenda which will be circulated 26 June.

** not later than*

Friday 11 July
2.00 pm to 7.00 pm

Opening worship

Introductions

Presidential Address

The Archbishop of York will give a Presidential Address

Business Committee Report

A take note debate on the content and shape of the Agenda

***3.30pm** Address by member of Armed Forces

An address by a senior member of the Armed Forces

***3.50pm** Spending Plans: Presentation

A presentation with questions on the work of the Triennium Funding Working Group developing spending plans for 2026-28 from the Church's endowment managed by the Church Commissioners. This incorporates the Diocesan Finance Review presented to the Synod in February 2025 and policy proposals for improving future clergy pension payments and future benefits.

Address by Anglican Communion guests

***5.30pm** Questions

Saturday 12 July
9.00 am – 12.45 pm

Opening worship

Special Agenda IV: Diocesan Synod Motion

Redistribution of funds DSM

This debate will bring back the Diocesan Synod Motion relating to redistribution of financial resources which was adjourned at the February 2025 group of sessions

***10.45am** Special Agenda I: Legislative Business

National Church Governance Measure – Final Drafting/Final Approval

This is the final drafting and final approval Stage for the National Church Governance Measure which will introduce new governance structures for the national Church.

2.00 pm – 7.00 pm

Special Agenda I: Legislative Business

Armed Forces Chaplaincy (Licensing) Measure and Amending Canon No. 44
(licensing armed forces chaplaincy) – First Consideration

This Measure and Amending Canon are expected to go through all its Synodical stages at this group of sessions. It provides for the Archbishop of Canterbury to license all armed forces chaplains on a national basis.

Appointments to the Archbishops' Council

This is a formal item to appoint two new members of the Archbishops' Council.

***3.30pm** Spending Plans: Debate

A debate on the spending plans for 2026-28 from the Church's endowment managed by the Church Commissioners. This incorporates the Diocesan Finance Review presented to the Synod in February 2025 and policy proposals for improving future clergy pension payments and future benefits.

Special Agenda III: Private Members Motion

Clergy Pensions: The Revd James Blandford-Baker

This is a Private Members Motion from the Revd James Blandford-Baker which calls for legislation to be brought forward to restore the clergy pension benefit and recompense any clergy who have been disadvantaged by changes to clergy pensions.

Special Agenda III: Private Members Motion

Governance Review of the House of Bishops: Dr Ros Clarke

This is a Private Members Motion from Dr Ros Clarke (Lichfield) which seeks to set up an independent review of the governance and culture of the House of Bishops.

Sunday 13 July

2.15 pm – 7.00 pm

Address by Anglican Communion guests

***2.40pm** Special Agenda II: Liturgical Business

Festival of God the Creator and Twenty-One Martyrs of Libya – First Consideration

This liturgical business will be considered for its First Consideration stage and expands the calendar to include festivals for God the Creator and the Twenty-One Martyrs of Libya

Address by Ecumenical guest

***4.20pm** Special Agenda I: Legislative Business

Armed Forces Chaplaincy (Licensing) Measure and Amending Canon No. 44
(licensing armed forces chaplaincy) – Revision Stage

Church Growth and Revitalisation

This will be a presentation with questions relating to the summary report of research

on church growth and vitality, including an assessment of the impact of national funding to dioceses in support of that growth and vitality

***6.00 pm** Thy Kingdom Come

This item outlines the journey of 'Thy Kingdom Come' over the last decade, reflecting on its reach, impact and influence in both the UK and across the world and to renew the call for prayer in evangelism and mission within the Church of England and beyond. This was deferred from February 2025.

Monday 14 July
9.00 am – 12.45 pm

Opening worship

Pattern of Future Dates

This item will set the envelope for Synod meetings in 2027, 2028 and 2029.

***10.00am** Special Agenda I: Legislative Business

Abuse (Redress) Measure – Final Drafting/Final Approval

This will be the final drafting and final approval stage of the Abuse (Redress) Measure which will enable there to be a consistent approach across the Church to redress following abuse

2.00 pm – 7.00 pm

Special Agenda I: Legislative Business

Abuse (Redress) Rules – For Approval

This will set out the procedure for making claims for redress and how financial redress is to be calculated

***4.00pm** AC Budget 2026

This sets out the budget for the Archbishops' Council for the next financial year.

*** 5.15pm** Special Agenda I: Legislative Business

Church Representation Rules – For Approval

Special Agenda I: Legislative Business

Election Rules

This legislation relates to the Election Rules for the Houses of Synod which will need to be in place for the elections to General Synod summer 2026.

Tuesday 15 July
9.00 am – 1.30 pm

Opening Worship

Special Agenda I: Legislative Business

2nd Church Representation Rules – For Approval

This is in addition to the election specific amendments to the CRRs and relates to the broader work of the Elections Review Group.

***10.45am** Special Agenda I: Legislative Business

Armed Forces Chaplaincy (Licensing) Measure and Amending Canon No. 44
(licensing armed forces chaplaincy) – Final Drafting/ Final Approval

Special Agenda III: Private Members Motion

Vocations and Issues in Human Sexuality: The Revd Mae Christie

*This is a PMM from the Revd Mae Christie (Southwark) which seeks to remove
Issues in Human Sexuality from the vocations process.*

***1.30pm** Prorogation

Deemed business

*Special Agenda I: Legislative Business: Legal Officers (Annual Fees) (No. 2) Order
2025 and Ecclesiastical Judges, Legal Officers and Others (Fees) Order 2025*

Archbishops' Council Annual Report

Archbishops' Council's Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report

Contingency Business

Mental health and the Church

*This proposes steps to deepen the understanding of mental health within the church
and to foster a culture of sensitive and effective adjustments to enhance access and
inclusion*

Routemap to Net Zero Progress Update

*This item updates Synod on work undertaken on moving to Net Zero by 2030 since
the debate in July 2022.*

Reimagining care

*This item invites Synod to engage with this important issue in light of the national
conversations taking place on the future of social care.*

Poverty and the Church: 40 Years after Faith in the City:

*This item marks the 40th anniversary of the Faith in the City report and encourages
continued action to seek to end poverty at a time of great need and political
opportunity*

Please note that all timings are indicative unless marked with an asterisk

Deadline for receipt of questions: 1200 hrs Tuesday 1 July 2025