

GeneralSynod.news



February Synod 2022

Day 1

Item 4 Business Committe - FS22

Item Summary

Overiewing the business report, mainly looking at how they implemented the hybrid zoom and considering feedback from the November session.

Q&As

- A good move that two times for questions.
- Andrew Cornes Chichester - Questions can be too angry. We must be compassionate.
- Vivienne Goddard, Blackburn - Has Covid led to Synod members experiencing hidden costs?
- Gill Verschoyle, Salisbury - We are focusing on the wrong issues. Not enough attention on the crisis facing the church.
- Sam Margrave, Coventry - What can be done to address the clergy cost of living crisis #synod
- Gavin Drake, Southwell and Nottingham - too many take notes and presentations not enough meaningful debate and legislating.
- Emma Gregory, Bath and Wells - Question time involves having difficult conversations so that crucial accountability can be maintained #synod
- Adrian Greenwood, Southwark - Implies that Synod is too big.
- Tim Goode, Southwark - Bring to July Synod making hybrid permanent
- Julian Hollywell, Derby - Conduct at synod is too aggressive.
- Simon Butler, Southwark - Reality is that lots of groups want to meet at once. CCM presentation still has places to book.
- Martin Sewell, Rochester - You cannot always predict what you are going to ask at supplementary questions. This adds pressure to the questionnaire. We need a little more space and time.
- Peter Bruinvels, Guildford - supports making hybrid a long term solution. Shares concerns on question time.
- Pete Spiers, Liverpool - Synod should have a training event teaching members how to ask a question.
- Nick Baines, Leeds - Its important for Synod to understand better the subject they then go on to debate.

Robert Hammond responds:

- General Synod needs to understand what its role is.
- - General Synod needs to understand what its role is.
- - Synod can't merge diocese.
- - Some of what requested can be held under the remuneration debate.
- Business committee will need to review hybrid meetings.

Item 5 Session Dates

 GS 2242 Pattern of Future February ... 66 kB

Robert Hammond

Synod to be asked to meet at least two times a year.

- Stephen Hogg, Leeds - not enough consideration for those who live far away/
- Rosemary Lyon, Blackburn - We need clear dates so that we can plan. Especially for working people.
- Adrian Greenwood, Southwark - In the spirit of compromise we have tried to balance between weekdays and weekends.
- Luke Appleton, Exeter - is it right for the church to be conducting business on the Lord's Day

Robert Hammond Responds.

- The issue with school half terms is that they differ all over the country.
- Business Committee has heard clearly that Synod wants more advanced notice.

Item 6 Racial Justice in the Church of England

Papers and Summaries: <https://www.generalsynod.news/post/gs-2243-racial-justice-in-the-church-of-england>

Lord Boateng - Chair of the Archbishop's Racial Justice Commission

Boateng - 'We are all followers of Jesus Christ'

Boateng - we must talk about things that cause pain not just to each other but to Him

Boateng - We are seeking to follow Him and to bring others on the way

Boateng - addressing racism requires resources and intentionality

Boateng - progress involves us washing each others feet and holding each others feet to the fire

Boateng - 'He died to save us ALL'

Archbishop Stephen Responds

Archbishop of York - Biblical Doctrine Matters

Archbishop of York - Still so much to be done

This is a Gospel Imperative #Synod

Archbishop of York - Change cannot be achieved by compulsion but it cannot be achieved by love

Archbishop of York - Racial justice is the work of the Gospel

Debate

Sonia Barron, Lincoln - encouraging to see the report showing work is underway.

Sonia Barron, Lincoln - can the church be trusted? If the place you go to for safety wounds or marginalizes you, it ceases to be a sanctuary.

Sarah Mullally, London - thanks those who contributed to lament to action and that it has in different ways challenged all of us.

Practical Action: @bishopSarahM outlines practical solutions #synod

Andrew Moughtin-Mumby, Southwark - Synod agreed for actions to be taken to achieve reconciliation and authentic belonging. Yet nothing seems to change.

Robert Zampetti, London - Successful enterprises cannot afford to limit minorities, what about the church?

Busola Sodeinde, London - what can synod do to strip away pride and suspicion?

Philip North, let us keep our vision for the work of the commission.

Philip North, Let us be reinvigorated by the spirit of global Christianity.

Rogers Govender, Deans - We are called to be light to the nations. Lord Boateng pointed out that currently the Government is leading an example to the world not the other way around. It shows how much work we still have to do.

Anna De Castro, Sheffield - glad synod agrees that racism is a sin

Amatu Christian-lwuagwu, London - why aren't there more members in chamber talking about this important issue? Too many empty seats shows that perhaps we are not serious about moving from lament to action.

Justin Welby, Canterbury - lament to action means action.

Justin Welby, Canterbury - we have to change how we do appointments. We can't expect people to agree with our theology.

Justin Welby, Canterbury - why is it so much agony to remove a statue to slavery. We cannot continue to say not here not now.

Clive Scowen, London - House of Laity considering allowing co-opting five UKME/GMH candidates to synod.

Paul Ayers, Leeds - We need practical actions not just rhetoric. What do you want us to do and what do you want us to stop doing?

Rosemary Wilson, Southwark - People like Lord Boateng gave her a vision for a life beyond the expectations of the day.

John Spence, Archbishop's Council - This is too important to work out how we fit it in with other cuts we have to make. We will find the money.

John Spence, Archbishop's Council - we cannot have a vision or strategy for the future without repairing the past.

Archbishop of York Responds

Archbishop of York - a really moving, powerful, beautiful debate.

Archbishop of York Responds:

- We can learn from the world about intentionality.
- We didn't reject the idea of racial justice officers.
- We must in our mission and ministry have a bias to the poor.

Item 7 carried.

Item 8 Questions

<https://www.generalsynod.news/post/synod-questions-and-their-responses>

Revd Ruth Newton (Leeds), asked about how many environmental officer roles are paid.

Q6

Mr Benjamin John (St Albans) - do you confirm synod supports the potential imprisonment of ministers offering pastoral support following a ban on conversion therapy.

Q7 Canon Peter Bruinvels (Guildford) - Will he make remote meetings become permanent as a form of inclusion.

Q79

The Revd Christopher Blunt (Chester) - Are there resources that far more specifically outline our theological position without causing offence.

Bishop of London - we need to learn how our words can damage other people. We only learn to do better when we learn to listen.

Q80 The Revd Canon Simon Butler (Southwark) - can all people be represented in the church

Q84 Mr Benjamin John (St Albans) - is there support for people who de-transition?

Q85 The Revd Mae Christie (Southwark) - should Issues be abolished? #synod

Q87 Sam Margrave (Coventry) - what is the House of Bishop's plan to ensure there is not intimidation when members participate in the LLF process.

Bishop Sarah - we are working on creating safer braver spaces.

Q32 Presidents of the Archbishops' Council - we have a long and short term vision for financial planning.

Q32 Presidents of the Archbishops' Council (Bishop Martin) - there may be fewer finishing posts for curates. Plans to address this.

Q38 The Revd Canon James Blandford-Baker (Ely) - why have we moved from an emphasis on specialized to generalized roles? Will all roles come with a vocational requirement for the candidate to be a Christian?

Q38 Presidents of the Archbishops' Council - we need to ensure that the teams are named in accordance with what they actually do.

The Revd Canon Timothy Goode wants the legal advice given on Question 61 be shared?

Q136 The Revd Zoe Heming (Lichfield) - What will be done to address the imbalance in power between candidates for ordination and those conducting psychological/ psychotherapeutic Assessments.

Q136 Presidents of the Archbishops' Council - we need to be actively involved in getting this right.

Q137 Presidents of the Archbishops' Council - at the point of ordination a persons file is stripped back to exclude these reports.

Q141 Presidents of the Archbishops' Council - we are in danger of creating impossible jobs. We must make sure roles are manageable and life giving.

Ms Fiona MacMillan (London) - Why are statistics on disability not routinely collected?

The Revd Dr Ian Paul (Southwell & Nottingham) - what can be done to ensure that we don't end up with a diocesan post code lottery on Church teaching as expressed in Issues

Canon Butler - are the questions asked by Issues asked at any point in a candidate's journey?

The Revd Jeremy Moodey (Oxford) - many stipendiary clergy are not nationally deployable because of family commitments.

Mr Sam Margrave (Coventry) Q9 - can the names of the independent panel now be made available to Synod?

Archbishop of Canterbury Q9 - Yes independent panel will be published, subject to GDPR and normal process.

Archbishop of Canterbury Q11 - members of vacancy-in-see

Chair of the Legal Advisory Commission Q12 - the new legal advisory team has not yet been appointed and therefore there is not yet a chair. The process of appointment is still underway.

The Revd Robert Lawrance (Newcastle) - will quantitative outcomes be added to SDF bids which currently seem to favour church plants over growth of existing churches.