

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN SYNOD

NOTICE OF BY-ELECTION – VACANCY IN SEE COMMITTEE 2025 - 2027

The Vacancy in See Committee is a permanent committee of the synod, with both ex officio and elected members. The Vacancy in See Committee Regulations 2024 (as amended) require the Committee to have at least 21 members, be as nearly equal as possible with regards to lay and clergy members, and that each archdeaconry be adequately represented. **Following the resignation of Mr Gordon McFarland, there is now a requirement to fill the vacancy. Given the current membership of the Committee this must be filled by one lay member from Dorking Archdeaconry.**

The updated Regulations now prevent second or more members being elected from the same parish as an existing member (elected or ex officio) of the Vacancy in See Committee. Those parishes already represented are detailed on the candidate nomination form.

The current term of office ends on 31st December 2027.

The Vacancy in See Committee comprises:

Ex-officio members

- The Suffragan Bishop of Dorking
- The Dean of Guildford Cathedral
- The Archdeacon of Dorking
- The Archdeacon of Surrey
- General Synod Clergy (4)
- General Synod Laity (4)
- Chair of the House of Clergy
- Chair of the House of Laity

Archdeaconry of Dorking elected clergy

Archdeaconry of Dorking elected laity

Archdeaconry of Surrey elected clergy

Archdeaconry of Surrey elected laity

Notice is therefore given that an election will be held to fill the one vacancy on the Guildford Diocesan Vacancy in See Committee.

The qualifications of electors and candidates are set out on the enclosed nomination form. **Nominations will close at 12 noon on Monday 2nd February 2026.**

Should the number of candidates exceed the number of vacancies, a ballot will be held by Single Transferable Vote in accordance with the rules laid down by General Synod, as required by the Regulations. Voting papers will be issued as soon as possible after nominations close **at 12 noon on Monday 2nd February 2026.**