

CHURCH OF IRELAND – GENERAL SYNOD 2019

MOTIONS

Motions received by the Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod not less than one month before the day appointed for the opening of the session of the General Synod at which the motion is to be moved (Standing Order 31).

TIMETABLE (SEE SEPARATE SHEET)

Proposer: The Honorary Secretaries

A motion or motions to allocate the time available between the items listed on the agenda paper (Standing Order 56). (See Timetable Motion on separate sheet).

COUNCIL FOR MISSION – PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

Proposer: Rev Cliff Jeffers

Seconder:

That the House of Bishops would write to the Department of Foreign Affairs, asking it to place on a par the persecution of Christians in its dealing with other nations that it does all other human rights issues; and that Standing Committee would write to House of Bishops of the other provinces of the Anglican Communion, asking them to call on the governments of their countries to act to ensure the human rights of Christians around the world; and that the Church of Ireland would examine its investment portfolio (in the manner it has done over other issues such as fossil fuels,) considering whether the companies in which it directly invests are based in or conduct a significant part of their business in those nations around the world where the human rights of Christians are violated most egregiously, and in instances where this is the case consider engagement with and/or divestment from those companies that are associated with clear evidence of human rights violations in these countries.

COUNCIL FOR MISSION – ARUSHA CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

Proposer: Rev Adam Pullen

Seconder:

That the World Council of Churches' Arusha Call to Discipleship be formally received by the Church of Ireland:

As disciples of Jesus Christ, both individually and collectively: we are called by our baptism to transforming discipleship: a Christ-connected way of life in a world where many face despair, rejection, loneliness, and worthlessness. We are called to worship the one Triune God—the God of justice, love, and grace—at a time when many worship the false god of the market system (Luke 16:13). We are called to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ—the fullness of life, the repentance and forgiveness of sin, and the promise of eternal life—in word and deed, in a violent world where many are sacrificed to the idols of death (Jeremiah 32:35) and where many have not yet heard the gospel. We are called to joyfully engage in the ways of the Holy Spirit, who empowers people from the margins with agency, in the search for justice and dignity (Acts 1:8; 4:31). We are called to discern the word of God in a world that communicates many contradictory, false, and confusing messages. We are called to care for God's creation, and to be in solidarity with nations severely affected by climate change in the face of a ruthless human-centered exploitation of the environment for consumerism and greed. We are called as disciples to belong together in just and inclusive communities, in our quest for unity and on our ecumenical journey, in a world that is based upon marginalization and exclusion. We are called to be faithful witnesses of God's transforming love in dialogue with people of other faiths in a world where the politicization of religious identities often causes conflict. We are called to be formed as servant leaders who demonstrate the way of Christ in a world that privileges power, wealth, and the culture of money (Luke 22:25-27). We are called to break down walls and seek justice with people who are dispossessed and displaced from their lands—including migrants, refugees and asylum seekers—and to resist new frontiers and borders that separate and kill (Isaiah 58:6-8). We are called to follow the way of the cross, which challenges elitism, privilege, personal and structural power (Luke

9:23). We are called to live in the light of the resurrection, which offers hope-filled possibilities for transformation. This is a call to transforming discipleship.

(The World Council of Churches' Conference on World Mission and Evangelism,
Arusha, Tanzania, 8-13 March 2018)

COUNCIL FOR MISSION – DISCIPLESHIP

Proposer: Rev Andrew Quill

Seconder: Rt Rev Dr Ferran Glenfield

That the General Synod call on parishes to prioritise the Great Commission over the next ten years – “to make disciples … teaching them to obey everything …” – so that those in every congregation are better equipped to proclaim the good news about Jesus Christ and to disciple others to make a real difference in our world, bearing in mind the Five Marks of Mission.

REPRESENTATIVE CHURCH BODY - ALLOCATIONS

Proposer: Canon GC Richards

Seconder: Rt Rev Ken Good

That the General Synod hereby authorises the Representative Body to make the following allocations from General Funds in 2019:

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A.Maintenance of the stipendiary ministry	
• Episcopal costs	894,016
• Chaplaincy costs	275,511
• Miscellaneous	132,722
B.Pension related costs	111,186
C.Training of ordinands	1,062,010
D.General Synod activities	980,923
E.Miscellaneous	15,837
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	3,472,205
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CHURCH OF IRELAND PENSIONS BOARD - MEMBERSHIP

Proposer: Canon Lady Sheil

Seconder:

That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 25 (b) of Chapter XIV of the Constitution, the following be elected as a member of the Church of Ireland Pensions Board:

Rev John Auchmuty

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (PROPOSED BY THE REPRESENTATIVE BODY AND THE STANDING COMMITTEE)

Proposer: Rt Rev Dr Paul Colton

Seconder: Ven Andrew Forster

That the General Synod affirms the Church of Ireland's commitment to meeting its legal obligations under data protection legislation and commits to demonstrating the highest standards of governance, risk management and compliance.

COMMISSION ON CHRISTIAN UNITY AND DIALOGUE - MEMBERSHIP

Proposer: Rt Rev Dr Kenneth Kearon

Seconder: Rev Katharine Poulton

That the following be elected to serve on the Commission

The Bishop of Clogher

Rev Katharine Poulton

Rev Ken Rue

Very Rev Niall Sloane
The Bishop of Tuam
The Bishop of Limerick
The Bishop of Cashel
Rev Canon Patrick Comerford
Rev Canon Dr Ian Ellis
Rev Canon Dr Daniel Nuzum
Rev Suzanne Cousins
Rev Cathy Hallissey
Rev David White
Ms Georgina Cotty
Ms Cate Turner
Dr Kenneth Milne

STANDING COMMITTEE (CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BOARD – TERMS OF REFERENCE)

Proposer: Most Rev Patricia Storey

Seconder: Very Rev Alistair Grimason

That the following revised terms of reference of the Central Communications Board be approved:

Terms of Reference

Structure

- One member of the House of Bishops
- Two members, to include the Secretary, of each permanent sub-committee
- Two members of Standing Committee, to include an Honorary Secretary
- Two senior members of Church House staff
- Two members of the Representative Body
- One member of the Liturgical Advisory Committee
- An option to co-opt two members to ensure both gender and regional or other balance

The CCB will appoint its own chair and recommend the chairs of the other sub-committees to the Standing Committee.

Sub-Committees

Sub-Committees can be established or wound-up on the recommendation of the CCB or at the direction of the Standing Committee. Appointments to sub-committees are to be made by the Standing Committee on the recommendation of the Central Communications Board up to a maximum of 10 members per sub-committee. Currently, only the Literature Sub-Committee is meeting separately. The CCB has absorbed the work of the Broadcasting Sub-Committee and Internet Sub-Committee into its own agenda.

Function

The main objectives of the Central Communications Board shall be to

- Initiate policy in relation to the communications strategy of the Church
- Establish and co-ordinate the work of the sub-committees
- Advise and support staff dealing with communications
- Recommend and seek funding for communications projects for the benefit of the Church
- Examine recommendations from the Literature Committee for support from the GS Royalties Fund and forward these for approval to the Standing Committee
- Identify training needs among church communications staff and volunteers, providing training where possible
- Report annually to the General Synod

STANDING COMMITTEE - GENERAL SYNOD REPRESENTATION (REPORT)

Proposer: Mr Ken Gibson

Seconder: Rev Canon Gillian Wharton

The General Synod welcomes and adopts Appendix K of the Standing Committee Report, and endorses the principles contained therein, and looks forward to the presentation of a Bill at General Synod in 2020.

STANDING COMMITTEE - GENERAL SYNOD REPRESENTATION (INFORMATION TO DIOCESAN SYNODS)

Proposer: Mr Ken Gibson

Seconder: Rev Canon Gillian Wharton

That the General Synod requests that Appendix K of the Standing Committee Report (including the tables contained therein) be communicated to the Diocesan Synods of 2019 for the purpose of information and requests Diocesan Synods to be cognisant of any necessary changes, should the Bill be passed in 2020, to their election processes.

LITURGICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MEMBERSHIP

Proposer: Rt Rev Dr Harold Miller

Seconder:

That the following be elected to the Liturgical Advisory Committee for the triennium term May 2019–May 2022:

The Rt Rev Dr Harold Miller
The Very Rev Gerald Field
The Very Rev Nigel Dunne
The Rev Alan Rufli
The Rev Dr Peter Thompson
The Rev Ken Rue
The Rev Julie Bell
The Rev Abigail Sines
The Rev Nigel Pierpoint
The Rev Adrian Dorrian
The Rev Peter McDowell
The Rev Johnny Campbell Smith
Mrs Jacqueline Mullen
Mr John Morris

COVENANT COUNCIL - MEMBERSHIP

Proposer: Rev Dr Peter Thompson

Seconder: Rev Barry Forde

That the following be elected as Church of Ireland representatives on the Covenant Council for the coming year:

The Rt Rev Alan Abernethy, Bishop of Connor (Co-Chair)
Ms Elva Byrne
Very Rev Nigel Dunne
Rev Canon Dr Maurice Elliott
Rev Barry Forde
Mr. Harold Giboney
Rev Dr Peter Thompson

COVENANT COUNCIL – JOHN WESLEY DAY

Proposer: Rev Dr Peter Thompson

Seconder: Rev Barry Forde

That General Synod continues to encourage congregations to celebrate the Covenant relationship with neighbouring Methodist congregations on or around John Wesley Day, 24th May, each year.

BOARD OF EDUCATION - CONSTITUTION

Proposer: Rt Rev Ken Good

Seconder: Rev Canon Brian O'Rourke

That the Constitution of the Board of Education be amended as follows:

- (i) Paragraph 7: that this be deleted and the following substituted:

(a) The Board of Education of the General Synod shall appoint a Board of Education (Northern Ireland) which shall consist of:

(1) The Archbishop of Armagh, who shall be chairperson of the Board of Education (Northern Ireland), plus two other Bishops from the Northern Province as nominated by the House of Bishops.

(2) Six representatives resident in Northern Ireland, one from each of the Dioceses of Armagh, Clogher, Derry and Raphoe, Down and Dromore, Connor and the United Dioceses of Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh on the said Board of Education of the General Synod, elected as provided by Paragraphs 2 and 3: Provided that, if any of the elected members of the Board of Education of the General Synod representing any of the Dioceses of Armagh, Clogher, Derry and Raphoe or Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh is resident in the Republic of Ireland, an additional person (being a member of the General Synod resident in Northern Ireland) may be elected in like manner as a representative of such Diocese on the Board of Education (Northern Ireland).

*The Board of Education of the General Synod shall make appointments under (2) upon receipt of nominations by the appropriate group of members of the Board of Education of the General Synod.

(3) The Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod for the time being resident in the province of Armagh. It is expected that only one representative from the Honorary Secretaries will attend each meeting and this can vary between the secretaries depending on availability.

(b) The Board of Education of the General Synod shall have power to appoint to the Board of Education (Northern Ireland) not more than ten other members on the recommendation of the ex officio members and representatives of the above mentioned Dioceses. These should include the nominee(s) appointed to represent the Church of Ireland on the Education Authority as well as representatives from the primary, post primary sectors of education; third level (teacher training) and youth and children's work in the Church of Ireland.

(c) The Board of Education (Northern Ireland) shall meet as often as it may deem necessary and at the time and place it shall appoint, and shall appoint two of their members to act as Honorary Secretaries.

(d) Attendance at the Board of Education (NI) will be published in the annual report and when a member is absent for more than three consecutive meetings then the nominating diocese may be asked to replace the member. If the member is co-opted then they may be asked to step down from the Board.

(ii) Paragraph 8: that this be deleted and the following be substituted:

In pursuance of the missional role of the Church of Ireland:

(a) It shall be the duty of the Board of Education of the General Synod to define the policy of the Church in education, both religious and secular, and, in promotion of this policy, to take such steps as may be deemed necessary to co-ordinate activities in all fields of education affecting the interests of the Church of Ireland. The Board of Education of the General Synod shall maintain close contact with government, Diocesan Boards of Education, and other educational and school authorities with a view to the most efficient and economical use of resources including funds, transport facilities and teachers.

(b) It shall be the duty of the Board of Education of the General Synod to support church based religious education and faith development through liaison with such structures and bodies as shall be established by the Church of Ireland to further children's ministry, youth ministry and Safeguarding.

(iii) Paragraph 12: that this be deleted and the following be substituted:

The Board of Education (Northern Ireland) shall have power to represent the Board of Education of the General Synod in all educational matters affecting only Northern Ireland. The Board of Education NI shall have full power in the name of General Synod to nominate Church of Ireland representatives to any education body in Northern Ireland as required. Examples of such bodies are the Transferor Representatives' Council, the Education Authority, and the Controlled Schools Support Council.

The Board of Education (Northern Ireland) shall work at all times to preserve and exercise the statutory rights accorded to the Church of Ireland as a Transferor Church and as managing authority in respect of those schools not transferred to state control.

The Board of Education (Northern Ireland) shall work, as appropriate, with other Transferor churches to ensure that the statutory requirements as set out in The Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 in respect of the provision Religious Education and collective worship in controlled and voluntary schools other than nursery and special schools are preserved and complied with.

DOWN AND CONNOR AND DROMORE DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

Proposer:

Seconder:

That the General Synod agrees that the representation on the Down and Connor and Dromore Diocesan Board of Education shall be altered to:

Ex-officio: Bishop of Down and Dromore
 Bishop of Connor

Elected Members:

Diocese of Down: 1 Clerical Representative; 1 Lay Representative
Diocese of Connor: 2 Clerical Representatives; 2 Lay Representatives
Diocese of Dromore: 1 Clerical Representative; 1 Lay Representative

and that elections for the representation to the Down and Connor and Dromore Diocesan Board of Education take place at the respective Diocesan Synods in 2020 and triennially thereafter.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION - PATHWAY TO STIPENDIARY ORDINATION**Proposer: Mr Andrew Brannigan****Seconder: Mr Colin Morris**

That the General Synod requests that the House of Bishops review the pathway to stipendiary ordination with regard to simplifying and shortening the training route for those applicants that have already obtained theological qualifications, and report back with initial recommendations to General Synod in 2020.

JOURNAL OF THE GENERAL SYNOD**Proposer: The Honorary Secretaries**

That the Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod be instructed to publish with as little delay as possible, the Journal of the Proceedings of the General Synod during this session, with such appendices as they think expedient.