

22 March 2020

Ms A Hywood
General Secretary
The General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia
Suite 4, Level 5
189 Kent Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Anne,

We are pleased to attach our independent compliance report on the administration of the National Register Canon 2007 and its related protocols ("the Canon").

Our Role

Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd was engaged by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia to complete a compliance audit of the administration of the National Register as requested by the Standing Committee of General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia ("the Standing Committee").

The objective of the audit is to provide reasonable assurance that the processes and procedures in relation to the administration of the National Register ("the Register") are in compliance with the Canon. The Engagement involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the compliance of the Register against the agreed suitable criteria derived from the protocols as detailed in the Letter of Engagement dated 5 February 2020.

Our engagement was conducted in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3100: *Compliance Engagements*.

This report has been prepared for the use of the Standing Committee and is submitted on the basis that it will not be made available to any party without express permission given in writing by Nexia, without such permission no warranty or responsibility will be accepted by our firm.

Our Findings

A number of procedures were employed to test the administration of the Register in compliance with the Canon. Due to the discovery of partial-compliance with a number of requirements of the Canon, the existence of sub ledgers maintained by the Directors of Professional Standards which contain information but do not form part of the National Register and limitations in obtaining sufficient and appropriate audit evidence, we are unable to conclude that the National Register complies with all the requirements of the Canon. Please refer to the attached Audit Report and Appendix for further details on work completed, the outcomes on the findings and conclusions on compliance with the Canon.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank you and your staff for the assistance during this process.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries in relation to any of the above.

Yours Sincerely

Joseph Santangelo
Director

Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd

Level 16, 1 Market Street
Sydney NSW 2000
PO Box H195

Australia Square NSW 1215

p +61 2 9251 4600

f +61 2 9251 7138

e info@nexiasydney.com.au

w nexia.com.au

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INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE PRACTITIONER'S COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT TO THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

Report on the compliance with the requirements of the National Registry Canon 2007 for the period 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019

We have audited the compliance of the administration of the National Register Canon 2007 and its related protocols ("the Canon") in order to provide assurance that the processes and procedures in relation to the administration of the National Register ("Register") are in compliance with the Canon for the period 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019 and for the General Secretary to fulfil their reporting obligations to the Standing Committee in accordance with the Canon.

Respective Responsibilities

The General Secretary and the Directors of Professional Standards ("DPS") are responsible for compliance with the requirements of the Canon as measured by the suitable criteria detailed in our Letter of Engagement dated 5 February 2019.

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on compliance with the requirements of the Canon, in all material respects for the period. Our audit has been conducted in accordance with applicable Standards on Assurance Engagements (ASAE 3100: *Compliance Engagements*) to provide reasonable assurance that the Register has been administered in accordance with the requirements of the Canon. Our procedures have been carried out based on the requirements of the separate clauses within the Canon. These procedures have been undertaken to form a conclusion as to whether the National Registry has been administered, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements of the Canon.

Use of Report

This compliance audit report has been prepared for the Standing Committee of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia in accordance with Section 15 of the Canon. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report to any persons or users other than the Standing Committee of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Inherent Limitations

Because of the inherent limitations of any internal control framework, it is possible that fraud, error or non-compliance may occur and not be detected. An audit is not designed to detect all instances of non-compliance with the requirements of the Canon, as an audit is not performed continuously throughout the period and the audit procedures performed in respect of compliance with the requirements as measured by the suitable criteria are undertaken on a test basis. The audit conclusion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Basis for qualified conclusion

From our work performed in relation to the Register being administered in accordance with the requirements of the Canon, we noted the following:

Limitations of scope

Clause	Detail
Clause 5(1) (2) & 6(1) (2)	We were unable to conclude that the Register is a complete listing of "all clergy" and "all lay persons" that are required to be reported or that the Information (as defined in the Canon) on the Register is fully complete.
Clause 8(1), 8(2) and 8(4)	We were unable to conclude that each DPS has entered Information in the Register relating to any member of the clergy or lay person to which they had access in carrying out his or her responsibilities as soon as practicable, and no later than one month after he or she has access to the information.
Clause 8(3) and 8(5)	In relation to the notification and recording of Cautions, due to the limitations of information, not recorded on the register, however able to be recorded by DPS's we were unable to confirm that there were no such instances.
Clause 10(1)	Due to access to information we were unable to confirm that the DPS notified the General Secretary as soon as practicable.

Breach of Objectives set by the Canon

Clause	Detail
Clause 5(1)	From the responses received from some of the DPS's to confirmation requests, it was confirmed that this clause has not been complied with.
Clause 5(2)	From the responses received from some of the DPS's to confirmation requests, it was confirmed that this clause has not been complied with.
Clause 8(1)	From the responses received from some of the DPS's to confirmation requests, it was confirmed that this clause has not been complied with.
Clause 9(1)	It was noted that the NRO does not notify an existing member of clergy or lay person after the modification to or entry of additional Information in the National Register if that person has previously been notified of their inclusion on the Register.

Qualified conclusion

In our opinion, except for the potential effect, if any, resulting from the breaches referred to in the preceding paragraphs, the National Register has complied, in all material respects, with the processes and procedures in relation to the administration of the National Register and they are in compliance with the National Register Canon 2007.

Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Limited

Joseph Santangelo
Director

Dated: 27 March 2020
Sydney

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
1	Clause 4	There shall be a National Professional Standards Register of clergy and lay persons established and maintained in accordance with the provisions of this Canon.	Compliant	<p>Work Completed Through audit enquiry and observation, we documented the design of the National Professional Standards Register ("the Register") system.</p> <p>Findings The current full register exists on a secure web portal that has access restricted to those who are authorised. Each user has a unique username and password before entering a different entry code each time they log on, received via a text message.</p> <p>New information can be uploaded to the Register via the web portal, and this ability is restricted to the Directors of Professional Standards ("DPS"). There are 19 DPS's (2018: 16). When new information is uploaded to the portal, the DPS's are able to hold the information on a sub-level before uploading to the register. This sub-level database is only accessible to other DPS's in other dioceses around Australia. When the DPS is ready to upload an event, the item is uploaded directly on to the register. This report only relates to the Register, not the DPS sub-ledger.</p> <p>The system automatically sends a message to the National Register Officer ("NRO") who will then send a notification to the member of the clergy or lay person concerned.</p> <p>Information regarding persons on the register can be accessed via the following methods: Each of the 16 DPS's (2018:16) and 32 additional authorised users (2018: 29) have access to the Register portal. Authorised Users can access Information through the submission of an 'Application for authorised diocesan persons to access the National Register Report Request System'. This is located on the Anglican Church website at: https://www.anglican.org.au/national-register</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any other member of the clergy or layperson can request details regarding own information on the register by completing an 'Application to Obtain Information about Yourself in the National Register' form also available at the above website.

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is the responsibility of the NRO to confirm the identity of each applicant before information is disclosed. ▪ Persons who have information on the Register can apply to make amendments or remove information by completing the 'Application for Amendment of Information in the National Register' which is also on the website. <p>Conclusion The Register is compliant with Clause 4 of the Canon.</p>
2.1	Clause 5 (1)	<p>The National Register shall be a register of all clergy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) against whom a notifiable complaint or a notifiable charge has been made unless it is exhausted; or b) in respect of whom there has been a relinquishment of, or consent to deposition from, Holy Orders arising out of sexual misconduct or child abuse; or c) who have made an adverse admission or are the subject of an adverse finding; or d) in respect of whom there has been an adverse check or an adverse criminal history check or an adverse Safe Ministry Check; or e) who have not been ordained as a priest or as a bishop, or issued with a licence or appointed by a Church authority, because of an adverse risk assessment. 	Unable to confirm full compliance	<p>Work Completed Testing was performed with the NRO in connection to the composition of information on the register, and examined documentation to determine if the information on the register has been recorded in accordance with Clause 5(1). Additionally, confirmation letters were sent to all the DPS's representing the 23 Dioceses requesting positive confirmation that they have made the General Secretary (GS) aware of all notifiable events.</p> <p>Findings The Register exists to record clergy who fall under the definitions provided by Clause 5(1) under the National Register Canon 2007.</p> <p>Of the twenty three (23) Dioceses, we received twenty one (21) responses to the confirmations that were sent. Sixteen (16) of these confirmed they were in compliance and five (5) were not in compliance. There were no responses from two (2) dioceses.</p> <p>There is an inherent limitation of scope in testing the completeness of the Register in relation to 'all clergy'. This is due to limitations of evidence to support our conclusion that all DPS's update the Register for all reportable complaints and notifications that they are aware of, as we are unable to track all complaints and notifications made to the DPS.</p>

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
				<p>Conclusion We confirm that the Register exists and contains information per Clause 5(1) of the Canon. However, we were unable to confirm if it is a complete register of 'all clergy' required to be reported.</p>
2.2	Clause 5 (2)	The register of clergy shall contain the following matters: a) Information relating to clergy; and b) in relation to each member of the clergy included in the register, a notation of the date on which the register was last altered.	Unable to confirm full compliance	<p>Work Completed Testing of the Register was performed to identify the details kept of each individual. The system allows the user to drill down in to the individual name and review all information uploaded by the DPS on the screen. Additionally, the General Synod Office sent confirmation letters to all the DPS's representing the 23 Dioceses requesting positive confirmation that they have provided all information.</p> <p>Findings The register contains information relating to clergy, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ given names, ▪ date of birth, ▪ postal address, ▪ notifiable complaints or charges that have been placed against them, ▪ which authorised user has requested information on persons on the register. <p>Of the twenty three (23) Dioceses, we received twenty one (21) responses to the confirmations that were sent. Sixteen (16) of these confirmed they were in compliance and five (5) were not in compliance. There were no responses from two (2) dioceses.</p> <p>We found that the Register retained details of when information relating to the clergy was last updated/altered, however, as in the previous year it was noted that several individuals on the register did not have known dates of birth or postal addresses hence this information was blank. This was determined to not be a specific breach of the Canon.</p>

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
				<p>Conclusion We confirm that the Register exists and contains information per Clause 5(2) of the Canon. However, we were unable to confirm that this information is accurate or complete.</p>
3.1	Clause 6 (1)	<p>Subject to this Canon the National Register shall be a register of all lay persons:</p> <p>a) against whom a notifiable complaint or a notifiable charge has been made unless it is exhausted; or</p> <p>b) who have made an adverse admission or are the subject of an adverse finding; or</p> <p>c) in respect of whom there has been an adverse check or an adverse criminal history check or an adverse Safe Ministry Check; or</p> <p>d) who have not been ordained as a deacon, or issued with a licence or appointed by a Church authority, because of an adverse risk assessment.</p>	Unable to confirm full compliance	<p>Work Completed Testing was performed with the assistance of the NRO on the composition of information on the Register, and examined documentation to determine if the information on the Register has been recorded in accordance with Clause 6(1). Additionally, the General Synod Office sent confirmation letters to all the DPS's representing the 23 Dioceses requesting positive confirmation that they have made the NRO aware of all notifiable events.</p> <p>Findings The Register exists to record lay persons who fall under the definitions provided by Clause 6(1) under the National Register Canon 2007.</p> <p>Of the twenty three (23) Dioceses, we received twenty one (21) responses to the confirmations that were sent. Seventeen (17) of these confirmed they were in compliance and four (4) were not in compliance. There were no responses from two (2) dioceses.</p> <p>There is an inherent limitation of scope in testing the completeness of the Register in relation to 'all lay persons'. This is due to limitations of evidence that all DPS's have updated the Register for all reportable complaints and notifications that they are aware of, as we are unable to track all complaints and notifications made to the DPS.</p> <p>Conclusion We confirm that the Register exists and contains information per Clause 6(1) of the Canon. However, we were unable to confirm if it is a complete register of 'all lay persons' required to be reported.</p>

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
3.2	Clause 6 (2)	<p>The register of lay persons shall contain the following matters:</p> <p>a) Information relating to lay persons; and</p> <p>b) in relation to each lay person included in the register, a notation of the date on which the register was last altered.</p>	Unable to confirm full compliance	<p>Work Completed Through audit procedures, we tested the composition of the Register and details of information regarding persons recorded on the Register. Additionally, the General Synod Office sent confirmation letters to all the DPS's representing the 23 Dioceses requesting positive confirmation that they have provided all information.</p> <p>Findings The register contains information relating to lay persons, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ given names, ▪ date of birth, ▪ postal address, ▪ notifiable complaints or charges that have been placed against them if applicable, and ▪ which authorised user and DPS has requested information about each person on the register. <p>Of the twenty three (23) Dioceses, we received twenty one (21) responses to the confirmations that were sent. Sixteen (16) of these confirmed they were in compliance and five (5) were not in compliance. There were no responses from two (2) dioceses.</p> <p>We found that the Register retained details of when information relating to the lay persons was last updated/altered, however, as in the previous year it was noted that several individuals on the Register did not have known dates of birth or postal addresses.</p> <p>This is not a breach of the Canon.</p> <p>Conclusion We confirm that the Register exists and contains information per Clause 6(2) of the Canon. However, we were unable to confirm that this information is accurate or complete.</p>

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
4.1	Clause 7 (1)	Subject to this Canon, the National Register shall be maintained by the General Secretary in such form as the Standing Committee shall approve so as to ensure the security of the Information therein.	Compliant	<p>Work Completed Through testing performed with the assistance of the NRO, we documented the security systems of the Register.</p> <p>Findings On enquiry and observation, we found that the Register has been developed into a system that is able to record information about clergy and lay persons in accordance with the scope provided by the Canon. We found that the system has the following security measures to protect the information therein:</p> <p><i>Storage of information</i> – Data is stored within the Web Portal. Access to this is restricted only to those with authority granted by the NRO. To access the online database, the users must enter a secure online portal, using an individuals username, passwords and pass codes that change with each entry (received via a text message).</p> <p><i>Security of data</i> – The online portal used in the Register system is hosted by an enterprise level hardware Dell Sonicwall SRA4600, which is protected by Firewalls and is further secured through layers of privileges and authentication for users.</p> <p><i>Upload of Information</i> – Information is only able to be uploaded onto the server by a DPS through the access within the online portal. No other users are able to upload information onto the database.</p> <p>When a DPS uploads a case onto the server, an automatically generated internal message is sent to the NRO. This is to ensure the NRO is aware of all new information uploaded.</p> <p><i>Access of Information</i> – Access of information can be requested by each of the active DPS's, along with 32 additional 'Authorised Users'. Each authorised user must fill out and have approved (by the NRO) an 'Application for Authorisation' which is available on https://www.anglican.org.au/national-register to obtain access to information in the database. Once the form is appropriately filled, the Diocese bishop will confirm the validity of the individual by counter signing the</p>

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
				<p>form. Once fully signed and approved by the bishop, the new user is sent a guide pack on how to access the online portal.</p> <p>In addition, any member of the clergy or laity can access own information held on the Register by completing an "Application for own information" also available on the website, however information will only be made known to those whose identities are confirmed by a Justice of the Peace or equivalent and verified by the NRO.</p> <p>Conclusion The Register is compliant with Clause 7(1) of the Canon.</p>
4.2	Clause 7 (2)	The General Secretary shall issue forms necessary for the operation of the National Register and publish these forms on the website of the General Synod.	Compliant	<p>Work Done Reviewed the https://www.anglican.org.au/national-register website and documented the forms available relating to the Register.</p> <p>Findings We found that the following approved forms allowed users to access the following information on the Register:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Application for Authorised Diocesan Persons to Access the National Register Report Request System ▪ Application to Obtain Information About Yourself in the National Register ▪ Application for Amendment of Information in the National Register. <p>Conclusion The Register is compliant with Clause 7(2) of the Canon.</p>
5.1	Clause 8 (1), (2) and (4)	A DPS shall enter 'Information' in the National Register relating to any member of the clergy or lay person to which he or she has access in carrying out his or her responsibilities, in accordance with a protocol approved by the General Synod, or the Standing Committee, and as	Unable to confirm full compliance	<p>Work done Due to the limitations in access to evidence from authorised persons and each church authority, we were unable to confirm if the notifications from the DPS had been sent "as soon as practicable and no later than one month" after they had access to the information.</p>

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
		<p>soon as practicable and, no later than one month after he or she has access to the Information.</p> <p>DPS shall advise General Secretary if information of which he or she is aware, has not been entered as soon as practicable.</p> <p>DPS who has given advice to General Secretary per Clause 8 (2) will as soon as practicable notify General Secretary of this information</p>		<p>We received twenty one (21) responses to the confirmations representing twenty three (23) Dioceses. Thirteen (13) of these confirmed they were in compliance and eight (8) were not in compliance. There were no responses from two (2) dioceses.</p> <p>Conclusion Without access to other information of the DPS that may evidence receipt of information, we were unable to confirm that the notifications were sent “as soon as practicable, and no later than one month” after the DPS had access to the information.</p>
5.2	Clause 8 (3)	<p>The General Secretary shall:</p> <p>a) after receipt of advice, promptly enter a caution in the National Register in relation to the member of the clergy or lay person, the subject of that Information; and</p> <p>b) no later than one month after the entry of that caution in the National Register, notify the member of the clergy or lay person concerned, by letter sent to his or her last known postal or electronic address, of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. the entry of the caution; and ii. the right of that person to request in writing of the General Secretary the removal of the caution in accordance with subsection (5). 	Unable to confirm full compliance	<p>Work Done A ‘caution’ is a notice of information not yet confirmed as a notifiable complaint within the specified timeframe. We held discussions with the NRO regarding incidents and recording of cautions.</p> <p>Findings The NRO confirmed that they had not been made aware of any cautions required to be recorded during the financial year. However due to restricted access to confidential information we were unable to confirm that there were no such cautions.</p> <p>Conclusion There were no issues noted for Clause 8(3), however we are unable to confirm full compliance.</p>
5.3	Clause 8 (5)	<p>The General Secretary shall promptly after the earlier of:</p> <p>a) notification by a DPS under subsection (4); and</p> <p>b) the expiration of two months from receipt of a request in writing from the member of the clergy or lay person the subject of the caution requesting its removal, remove the caution from the National Register.</p>	Unable to confirm full compliance	<p>Work Done A ‘Caution’ is a notice of information which has not yet been confirmed as a notifiable complaint within the specified time frame. We held discussions with the NRO regarding the incidents and recording of cautions.</p> <p>Findings</p>

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
				<p>The NRO confirmed that they had not been made aware of any cautions required to be recorded during the financial year. However due to access to information, we are unable to confirm that there were no such cases.</p> <p>Conclusion There were no issues noted for Clause 8(5), however we are unable to confirm full compliance.</p>
6	Clause 9 (1)	Subject to subsection (5), the General Secretary shall, as soon as practicable, and no later than one month, after the entry of Information in the National Register relating to a member of the clergy or a lay person (other than a changed entry relating to item 4 of each of the First and Second Schedules), notify the member of the clergy or lay person concerned of the entry of that Information by letter sent to his or her last known postal or electronic address where that address is known.	Not Compliant	<p>Work Completed There were 17 (2018: 28) persons added to the register and 40 (2018: 49) events added for the 2019 calendar year.</p> <p>We performed the following audit procedures on all new additions to the register for the year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Verified that a notification was sent to the last known postal or electronic address; and ▪ Verified that a letter was sent as soon as practicable, but no later than one month. <p>We reviewed the interpretation of Clause 9 in regards to notification requirements when information is added or updated for persons already in the register.</p> <p>Findings We confirmed that letters sent out to the member of the clergy or lay person were sent to their last known postal or electronic address as soon as practicable. This is sent either Registered Post or by email.</p> <p>In addition, we verified that the letters were sent out within one month of being added to the register, with no exceptions noted.</p> <p>There were three (3) instances where the last address was unknown (2018: 12) and therefore, no letter of notification could be sent and hence this did not result in a breach.</p>

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
				<p>From a review of Clause 9, it was noted that the NRO has a requirement to notify existing persons “after the entry of Information in the National Register” regardless of whether the person has previously been notified of their inclusion on the register.</p> <p>From a review of processes and discussions with the General Secretary, it was noted that the NRO does not notify existing persons when modifications are made to their existing events or if an additional event is added to their name. This is because the NRO does not have access to the details of the event which has been added or amended and has determined it not appropriate to send out a new notification in these instances. As such, the NROs current processes are in breach with the requirements of Clause 9.</p> <p>Conclusion The NRO sent notifications to the new individuals concerned within one month of the entry of information, with no exceptions.</p> <p>Discussion with the General Secretary and NRO concluded that current procedures do not agree with the requirements of Clause 9.</p> <p>From previous discussions with the General Secretary and NRO, it is believed that it was not the intention of the clause to be constantly updating the persons with every minor change to the register. It is recommended that a review of the Canon’s wording is performed and updated as required.</p>
6.1	Clause 9 (5)	<p>Where the General Secretary receives a police request, or a police request record from a DPS, the General Secretary shall not notify the member of the clergy or lay person of the entry of Information in the National Register relating to that person until the sooner of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the expiration of six months after the receipt of the police request; or ▪ the receipt of a withdrawal of the police request; and 	Compliant	<p>Work Completed Discussions were held with the NRO regarding the compliance with Clause 9(5).</p> <p>We also tested all 5 police requests occurred during 2019 to determine compliance of the Clause 9(5) by conducting the following procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inquired with the NRO the existence and status of police requests during the year; ▪ Traced the cases of police requests to the additions made to the Register during the year; and

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a withdrawal of the police request record from a Director of Professional Standards, as the case may be. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensured that where a case is still under police request there was no notification sent to the member. <p>Conclusion It was noted that in instances where there is a police request record, the NRO must not notify the member of clergy or lay person until the sooner of;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expiration of six months after the receipt of the police request; or ▪ Receipt of a withdrawal of the police request; and ▪ Withdrawal of the police request record from a DPS. <p>Based on the procedures performed, there was no instance noted in which the NRO failed to notify the member of clergy or lay person within the above timeframe.</p>
7.1	Clause 10 (1) and (2)	<p>A DPS shall notify the General Secretary as soon as practicable after becoming aware that a notifiable complaint or a notifiable charge against a member of clergy or a lay person has been exhausted.</p> <p>Where notification is received from the applicable DPS that a notifiable complaint or notifiable charge against a member of the clergy or a lay person has been exhausted, the General Secretary shall, as soon as practicable and no later than one month after receipt of the notification, remove Information in the National Register relating to that notifiable complaint or notifiable charge and notify:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the member of the clergy or lay person concerned of the removal of that Information by written notification sent to his or her last known postal or electronic address; and b) each authorised person who has had access to that Information, other than the person, of the removal of that Information, by written notification. 	Unable to confirm full compliance	<p>Work Completed We reviewed the cases where persons were removed to confirm the DPS notified the General Secretary that the case has been exhausted.</p> <p>There were 6 persons and 25 events removed in 2019 due to exhaustion (2018: 7 and 9, respectively). The following was tested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Verified that a letter was sent out to member of clergy/lay person within one month of notification being received from the applicable DPS that a notifiable complaint or notifiable charge against a member of the clergy or a lay person has been exhausted. This was verified by sighting a copy of the letter and email or postal envelope in which the letter was delivered. This is maintained by the NRO in a centralised folder; ▪ By inspecting the computer and generated report, we confirmed that the person or event was removed from register; ▪ Confirmed that the reason for removal was noted on the Register. <p>Findings</p>

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
				<p>Via the online portal, the General Secretary is notified as soon as the DPS uploads the information to the portal, however we are unable to confirm this information was entered onto the Register as soon as practicable after the DPS became aware of the information.</p> <p>In relation to the instances removed, the persons were removed from the register as required and these were for valid reasons.</p> <p>There were six instances where the NRO was required to notify the member of the clergy/lay person concerned of the removal from the Register. It was noted that three (3) notifications did not occur as the NRO did not have a valid address to distribute the letter. It was also noted that there was one instances where the member of the clergy / lay person was deceased and therefore no letter was required to be distributed.</p> <p>It is best practice to follow up with the DPS to obtain the correct details, however this is not a requirement per the Canon.</p> <p>Conclusion There is a limitation of scope in relation to clause 10(1) and no breaches noted with clause 10(2).</p>
7.2	Clause 10 (3)	Each authorised person shall, as soon as practicable and no later than one month after the receipt of the notification referred to in that subsection, shall forward a copy of that notification to each Church authority to whom the authorised person has disclosed the Information.	Compliant	<p>Work Completed Where a notifiable complaint was exhausted, we verified whether there had been access to this information and verified that these persons had been informed with the appropriate information.</p> <p>Findings There were no instances where information had been accessed where the claim had been exhausted for 2019.</p> <p>Conclusion The Register is compliant with Clause 10(3) of the Canon.</p>

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
7.3	Clause 10 (4)	Where notification is received from the applicable DPS that a member of the clergy or a lay person relating to whom there is Information in the National Register has died, the General Secretary shall, as soon as practicable and no later than one month after receipt of the notification, remove Information in the National Register relating to that member of the clergy or lay person.	Compliant	<p>Work Completed We enquired of the NRO as to the number of instances where a member of the clergy or a lay person who had information relating to them on the Register had died during the period.</p> <p>Findings We confirmed with the NRO that one (1) death was communicated by the DPS's during 2019.</p> <p>Conclusion The Register is compliant with Clause 10(4) of the Canon.</p>
8	Clause 11	<p>Access to and disclosure of Information in the National Register shall, subject to sections 12 and 13, be limited to the following authorised persons:</p> <p>a) a diocesan bishop or delegate; b) the Bishop to the Defence Force or delegate; c) a Director of Professional Standards; d) the General Secretary; e) any person within the General Synod Office whose duties include assisting the General Secretary in maintaining the National Register; and f) such other persons as may be determined by the Standing Committee by a two-thirds majority;</p> <p>who agree to abide by the protocols under this Canon approved by the General Synod, or the Standing Committee by a two-thirds majority.</p>	Compliant	<p>Authorised Users</p> <p>Work Completed – Authorised persons Reviewed the Authorised User register and ensured that the information disclosed for each user was limited to the following authorised persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a diocesan bishop or delegate; ▪ the Bishop to the Defence Force or delegate; ▪ a Director of Professional Standards (DPS); ▪ the General Secretary; ▪ any person within the General Synod Office whose duties include assisting the General Secretary in maintaining the Register; and ▪ such other persons as may be determined by the Standing Committee by a two-thirds majority. <p>Findings – Authorised persons We examined the "Authorised User Register" and found that each authorised user had completed an Application for Authorisation. Each form was validated by the NRO and approved by the General Secretary.</p> <p>Conclusion – Authorised persons</p>

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
				<p>The Register is compliant with Clause 11 of the Canon, however we were unable to confirm these secure usernames, passwords and security codes have not been passed on to unauthorised users.</p> <p>Protocols</p> <p>Work Completed – Protocols</p> <p>Within the online portal system, all searches of the register performed by an authorised user automatically gets logged with details of date, time, name of user, diocese, reason for search, and search name. This information has to be entered by the user before being allowed access to the register. This process was demonstrated to us as part of the audit.</p> <p>Findings – Protocols</p> <p>Within the current system, all authorisation is granted by virtue of the user having accessed the web portal and entered all required information needed to create a search.</p> <p>We confirm that all applicants had declared to the General Secretary the reasons for access to the Register in every case.</p> <p>The Church Authority, to which the information will be disclosed, is a compulsory field when performing searches. It was noted that this field was completed for every search.</p> <p>Conclusion - Protocols</p> <p>The Register is compliant with Clause 11 of the Canon.</p>
9	Clause 12	The General Secretary, on application by a person to ascertain whether there is any Information, and if so to obtain a copy of the Information, in the National Register relating to that person, shall notify the person whether there is any such Information, and if so provide a copy of that Information to that person, in accordance with a	Compliant	<p>Work Completed</p> <p>There was no application for own information during the calendar year (2018: 1).</p> <p>Findings</p> <p>Through enquiry and observation, we noted there was no application for own information lodged during the year.</p>

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
		protocol approved by the General Synod, or the Standing Committee by a two-thirds majority.		<p>We reviewed records to reconcile the stat, noting no occurrences under this clause in 2019.</p> <p>Conclusion The Register is compliant with Clause 12 of the Canon.</p>
10	Clause 13	The General Secretary, on application by a person to ascertain whether there has been access to any Information in the National Register relating to that person by an authorised person, shall notify the person whether there has been any such access, and if so, provide details of that access to that person, in accordance with a protocol approved by the General Synod, or the Standing Committee by a two-thirds majority.	Compliant	<p>Work Completed</p> <p>We reviewed the documentation and observed there was no application for own information in 2019.</p> <p>Findings Through enquiry and observation we found that no application for own information occurred in 2019.</p> <p>Conclusion The Register is compliant with Clause 13 of the Canon.</p>
11.1	Clause 14 (1)	<p>The General Secretary, on application by a person to amend the Information in the National Register relating to that person, shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ amend the Information in the National Register relating to that person, or ▪ include a statement of the person in the National Register, <p>subject to any limitation on the length of any amendment or statement determined by the Standing Committee, in accordance with a protocol approved by the General Synod, or the Standing Committee by a two-thirds majority.</p>	Compliant	<p>Work Completed</p> <p>Confirmed with the NRO that there were no applications for amendments by members of the clergy or lay persons of information in the Register in relation to them.</p> <p>Conclusion The Register is compliant with Clause 14(1) of the Canon.</p>

	Clause	Requirements of the National Register Canon 2007	Compliance	Comments
11.2	Clause 14 (2)	The General Secretary shall, as soon as practicable and no later than one month after making the amendment or including the statement referred to in subsection (1), notify by written notification each authorised person who has had access to that Information, other than the person or persons in subsections 11(d) and (e), of the making of that amendment or the inclusion of that statement.	Compliant	<p>Work Completed Confirmed with the NRO that there were no applications for amendments by members of the clergy or lay persons of information in the Register in relation to them.</p> <p>Conclusion The Register is compliant with Clause 14(2) of the Canon.</p>
11.3	Clause 14 (3)	Each authorised person referred to in subsection (2) shall, as soon as practicable and no later than one month after the receipt of the notification referred to in subsection (2), forward a copy of that notification to each Church authority to whom the authorised person has disclosed the Information.	Compliant	<p>Work Completed Confirmed with the NRO that there were no applications for amendments by members of the clergy or lay persons of information in the Register in relation to them.</p> <p>Conclusion The Register is compliant with Clause 14(2) of the Canon.</p>
11.4	Clause 15 (4)	The General Secretary shall, as soon as practicable after the report of the audit has been provided to the Standing Committee, publish the report on the General Synod website.	Compliant	<p>Work Completed We inspected the General Synod website to verify that the report has been uploaded.</p> <p>Conclusion The reports for 2017 and 2018 have been uploaded and therefore the register is now compliant with Clause 15(4). This had been a breach in the 2018 year, where the 2017 report had not been uploaded on the website.</p>