

THE DIOCESE OF GUILDFORD
BY-ELECTION OF ONE CLERGY MEMBER TO SERVE ON GENERAL SYNOD (2023)
NOTICE BY THE PRESIDING OFFICER

The by-election of **ONE** person to represent the Clergy of the Diocese in General Synod is required and qualified clergy members of Deanery Synods are now invited to nominate candidates.

NOMINATIONS

Nominations, complete with the necessary signatures and indicating the candidate's willingness to serve, must reach the Presiding Officer not later than **12 noon on Monday 11th December 2023**. Nominations can be submitted online via the Civica Election Services (CES) Portal. Nominations will be acknowledged by the Presiding Officer on receipt.

Each nomination must give in block letters the full names, address and year of birth of the person nominated, together with details of church membership and any previous service on General Synod. To enable the Nomination to be accepted, the form must be signed as indicated by the Candidate nominated. A nomination form is enclosed and further forms can also be obtained from the Presiding Officer at synod@cofeguildford.org.uk

ELECTION ADDRESSES

Information on the right of candidates to have an election address circulated by the presiding officer is available on the CES Portal.

HUSTINGS

Details of hustings will be available on the diocesan website in the near future at xxxxxx

VOTING

If more than one candidate is nominated, an election will be held. Details of how to vote will be sent to each Elector. Completed voting papers, for those who have not supplied an email address must reach the Presiding Officer at Church House, 20 Alan Turing Road, Guildford GU2 7YF **by 12 noon on Monday 29th January 2024**. The count will take place online on xxxx. Formal notification will be sent to all candidates after nominations close regarding the count.

GENERAL SYNOD WORK AND EXPENSES

Information on the work of General Synod can be found on the Church of England website at <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/leadership-and-governance/general-synod/general-synod-elections-2021#na>

The diocese will reimburse your expenses up to a nominated amount including travel expenses and accommodation at London Synods. For York Synods, accommodation and meals are provided on the campus of York University where Synod meets each July. Synod members may claim expenses for travel to York Synods.

Geraldine Newbold
Presiding Officer
13th November 2023

Election addresses

Extract from The House of Laity Election Rules 2020

8. (1) If a candidate requests the presiding officer, he must make available to every elector election addresses provided by candidates.

- (2) If a candidate submits an election address prepared at his or her own expense to the presiding officer, the presiding officer must ensure that a copy of the election address is available by means of the elections portal, is posted on the diocese's website, and is sent by post to each person entitled to vote in the election who has not provided an email address.
 - (3) An election address must be on not more than two sides of A4 paper or If it is in electronic form, be capable of being printed in easily legible form on not more than two sides of A4 paper.
 - (4) Any election address must be submitted by 12 noon on 15th September 2021.
 - (5) The presiding officer is under no obligation to circulate any addresses received after this date.
 - (6) Invitations to vote and a copy of each address will be made available by means of the online portal, the diocesan website and by post to those who have not provided an email address
 - (7) Failure to post a copy of an election address on the diocesan website will not invalidate the election.
9. The presiding officer must ensure that during the election period no literature, which in the opinion of the presiding officer, is likely to prejudice the election is circulated to the electors, or is distributed at a meeting of the diocesan synod or any deanery synod in the diocese, by or under the authority of the presiding officer or the diocesan synod. The Area Dean, Deanery Lay Chair and Deanery Synod Secretary must each seek to ensure that during the election no literature likely to prejudice the election forms part of an official circulation or is distributed at a meeting of the deanery synod.