

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

Standing Committee Report

BOOK 2





The Anglican Church of Australia

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Eighteenth Session of General Synod

BOOK 2

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The Standing Committee of the General Synod of The Anglican Church of Australia

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STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF GENERAL SYNOD

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INTRODUCTION

This book contains a report on the membership and key activities of the General Synod Standing Committee since the Seventeenth Session of General Synod in 2017.

It provides information on the work undertaken by the Standing Committee to implement the resolutions of the Seventeenth Session of General Synod and a summary of its business between November 2017 and March 2022.

Reports are provided on the activities of General Synod bodies including the Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation and the General Synod Tribunals.

The Standing Committee reports on the status of General Synod legislation and its obligations to report to General Synod arising from provisions of the Financial Protection Canon, the National Register Canon and the Safe Ministry to Children Canon.

This book includes a list of the members of the Eighteenth Session of General Synod and the program for the Eighteenth Session of General Synod as approved by the Standing Committee.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF GENERAL SYNOD AND ITS COMMITTEES

Membership at the commencement of the Eighteenth Session of General Synod

STANDING COMMITTEE OF GENERAL SYNOD

The Metropolitans [ex officio]

The Most Rev'd Dr Phillip Aspinall AC (Queensland)
The Most Rev'd Dr Philip Freier (Victoria)
The Most Rev'd Kay Goldsworthy AO (Western Australia)
The Most Rev'd Kanishka Raffel (New South Wales)
The Most Rev'd Geoffrey Smith (South Australia)

Chair of Committees [ex officio]

Dr Ian Gibson (Melbourne)

Clerical Secretary [ex officio]

The Very Rev'd Katherine Bowyer (Newcastle)

Lay Secretary [ex officio]

Mr Timothy Reid (Brisbane)

The General Secretary [ex officio]

Ms Anne Hywood

House of Bishops

The Rt Rev'd Dr Richard Condie (Tasmania)
The Rt Rev'd John Stead (Willochra)
The Rt Rev'd Garry Weatherill (Ballarat)

House of Clergy

The Ven David Bassett (Adelaide)
The Rev'd Kate Beer (Northern Territory)
The Ven Canon Arthur Copeman (Newcastle)
The Rev'd Dr Andrew Ford (Sydney)
The Ven Greg Harris (Bendigo)
The Rt Rev'd Dr Timothy Harris (Adelaide)
The Rev'd Tracy Lauersen (Gippsland)
The Rt Rev'd Sonia Roulston (Newcastle)
The Rt Rev'd Dr Michael Stead (Sydney)

House of Laity

Mr Garth Blake AM SC (Sydney)
Dr Leanne Beagley (Melbourne)
Mrs Fiona McLean (Melbourne)
Ms Audrey Mills (Tasmania)
Justice Debra Mullins AO (Brisbane)
Dr Karin Sowada (Sydney)

Dr Carolyn Tan (Perth)
Dr Robert Tong AM (Sydney)
The Hon Peter Young AO QC (Sydney)

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council

The Rt Rev'd Chris McLeod
Dr Rose Elu

General Synod Treasurer [in attendance]
Mr Keith Stephens (Perth)

Changes in membership since the last Synod

in accordance with section 3 of Rule II – Standing Committee

Metropolitans

- Archbishop Glenn Davies (Sydney) retired in April 2021. Bishop Peter Stuart (Newcastle) was acting Metropolitan of New South Wales between the Archbishop's resignation and the consecration and installation of Archbishop Kanishka Raffel (Sydney) in May 2021.
- Bishop Allan Ewing (Bunbury) was acting Metropolitan of Western Australia from the Seventeenth Session of General Synod until the installation of Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy (Perth) in February 2018.

House of Clergy

- The Rev'd Kate Beer (Northern Territory) was elected to the House of Clergy in November 2020 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of the Very Rev'd Dr Mary Lewis (Willochra).
- The Rt Rev'd Sonia Roulston (Newcastle) was elected to the House of Clergy in December 2021 to fill the vacancy created by the translation of the Very Rev'd Kanishka Raffel to the House of Bishops.

Appointment of Officers

- Mr Keith Stephens was appointed as Honorary Treasurer in June 2019 following the death of Mr Allan Perryman in April 2019.

COMMITTEES OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Executive Committee

The Most Rev'd Dr Philip Freier to April 2020 (The Primate ex officio)
The Most Rev'd Geoffrey Smith from April 2020 (The Primate ex officio)
The Most Rev'd Kay Goldsworthy AO from November 2020
The Rt Rev'd Garry Weatherill
The Ven Canon Arthur Copeman
The Rt Rev'd Dr Michael Stead
Dr Ian Gibson
Justice Debra Mullins AO

Mr Allan Perryman to April 2019 (Treasurer ex officio)
Mr Keith Stephens from June 2019 (Treasurer ex officio)
Ms Anne Hywood (General Secretary ex officio)

Audit Committee

Mr Doug McClusky (Chair)
Mr Michael Blaxland
Mr Douglas Marr
Mr Colin Johnston
Dr Robert Tong AM
Mr Keith Stephens

Investment Committee

Mr Andrew Stanley (Chair)
Ms Susan Foley
Mr Keith Stephens
Mr Grant Reubenicht

Mr Graham Baikie resigned as a member of the Investment Committee in March 2019

Remuneration Committee

The Most Rev'd Geoffrey Smith (The Primate)
Mr Keith Stephens

Nomination and Appointments Committee

The Most Rev'd Geoffrey Smith (to November 2020)
The Most Rev'd Dr Philip Freier (from November 2020)
Dr Karin Sowada
Ms Audrey Mills

Attendance by Members of Standing Committee

Between the 17th Session of the General Synod and the 18th Session of the General Synod			
Member Category	Member	Meetings	
		Active Member	Attended
Primate	The Most Rev'd Dr P Freier ⁱ	6	5
	The Most Rev'd G Smith ⁱⁱ	7	7
Metropolitans	The Most Rev'd Dr P Aspinall AC	13	12
	The Most Rev'd Dr G Davies ⁱⁱⁱ	9	8
	The Rt Rev'd Dr P Stuart ^{iv}	2	2
	The Most Rev'd K Raffel ^v	2	2
	The Most Rev'd Dr P Freier	7	7
	The Most Rev'd K Goldsworthy AO	12	11
	The Rt Rev'd Allan Ewing ^{vi}	1	0
	The Most Rev'd G Smith	6	6
Chair of Committees	Dr I Gibson	13	12
Clerical Secretary	The Very Rev'd Katherine Bowyer	13	11
Lay Secretary	Mr T Reid	13	13
House of Bishops	The Rt Rev'd John Stead	13	12
	The Rt Rev'd Garry Weatherill	13	13
	The Rt Rev'd Dr Richard Condie	13	11
House of Clergy	The Ven D Bassett	13	13
	The Rev'd K Beer ^{vii}	6	5
	The Ven Canon A Copeman	13	13
	The Rev'd Dr A Ford	13	13
	The Rt Rev'd Dr T Harris	13	12
	The Rev'd G Harris	13	12
	The Rev'd T Lauersen	13	12
	The Very Rev'd Dr Mary Lewis ^{viii}	7	7
	The Very Rev'd Kanishka Raffel	11	8
	The Rt Rev'd Sonia Roulston ^{ix}	1	1
House of Laity	The Rt Rev'd Dr M Stead	13	13
	Dr Leanne Beagley	13	12
	Mr G Blake AM SC	13	12
	Mrs Fiona McLean	13	13
	Ms A Mills	13	13
	Justice D Mullins AO	13	13
	Dr K Sowada	13	13
	Dr C Tan	13	13
	Dr R Tong AM	13	11
	The Hon P Young AO QC	13	13
NATSIAC	The Rt Rev'd C McLeod	13	8
NATSIAC	Dr R Elu	13	6
General Secretary	Ms A Hywood	13	13
In attendance:			
Hon Treasurer	Mr A Perryman ^x	4	4
	Mr K Stephens ^{xi}	8	8

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- ⁱ Concluded term as Primate in April 2020
 - ⁱⁱ Commenced term as Primate in April 2020
 - ⁱⁱⁱ Metropolitan of NSW retired in April 2021
 - ^{iv} Metropolitan of NSW in 2021 (Senior Provincial Bishop)
 - ^v Translated from elected member of House of Clergy to Metropolitan of NSW in 2021
 - ^{vi} Metropolitan of WA in 2020 (Senior Provincial Bishop)
 - ^{vii} Elected to fill vacancy as member of House of Clergy in November 2020
 - ^{viii} Resigned as an elected member of the House of Clergy in 2020
 - ^{ix} Elected to fill vacancy as member of House of Clergy in 2021
 - ^x Allan Perryman died in April 2019
 - ^{xi} Keith Stephens appointed in June 2019

IMPLEMENTATION OF SUBSTANTIVE RESOLUTIONS OF THE SEVENTEETH SESSION OF GENERAL SYNOD 2017

Introduction

This report provides a list of the substantive resolutions of the Seventeenth Session of General Synod and action taken to implement them. Resolutions relating to the administration of the session, or rescinded by other resolutions, are excluded.

Resolutions marked with an asterisk were directed, either in whole or in part, to the attention of the dioceses by circular letter dated 26 September 2017.

The resolutions are grouped by subject matter in alphabetical order:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Issues
- Anglican Communion
- Doctrine
- Ecumenical Relations
- Liturgy
- Mission and Ministry
- Public Affairs
- Safe Ministry
- Standing Committee.

Within each group, resolutions are arranged in the order in which they were passed.

Res No	Resolution Text	Action
ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ISSUES		
R23/17 *	<p>Domestic Violence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities</p> <p>The Rev'd Canon Bruce Boase, Ms Rose Elu seconding</p> <p>The General Synod recognises and shares the deep concern of NATSIAC members regarding the rate of domestic and family violence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities; and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Calls upon the government both federal and state to continue to invest in educational and family support programs; Calls upon the Anglican Church of Australia to facilitate a national response through greater education among clergy and church workers with regard to domestic and family violence; and, Calls upon dioceses to develop domestic violence policies, with advice for good pastoral practice, consistent with Faithfulness in Service, and in consultation with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. <p>4 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent on 21 September 2017 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chief Ministers – ACT, NT Premiers – NSW, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC, WA Prime Minister. <p>The Standing Committee established the Family Violence Working Group to progress this and other resolutions.</p> <p>The report of the Family Violence Working Group is provided in Book 4.</p> <p>Correspondence was sent to all dioceses on 26 September 2017.</p>
R24/17	<p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Issues</p> <p>The Rev'd Canon Bruce Boase, Ms Rose Elu seconding</p> <p>The General Synod recognises and shares the deep concern of NATSIAC members in regard to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The appalling number of youth suicides in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities; ten times higher than the wider Australian community and notes that suicides touch 95% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This Synod calls upon the government, both state and federal, to investigate the causes of these horrific statistics, and requests appropriate continuing funding to finance functional programs in consultation and negotiation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities; The sad and undeniable facts concerning the disproportionate rate of incarceration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People in gaols and detention centres all over Australia. This Synod strongly urges all governments, federal and state to end mandatory sentencing and to actively investigate and examine 'best practice' from other jurisdictions, utilise resources such as diversionary programs and changes to policies that would seek to have gaol as the last resort. <p>4 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent on 21 September 2017 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chief Ministers – ACT, NT Premiers – NSW, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC, WA Prime Minister

Res No	Resolution Text	Action
R28/17	<p>First Nation's Voice</p> <p>Dr Carolyn Tan moving, The Very Rev'd Peter Catt seconding</p> <p>The General Synod:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supports the recommendation of the Referendum Council for a constitutionally-entrenched First Nations' Voice to the Commonwealth Parliament; 2. Encourages the governments in Australia to seek to negotiate in good faith with First Nations' Peoples towards treaties or other similar forms of agreement; 3. Requests the General Secretary to convey this resolution to the Prime Minister, State Premiers, and Leaders of the Opposition; 4. Requests the Public Affairs Commission in consultation with NATSIAC to prepare resources, including summaries and theological reflections for use by Anglican parishes, schools and organisations, on the Referendum Council Report on any subsequent referendum questions and on the progress of treaty or similar negotiations. <p>5 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent on 21 September 2017 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Ministers – ACT, NT • Premiers – NSW, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC, WA • Prime Minister • Leader of the Opposition. <p>The Anglican Board of Mission – Australia in liaison with the National Aboriginal and the Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council and the Public Affairs Commission produced <i>A Voice in the Wilderness</i>, theological reflections on the Uluru Statement. It is available at https://www.abmission.org/re-sources/a-voice-in-the-wilderness-study/.</p>
R29/17	<p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Environmental Issues</p> <p>Ms Rose Elu moving, The Rev'd Canon Bruce Boase seconding</p> <p>The General Synod,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledges that NATSIAC, as the voice of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglicans in Australia, is committed to the preservation of God's creation; and <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) joins with NATSIAC in recognising the implications of Climate Change upon the entire nation, its land, sea and waters but especially in the Torres Strait; and b) forwards the findings and recommendations of the Symposium on Indigenous Perspectives on Climate Change held in Darwin 2016 to the Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition, State Premiers, and relevant ministers. • Acknowledges that NATSIAC has been expressing concern over the use of fracking on traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lands for many years, and joins with NATSIAC in condemning practices which seek to pressure elders to submit their traditional homelands and waterways to fracking and other practices that risk destroying hunting and fishing grounds and areas of major cultural significance. <p>5 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent on 21 September 2017 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Ministers – ACT, NT • Premiers – NSW, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC, WA • Prime Minister • Minister for the Environment and Energy • Leader of Opposition.

Res No	Resolution Text	Action
ANGLICAN COMMUNION		
R51/17	<p>Scottish Episcopal Church</p> <p>The Very Rev'd Kanishka Raffel moving, The Venerable David Bassett seconding</p> <p>General Synod –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) notes with regret that the Scottish Episcopal Church has amended their Canon on Marriage to change the definition that marriage is between a man and a woman by adding a new section that allows clergy to solemnise marriage between same-sex couples as well as couples of the opposite sex; b) notes with regret that this step is contrary to the doctrine of our Church and the teaching of Christ that, in marriage, “a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh” (Matt 19:6), and c) expresses our support for those Anglicans who have left or will need to leave the Scottish Episcopal Church because of its redefinition of marriage and those who struggle and remain; and d) prays that the Scottish Episcopal Church will return to the doctrine of Christ in this matter and that impaired relationships will be restored. <p style="text-align: right;">7 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent on 15 September 2017 to the Secretary General, Scottish Episcopal Church.</p> <p>A response was received on 31 October 2017.</p>
DOCTRINE		
R48/17	<p>Marriage, same-sex marriage and the blessing of same-sex relationships</p> <p>Bishop Michael Stead moving, The Rev'd Canon Professor Dorothy Lee seconding</p> <p>The General Synod –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) recognises that the doctrine of our church, in line with traditional Christian teaching, is that marriage is an exclusive and lifelong union of a man and a woman, and further, (ii) recognises that this has been the subject of several General Synod resolutions over the past fifteen years, and also (iii) recognises that the nature of marriage is the subject of ongoing conversation within the church and wider community and that we need to listen to each other with care and respect, and (iv) acknowledges the experiences and genuine concerns of LGBTIQ+ people within the church and the community, and therefore (v) asks the Doctrine Commission to facilitate a respectful conversation in our church by means of a collection of essays 	<p>Referred to the Doctrine Commission, which produced a book of essays titled <i>Marriage, Same-sex Marriage and the Anglican Church of Australia</i> in response.</p> <p>The book is available on the General Synod website at https://anglican.org.au/our-work/doctrine-theology/.</p>

Res No	Resolution Text	Action
	<p>on marriage and same-sex relationships that explores Scriptural and theological issues relating to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The doctrine of marriage expressed in the formularies of the Anglican Church of Australia Our current Australian context, exploring the relationship between the State's definition of marriage and the church's doctrine of marriage Key Old Testament and New Testament texts on sex, marriage and friendship Scripture and hermeneutics A theology of blessing A theology of desire Godly disagreement on this issue The case for and against same-sex marriage and/or the blessing of same-sex unions. <p>7 September 2017</p>	
R57/17	<p>Request for Doctrine Commission Report</p> <p>The Rev'd James Harricks moving, the Venerable Kara Hartley seconding</p> <p>The General Synod requests the Doctrine Commission to prepare a report on the distinction between the gospel of Christ crucified and the consequences of that gospel.</p> <p>8 September 2017</p>	<p>This matter was referred to the Doctrine Commission, which prepared a statement dated 14 February 2018 and presented to the Standing Committee.</p> <p>A copy of the report is provided in the commission's report to GS18 in Book 4.</p>
ECUMENICAL RELATIONS		
R53/17 *	<p>500th Anniversary of the Reformation</p> <p>Bishop Tim Harris moving, The Rev'd Canon Dr Matthew Anstey seconding</p> <p>Noting the five-hundredth anniversary in 2017 of Martin Luther's nailing 95 Theses of protest to the door of the castle church in Wittenburg on October 31, 1517, regarded by many as a significant catalyst in inaugurating protestant reformations in Europe, and recognising Lutherans as partners with Anglicans in ongoing reforming traditions that encompass a variety of denominations and expressions of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church of Christ;</p> <p>and further noting the resolution of ACC 16:16 that:</p> <p>"The Anglican Consultative Council</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> recognises the significance of the five-hundredth anniversary of the Reformation, which will be marked in 2017; and encourages Anglicans across the Communion to be a part of the commemorations by joining in shared services, undertaking study with Lutherans and other ecumenical partners, and engaging with them in mission activities; and 	<p>Correspondence was sent to all dioceses on 26 September 2017.</p>

Res No	Resolution Text	Action
	<p>3. recommends that Anglicans engage with the Lutheran World Federation's focus: Liberated by God's Grace,";</p> <p>The General Synod:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) gives thanks to our heavenly Father for the Reformation of the sixteenth century, b) gives thanks to Almighty God that in the grace and mercy of God, the Church continues to be reformed, and seeks ever to be so, c) encourages members of the Anglican Church of Australia to join with our ecumenical partners; and especially the Lutheran Church of Australia, in commemorating this occasion, through shared worship, bible study and partnership in mission and ministry projects; d) affirms the importance of hearing God's Word in the common tongue, and the practice of regular public reading of the Holy Scriptures through authorised lectionaries; and e) affirms the regular liturgical expression of the wholesome and comforting doctrine that we are justified by faith only, by the merits and death of God's Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood; and f) recommends for study and discussion the biblical and spiritual reflections contained in Liberated by God's Grace: Anglican-Lutheran Reflections (LWF 2017), produced by the Anglican-Lutheran International Coordinating Committee (ALICC4). <p style="text-align: right;">7 September 2017</p>	
LITURGY		
R52/17	<p>Liturgy Resources</p> <p>Bishop Garry Weatherill moving, the Rev'd Elizabeth Smith seconding</p> <p>The General Synod, noting the changing contexts of mission for the Anglican Church of Australia, requests the Liturgy Commission to continue to develop texts in areas including -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Supplementary seasonal, thematic and other material for use with APBA Holy Communion orders; b. Supplementary services of the Word; c. Supplementary orders for baptism, confirmation, marriage, funerals, commissionings and other pastoral occasions; d. Supplementary prayers for various occasions; e. A new liturgical psalter; f. Additional prayers and liturgical resources drawing, upon consultation, more extensive Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander prayers, motifs and other media to reflect the indigenous culture of our nation's First Peoples. <p style="text-align: right;">7 September 2017</p>	<p>This matter was referred to the Liturgy Commission for ongoing action.</p> <p>The commission's report to General Synod is in Book 4.</p>

Res No	Resolution Text	Action
MISSION AND MINISTRY		
R26/17	<p>Mission to Seafarers</p> <p>Bishop John Stead moved, Bishop Gary Nelson seconding</p> <p>The General Synod –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Receives the report of the Mission to Seafarers. Recognises and seeks to include the celebration of Sea Sunday annually as a way to support the ministry of the Mission to Seafarers and highlight the plight of Seafarers. Calls on the Federal Government to take seriously its responsibility under the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 and fully fund land based welfare for seafarers in this country. Respectfully requests the Primate to convey the above terms of this resolution to the Prime Minister and Federal Transport Minister. <p style="text-align: right;">4 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent on 21 September 2017 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prime Minister Minister for Infrastructure and Transport.
R46/17	<p>Pioneer Ministry</p> <p>Bishop Stephen Pickard moving, Bishop Tim Harris seconding</p> <p>The General Synod:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> acknowledges that patterns of faith and belief in Australia are changing and that the Anglican Church of Australia's capacity to participate in God's mission is diminishing when too many congregations struggle with vitality and outreach; notes the ten-year anniversary of "Building the Mission-shaped Church" report in October 2006 and its call to build capacity for church planting and developing fresh expressions of church as strategies for mission and evangelism; commends dioceses for undertaking a diverse range of initiatives at revitalising parishes, planting new churches and pioneering different forms of church for people who live in a changing culture; recognises that the development of pioneer leaders capable of planting new churches or developing different forms of church remains problematic when little consensus about expectations for ordination and lay ministry exists nationally; requests that the Mission and Ministry Commission: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> convene a national network of pioneer leaders engaged in revitalisation, planting and fresh expressions to meet annually; convene a national research network to foster the theology and practice of evangelism; examine how community-based chaplaincy and pioneer ministry intersect to create fresh opportunities for mission in a changing society; 	<p>This matter was referred to the Mission and Ministry Commission.</p> <p>The commission's report to General Synod is in Book 4.</p>

Res No	Resolution Text	Action
	<p>iv. explore ways to provide for coaching and training support for lay and women pioneer leaders; and</p> <p>v. seek to engage the annual Bishops' Conference in discussion about mission and evangelism in a changing Australia.</p> <p>6 September 2017</p>	
R55/17 *	<p>Models of Ordained Local Ministry</p> <p>Bishop Stephen Pickard moving, Ms Sue Williams seconding</p> <p>The General Synod –</p> <p>a) receives the report of the Ministry Commission on Ordained Local Ministry (2 May 2017) and refer it to all Dioceses;</p> <p>b) encourages all Dioceses to consider the recommendations of the Ordained Local Ministry report as it relates to their local context, and</p> <p>c) requests the Ministry Commission to explore ways to facilitate further initiatives in Ordained Local Ministry.</p> <p>7 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent to all dioceses on 26 September 2017.</p> <p>This matter was referred to the Mission and Ministry Commission.</p> <p>The commission's report to General Synod is in Book 4.</p>
R56/17 *	<p>Clergy Professional Supervision</p> <p>Bishop Stephen Pickard moving, The Rev'd Dr Richard Trist seconding,</p> <p>That in the light of the increasing challenges facing clergy and lay ministers, and the heightened demand for the accountability of church workers, the General Synod:</p> <p>a) recommends that every Australian diocese takes seriously the benefits of professional supervision for its clergy and paid lay workers;</p> <p>b) supports the development of pilot projects in supervision of clergy and lay ministers particularly in rural and regional areas; and</p> <p>c) requests the Ministry Commission to undertake an audit of the extent and types of supervision already occurring across the Australian church, and develop national supervision guidelines; and</p> <p>d) requests the Ministry Commission to consider the inclusion of Clergy Professional Supervision as an integral component of a continuing professional development framework for clergy.</p> <p>7 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent to all dioceses on 26 September 2017.</p> <p>In November 2021 the Standing Committee endorsed the <i>Ministry Wellbeing and Development: Policy, Guidelines and Resources</i> developed by the Safe Ministry Commission and referred ongoing responsibility for questions relating to the professional supervision, professional development and performance appraisal of ordained and authorised lay ministers to the Mission and Ministry Commission. It also asked the commission to review the policy, guidelines and resources, including their scope, after three years in consultation with dioceses.</p> <p>The commission's report to General Synod is in Book 4.</p>

Res No	Resolution Text	Action
PUBLIC AFFAIRS		
R37/17	<p>UN Conference on Nuclear Disarmament</p> <p>Bishop Philip Huggins moving, Bishop Cameron Venables seconding</p> <p>That this General Synod urges our Australian Government to be a strong and positive contributor to the 2018 high level UN Conference on Nuclear Disarmament.</p> <p>Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and aware of current instabilities, we urge that this opportunity be taken to elevate the issue of nuclear disarmament and to build pressure on nuclear-weapon States to agree to specific nuclear disarmament proposals.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5 September 2017</p>	Correspondence was sent on 21 September 2017 to the Prime Minister.
R42/17	<p>Australian Freedom Network</p> <p>Bishop Matt Brain moving, Bishop Stephen Pickard seconding</p> <p>That this General Synod –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the establishment of the Australian Freedom Network (AFN) signed by the Primate on our behalf; 2. Commends those involved in the establishment of the Global Freedom Network of which the AFN is part; 3. Acknowledges the continuing reality of human trafficking and slavery, and laments the damage that this does to all involved as a distortion of what it means to be created in God's image; 4. Commits to personal and organisational behaviour that utilises tools such as the "Ethical Fashion Guide" and information regarding corporate supply chains to inform decisions surrounding consumption so that ethical choices can be made; and 5. Requests that the General Synod network, Anglican Schools Australia, consider how it may collaborate with the AFN to explore how Anglican Schools in Australia may be supported as they educate students to be ethical leaders in the Australian community. <p style="text-align: right;">6 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent on 21 September 2017 to the CEO, Anglican Schools Australia.</p> <p>Its report to General Synod is in Book 4.</p>
R49/17 *	<p>Condemnation and Apology for Domestic Violence</p> <p>Bishop Stephen Hale moving, The Ven Kara Hartley seconding</p> <p>The General Synod affirms that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All human beings, male and female, are created in the image of God, and are precious to him. So their value and dignity 	<p>The Standing Committee established the Family Violence Working Group to progress this and other resolutions.</p> <p>The report of the Family Violence Working Group is provided in Book 4.</p>

Res No	Resolution Text	Action
	<p>should be upheld by all, and rightly commands respect and protection.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. In following the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, Christian relationships, families, and households are to be characterised by mutual love, respect, compassion and a commitment to the wellbeing of one another. No one should feel unsafe in their own home. 3. The Bible condemns the misuse of power to control or exploit others, and rejects all abuse, whether physical, verbal, or otherwise expressed from one person towards others. Therefore domestic violence is sin, and Scripture should never be twisted to justify or excuse any abuse. 4. No victim of domestic abuse should ever be pressured to forgive, submit to, or restore a relationship with an offender. 5. Our churches are committed to being safe places for all people, especially children and vulnerable adults, and we will therefore work to protect those experiencing domestic abuse as a first priority. 6. We grieve with victims and survivors of domestic abuse, and pray for their healing and recovery. We give thanks for those women and men, clergy and lay people, who have faithfully supported, cared for and protected such victims in our churches and communities. 7. However, we also confess with deep shame that domestic abuse has occurred among those who attend our churches, and even among some in leadership. We apologise for those times our teaching and pastoral care has failed adequately to support victims and call perpetrators to account. 8. We urge Anglican dioceses around Australia to ensure they have policies and good practice guidelines in place, along with education and training, for responding well to situations involving domestic violence within our parishes and organisations. 9. We call on all institutions preparing people for ordained or lay ministry in the Anglican Church of Australia to review curriculum and content to ensure that material which may give rise to unhealthy views about power or the marginalisation of women, are addressed. 10. We also acknowledge our responsibility to work with the police, statutory child protection authorities and specialist agencies in responding to domestic abuse, including our legal obligations in reporting abuse. This should include consideration of growing the practical trauma programmes and advocacy undertaken by our Anglicare Australia agencies in this growing area of community need. 11. Finally, this Synod again upholds Faithfulness in Service as our national code of conduct for clergy and church workers, specifically its affirmations that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abuse of power is at the heart of many relationship problems in the Church and the community. In essence, abuse is one person's misuse of power over another. Sometimes abuse will be a one off event and at other times it will be a pattern of behaviour. (§6.2) 	<p>The Standing Committee established a new reference Commission – the Families and Culture Commission, to be ratified at GS18 – to progress the work of the working group.</p> <p>Correspondence was sent to all dioceses on 26 September 2017.</p>

Res No	Resolution Text	Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is important for clergy and church workers to be good citizens and obey the laws of the community, except where those laws conflict with Christian convictions. (§6.4) You are not to abuse your spouse, children or other members of your family. (§6.6) <p>7 September 2017</p>	
R54/17 *	<p>The Global Goals for Sustainable Development</p> <p>Bishop Sarah Macneil moving, Bishop Chris Jones seconding</p> <p>That, celebrating the success of the Millennium Development Goals and noting that the number of people living in extreme poverty has more than halved since 1990, the General Synod:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> welcomes the new Global Goals for Sustainable Development which aim to end poverty, protect the planet, and pursue the common good; encourages theological engagement with the goals, and missional commitment to their achievement; commends the work of Anglicare Australia, the Anglican Board of Mission, Anglican Overseas Aid, Anglican Aid and other Anglican organisations in striving to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals; renews our call for a fair share of Australia's national budget (0.7% of Gross National Income) to be dedicated to Overseas Development Assistance that aims to reduce poverty; and encourages each diocese, through its synod, to consider 0.7% of gross diocesan income, or some other meaningful proportion, to projects supporting the Sustainable Development Goals. <p>7 September 2017</p>	Correspondence was sent to all dioceses on 26 September 2017.
R60/17	<p>Refugees on Manus Island and Nauru</p> <p>The Very Rev'd Dr Peter Catt moving, The Rev'd Gillian Moses seconding,</p> <p>That this General Synod, in the divine providence and as a matter of human decency, recognising the exceptional circumstances, urges the Federal Government to resettle in Australia, by Christmas 2017, any refugees and asylum seekers still held on Manus Island and detained on Nauru as at 1 October 2017.</p> <p>That this General Synod urges the Federal Government to partner with the Churches as regards the healing and resettling of these refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>8 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent on 21 September 2017 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prime Minister Minister for Immigration and Border Protection.

Res No	Resolution Text	Action
R61/17	<p>Refugees from Syria and Iraq</p> <p>The Very Rev'd Peter Catt moving, The Rev'd Gillian Moses seconding,</p> <p>That this General Synod, recognising the exceptional circumstances, urges our Federal Government, as soon as possible, to make another allocation of 12,000 additional refugee places for people, especially Christians and other minorities, displaced by the ongoing conflict in Syria and Iraq.</p> <p>That, relatedly, this General Synod urges the Federal Government to increase funding to assist their integration into Australian society, including the provision of assistance and training to obtain employment opportunities.</p> <p>That this General Synod, from the experience of its members, affirms the life-saving consequences of the earlier extra 12,000 places, particular for Christians and other minorities who had been targeted by ISIS.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">8 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent on 21 September 2017 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prime Minister • Minister for Immigration and Border Protection.
R62/17 *	<p>Action to contribute to the Paris Climate Accord</p> <p>The Very Rev'd Dr Peter Catt moving, Dr Beth Heyde seconding,</p> <p>Noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the global groundswell of community and industry support for effective and rapid action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with the very challenging goal expressed in the 2015 Paris Climate Accord (to limit warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels); • the critical importance of community action, both in achieving that goal and in leading governments to act; • the Anglican Communion's fifth mark of mission: 'to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth', and • General Synod's Protection of the Environment Canon 2007 which required meaningful action and reporting by participating Dioceses on steps taken to reduce their environmental impact; <p>The General Synod</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. encourages Federal and State governments in Australia to act quickly to resolve perceived conflicts of interest between the wider community and commercial beneficiaries of fossil fuels, and show leadership in reducing greenhouse gas emissions through effective market mechanisms based on consistent expert recommendations. 2. requests each Diocese that has adopted the Protection of the Environment Canon 2007 to report to the Standing Committee of General Synod in 2018, and to the next meeting of General Synod, on progress in reducing their environmental impact (as required by s.3(1)), with particular 	<p>Correspondence was sent on 21 September 2017 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Ministers – ACT, NT • Premiers – NSW, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC, WA • Prime Minister • Minister for the Environment and Energy. <p>Correspondence was sent to all dioceses on 26 September 2017.</p> <p>Diocesan reports to General Synod on the response to the Protection of the Environment Canon 2002 are in Book 4.</p>

Res No	Resolution Text	Action
	<p>emphasis on energy efficiency in order to minimise contributions to global warming.</p> <p>3. encourages Dioceses to make use of standardised instruments such as the Parish Quick Carbon Self-Report instrument (available through the Public Affairs Commission) in order to develop an internal reporting mechanism.</p> <p>4. encourages Dioceses to report to the Standing Committee of General Synod in 2018, and to the next meeting of General Synod, on progress made towards divestment from fossil fuels or other measures to improve the ecological sustainability of Diocesan investments portfolios, as encouraged by motion 61/14 of General Synod.</p> <p>5. encourages Dioceses to engage in teaching and preaching on the theology of the environment.</p> <p>6. encourages Dioceses to consider the work of the Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC) towards spiritually-inspired stewardship in reducing greenhouse gas emissions: and to encourage participation in the work of this multi-faith network and consideration also of secular networks with similar aims to reduce global greenhouse emissions.</p> <p>8 September 2017</p>	
R63/17	<p>Assisted Dying</p> <p>Dr Denise Cooper-Clarke moving, Dr Karin Sowada seconding,</p> <p>The General Synod, recognising the continued push for laws concerning 'assisted dying' in a number of Australian States –</p> <p>a) notes Synod Resolution 81/10, affirming the sanctity of life; that life is God's gift and that our task is to protect, nurture and sustain life to the best of our ability;</p> <p>b) notes that in 1995, Synod expressed its opposition to euthanasia in response to legislation passed by the Northern Territory Parliament;</p> <p>c) opposes the legalisation of assisted dying;</p> <p>d) urges all Australian State and Territory governments to better resource palliative care services, including in regional and remote communities, Aboriginal communities and nursing homes, and to provide better training in palliative care for all health professionals; and</p> <p>e) recognising the vital contribution made by people of faith to public debate, urges Australian Anglicans to contact their MP's to express their views, particularly in NSW and Victoria where legislation will be debated this year.</p> <p>8 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent on 21 September 2017 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Ministers – ACT, NT • Premiers – NSW, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC, WA • Prime Minister.

Res No	Resolution Text	Action
R65/17	<p>Rohingya Muslim People</p> <p>Bishop Philip Huggins moving, The Very Rev'd Peter Catt</p> <p>That this General Synod noting with sadness today's reports about the suffering of the Rohingya Muslim people, prayerfully urges our government's further diplomatic initiative and provision of humanitarian assistance.</p> <p>8 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent on 21 September 2017 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prime Minister • Minister for Foreign Affairs.
R67/17	<p>The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse</p> <p>Mr Garth Blake moving, Archbishop Philip Freier seconding</p> <p>(a) gives thanks to God for the work of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse;</p> <p>(b) acknowledges the significant contribution of the Royal Commission in revealing the extent of child sexual abuse in institutional contexts, identifying appropriate redress to survivors, and recommending strategies to create child safe institutions;</p> <p>(c) expresses its sincere gratitude for the engagement of the Royal Commission with this Church, particularly through the attendance of the Chair, the Hon Peter McClellan AM at National Bishops Meetings, and the address of Mr Robert Fitzgerald AM at this General Synod;</p> <p>(d) prays for the Royal Commission as it completes its work, and that its lasting legacy will be an Australia in which children are safe, including in this Church.</p> <p>8 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent on 18 September 2017 to the Hon Justice Peter McClellan AM, Chair and Commissioner Robert Fitzgerald AM of the Royal Commission.</p>
SAFE MINISTRY		
R20/17 *	<p>Professional Standards Commission Report</p> <p>Bishop Greg Anderson moved, Ms Dianne Shay seconding</p> <p>The General Synod:</p> <p>(a) receives the report of the Professional Standards Commission;</p> <p>(b) recommends that each diocese:</p> <p>(i) publish a list of appropriately qualified people as professional supervisors for those in pastoral ministry and promote the use of their services;</p> <p>(ii) include a component for professional supervision in recommended financial packages for those in pastoral ministry;</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent to all dioceses on 26 September 2017.</p> <p>In May 2018 the Standing Committee asked the Safe Ministry Commission to advise it on the inclusion of a national approach to professional standards as a priority in the safe ministry work program, and the contribution it would make in responding to the Royal Commission's recommendations.</p>

	<p>(c) requests the Standing Committee to explore with the dioceses the development of a nationally consistent approach to professional standards legislation with particular reference to its application to child abuse;</p> <p>(d) requests the Safe Ministry Commission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) to measure and review the Church's progress towards being a child safe institution in the light of the elements identified in the report of the Royal Commission Creating Child Safe Institutions issued in July 2016; (ii) to analyse the final report of the Royal Commission and make recommendations as to actions to be taken; (iii) to develop an audio visual resource for use in dioceses that provides information to ministers, churchwardens and parish councils about the implementation of the Policy for Safe Ministry in a parish where there is a risk of sexual abuse by a Person of Concern and the issues raised by the participation of a Person of Concern in the life of a parish; (iv) to develop a resource for use in dioceses for providing care for families who have experienced premature death of a family member due to child sexual abuse; (v) to identify and recommend resources for use in dioceses for responding to family and domestic violence; (vi) to report to the 18th General Synod as to the progress of the Church in the development and implementation of safe ministry policies and structures. <p style="text-align: right;">4 September 2017</p>	<p>The Standing Committee has received regular reports from the Safe Ministry Commission on progress on its priority projects.</p> <p>The commission's report to General Synod is in Book 4.</p>
R21/17	<p>Safer Ministry</p> <p>Ms Dianne Shay moved, Bishop Greg Anderson seconded</p> <p>That the General Synod:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) welcomes resolutions 16.25, 16.26, 16.27 and 16.28 passed by the Anglican Consultative Council in April 2016 (ACC-16) and requests the General Secretary to convey this resolution to the Secretary General of the Anglican Communion and the Archbishop of Canterbury; (b) commends the National Council of Churches in Australia for organising the <i>Safe as Churches?</i> 7 and <i>the Safe as Churches?</i> 8 conferences on sexual misconduct and abuse in the Australian churches, and supports ongoing joint action by member churches and other participating Australian churches to promote the welfare and safety of all people within their communities. The General Synod requests the General Secretary to convey this resolution to the General Secretary of the National Council of Churches in Australia; (c) recommends that the Commonwealth Government promote a national system for child protection, and that State and Territory governments as a matter of urgency enact legislation for a national system for child protection that provides for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the mandatory reporting of child abuse by persons including ministers of religion to the police and the government child protection authorities; 	<p>Correspondence was sent on 21 September 2017 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archbishop of Canterbury • Secretary General, Anglican Communion • General Secretary, National Council of Churches in Australia • Chief Ministers – ACT, NT • Premiers – NSW, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC, WA • Prime Minister.

	<p>(ii) the screening of all persons seeking to work with children in a paid or voluntary capacity;</p> <p>(iii) the mutual recognition of clearances for persons to work with children in all States and Territories: and</p> <p>(d) requests that the General Secretary forward the terms of this resolution to the Prime Minister, the Premier or Chief Minister of each State and Territory and the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse forthwith.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4 September 2017</p>	
R43/17 *	<p>Safe Ministry Implementation</p> <p>Bishop Stephen Hale moving, Bishop Genieve Blackwell seconding</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That this Synod gives thanks for the unity of intent expressed by the unanimous resolution of this (Safe Ministry to Children) Canon. 2. That each Diocesan Bishop with the support of their Synod team commits to strive for the adoption of this Canon at the first Diocesan Synod after this General Synod with the hope that all 23 Dioceses will adopt the Canon. 3. That the General Synod embraces a Networking approach to the free exchange of resources and the drawing upon centres of excellence in safe ministry practice to enable the full implementation of the Canon by large and small Dioceses working together. <p style="text-align: right;">6 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent to all dioceses on 26 September 2017.</p> <p>At the date of this report 21 of the 23 dioceses had adopted the Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017.</p> <p>The Diocese of Rockhampton is considering adopting the canon. The Diocese of North West Australia is considering its own Safe Ministry Bill which will be developed in light of the canon and the Royal Commission recommendations.</p> <p>The Diocese of Sydney has adopted the canon but has not yet brought it into effect. The Diocese of Sydney is operating within the standards and guidelines of its Safe Ministry to Children Ordinance 2018.</p>
R45/17	<p>Working with Children Check Systems</p> <p>Mr Doug Marr moving, Mr Lachlan Bryant seconding</p> <p>General Synod calls upon the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments to develop an age appropriate Working with Children Check system or suitable alternative for those persons aged under 18 who work with children.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">6 September 2017</p>	<p>Correspondence was sent on 21 September 2017 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prime Minister • Chief Ministers – ACT, NT • Premiers – NSW, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC, WA.

Res No	Resolution Text	Action
R64/17	<p>Faithfulness in Service and National Consistency regarding professional standards</p> <p>Canon Sandy Grant moving, The Very Rev'd Kanishka Raffel seconding</p> <p>Synod notes repeated concern expressed for children and vulnerable persons other than children in our churches and organisations, and the need to protect both children and adults from abuse. Synod also notes the desirability of a nationally consistent approach to professional standards wherever possible.</p> <p>Therefore Synod requests the General Synod Standing Committee (GSSC) to report to the next session of General Synod on the status of Faithfulness in Service (in the current form approved by GSSC) as our national code of conduct in the various dioceses, specifically:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which dioceses have adopted the Faithfulness in Service without amendment as their code of conduct? 2. Which dioceses have adopted Faithfulness in Service with amendment as their code of conduct? 3. Which dioceses have used Faithfulness in Service, with or without amendment, in some manner other than as a code of conduct? 4. Which dioceses have a code of conduct other than Faithfulness in Service (with or without amendments)? <p>Synod also requests GSSC, in consultation with the Professional Standards Commission, to report to the next session of General Synod on preferred options for effectively ensuring that professional standards regarding the care and protection of adults, especially the vulnerable in our midst, are nationally consistent to the greatest extent possible.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">8 September 2017</p>	<p>In April 2020 the Standing Committee received a report on diocesan adoption of the November 2016 version of Faithfulness in Service, including adoption with no amendments, adoption with amendments, and adoption of a different code of conduct.</p> <p>This information is provided in this report in the section Summary of Business of the Standing Committee From September 2017 to March 2022.</p>
STANDING COMMITTEE		
R25/17 *	<p>Equal Representation of Women</p> <p>The Rev'd Tracy Lauersen moving, Ms Audrey Mills seconding</p> <p>The General Synod -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes with disappointment that the resolution of the 2007 fourteenth Session of General Synod in regard to the equal representation of Women on General Synod Bodies (GS85/07) has not been effectively implemented, with equal representation of women on only three of the General Synod's current 27 Bodies. 2. Requests the next General Synod Standing Committee to <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Re-commit to the principle of equal representation of women in membership of its bodies and to ensure that this 	<p>Correspondence was sent to all dioceses on 26 September 2017.</p> <p>In May 2018 the Standing Committee established a committee to prepare policies and procedures for its consideration.</p> <p>In May 2019 the Standing Committee approved the Gender Balance in Membership of General Synod Bodies policy and established the Nominations and Appointments Committee to review and make recommendations on all</p>

	<p>goal is met the Standing Committee agree to a target that all General Synod bodies (General Synod commissions, task forces and working groups) have 50% equal representation of women in their membership by 1st December 2019 wherever legislatively and practically possible.</p> <p>b) Apply the principle of equal representation of women in membership of organisations where Standing Committee make appointments to other bodies wherever this is legislatively and practically possible.</p> <p>c) Review annually the progress of this target.</p> <p>3. Encourages each diocese to adopt the target of 50% equal representation of women in elections and appointments wherever legislatively and practically possible and to report back to the next General Synod.</p> <p>4. Requests Standing Committee to report progress on this matter to the 18th Session of General Synod.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4 September 2017</p>	<p>vacancies on and candidates for General Synod bodies.</p> <p>The policy requires gender balance reporting at each Standing Committee meeting.</p> <p>A report on progress towards the policy targets is provided in the report on Summary of Business of the Standing Committee from September 2017 to March 2022.</p>
R36/17	<p>Church Law Commission Membership</p> <p>The Hon Richard Refshauge moving, Bishop John Parkes seconding</p> <p>That having regard to:</p> <p>(a) The history of clergy membership on the Church Law Commission;</p> <p>(b) The fact that Church Law matters can affect the clergy in a way different to the way it affects the laity;</p> <p>(c) The desirability of theological considerations being taken into account and informing Church Law,</p> <p>the Primate, when appointing members to the Church Law Commission on the advice of the Standing Committee under section 14 of the Strategic Issues, Commissions, Task Forces and Networks Canon 1998, give active consideration to the appointment of at least one member of the Clergy to the Church Law Commission.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5 September 2017</p>	<p>In September 2017 the Standing Committee delegated three of its members to review the membership General Synod bodies and make recommendations on vacancies or new appointments in the context of this resolution and others.</p> <p>In May 2018 the Standing Committee appointed the Rev'd Gillian Moses.</p>
R39/17	<p>Report Content Policy</p> <p>The Rev'd Gavin Poole moving, The Rev'd Paul Hunt seconding</p> <p>Synod requests Standing Committee to consider writing a policy that requires minimum mandatory information to be included in reports to Synod from commissions, task forces and working groups. Such information should include:</p> <p>(a) Expenses incurred compared to budget and reasons for variation;</p> <p>(b) Frequency and attendance at meetings;</p> <p>(c) Membership changes; and</p> <p>(d) Synod resolutions addressed by the group.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5 September 2017</p>	<p>The General Synod Office developed a template addressing these minimum mandatory requirements to be used by General Synod commissions, task forces, networks and working groups in their annual reports to the Standing Committee.</p> <p>General Synod bodies reporting to GS18 in Book 4 were asked to include this information in their reports.</p>

R47/17	<p>Viability and Structures Steering Group Report to General Synod</p> <p>Bishop Andrew Curnow AM moving, Bishop John Stead seconding</p> <p>The General Synod</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Recognises that all growth will come through faithful, action trusting in God's enlivening work; 2) Notes that the precise structural changes needed to fit the Anglican Church in Australia for the future are not yet known; 3) Notes the importance of children in the ministry of the Lord Jesus and requests each Diocese to construct a holistic ministry and mission plan for children and young people in conjunction with other Dioceses in their Province. 4) Requests Standing Committee to report to General Synod possible concrete structural changes that will aid the provision of ministry and the extension of mission across Australia noting particularly the role and requirements of Pioneer Ministry and theological formation for lay and ordained ministry; 5) Receives the report of the Viability and Structures Steering Group and endorses the recommendations contained in the report as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to help ensure we develop the visionary church leaders required by the future, Bishops (and, ideally, next generation Bishops) should be intentionally equipped and enabled through the establishment of a holistic continuing leadership development program. • to improve the quality and consistency of knowledge and best practices across the Church, the apparatus should be established to facilitate collaboration, including the sharing and communication of ideas, resources and information. • to enhance the missional effectiveness of the Church, each Diocese is requested to develop a Mission Action Plan, including timelines and resource requirements for implementation, and report back to the Standing Committee. • because it is essential that necessary future change is constructively considered on a timely basis, the Bishops are asked to implement a process – to be endorsed at the first national Bishops' meeting following General Synod – through which, on a regular basis, they would collectively assess any need for significant change and seek to agree how to effect the necessary change. • to help ensure the implementation of the recommendations above, the Standing Committee should seek, receive, review and approve sensible resource and funding applications for each of these recommendations. 6) Asks the Standing Committee and the House of Bishops to review and facilitate the progress of implementation of these recommendations and present proposals, with actionable plans, to a meeting of Standing Committee in 2018. <p style="text-align: right;">6 September 2017</p>	<p>In December 2017 the Standing Committee established the Viability and Structures Working Group to progress this matter.</p> <p>Following receipt of the working group's report in November 2018, the Standing Committee rescinded the resolution establishing the working group, and established the Viability and Structures Advisory Group to progress this and other matters.</p> <p>In November 2021, following several reports by the advisory group, the Standing Committee disbanded the group.</p> <p>The group's report to General Synod is in Book 4.</p>
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R50/17	<p>Family Violence Study</p> <p>The Rev'd Tracy Lauersen moving, Bishop Genieve Blackwell seconding,</p> <p>That this General Synod requests the General Synod Standing Committee to investigate and if appropriate commission (using contingencies or other available sources of funding) a professionally designed and independent research study into the nature and prevalence of family violence prevalence within the Australian Anglican Church population. The General Synod Standing Committee could also explore the feasibility and practicality of inviting other denominations to consider participation in any such independent research.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">7 September 2017</p>	<p>The Standing Committee established the Family Violence Working Group to progress this and other resolutions.</p> <p>The Standing Committee approved funding for the National Anglican Family Violence Research Project which was finalised and the research outcomes were publicly released in June 2021.</p> <p>The Standing Committee established a new reference Commission – the Families and Culture Commission to be ratified at GS18 – to progress the responsibilities of the working group.</p>
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SUMMARY OF BUSINESS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE FROM SEPTEMBER 2017 TO MARCH 2022

INTRODUCTION

This section provides an overview of the business conducted by the Standing Committee since the Seventeenth Session of General Synod (GS17).

STRATEGIC ISSUES

At its December 2017 meeting the Standing Committee broke into small groups to review the GS17 resolutions and discuss the strategic priorities arising from them.

Three strategic priorities were identified.

Family violence

In response to resolutions R23/17 *Domestic Violence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities*, R49/17 *Condemnation and Apology for Domestic Violence* and R50/17 *Family Violence Study* the Standing Committee established the Family Violence Working Group to:

- investigate a professionally designed, independent research study into the nature and prevalence of family violence within the Australian Anglican Church population
- establish the nature and extent of current family violence policies, pastoral care frameworks and training modules across dioceses
- develop a best practice model policy and pastoral care framework for responding well to situations involving family violence within our parishes and organisations
- recommend curriculum content and/or guidelines to address unhealthy views about power or the marginalisation of women and other survivors of family violence.

A key outcome of the working group was the National Anglican Family Violence Research Project.

The Standing Committee resolved to publicly release the top line results of the research project and committed to continuing to resource this issue. In November 2021 it endorsed and circulated to all dioceses the Ten Commitments for prevention of family violence.

In March 2022 the Standing Committee established a new reference Commission, the Families and Cultures Commission, to examine questions that relate to family violence and to make recommendations to the Standing Committee on matters relating to family violence affecting members of the Church, violence prevention and the well-being of families and women. The General Synod will be asked to ratify the establishment of the Commission in

accordance with the requirements of the *Strategic Issues, Commissions, Task Forces and Networks Canon 1998*.

The Family Violence Working Group's report to General Synod is in Book 4.

Gender balance in membership of General Synod bodies

In May 2018 the Standing Committee appointed five of its members to form a committee to prepare policies and procedures to meet the gender equalisation target outlined in R25/17 *Equal Representation of Women*.

In May 2019 the Standing Committee approved the resulting *Gender Balance in Membership of General Synod Bodies policy*. Appendix 1 to this Section 4.

In developing the policy, the committee formed a view that equal representation does not necessarily require a strict 50:50 balance on every committee. Most Synod bodies have less than 10 members, so the difference of a single member either way can exaggerate the statistical difference.

To pursue the principle of equal representation, the policy sets a target of 40:40:20 gender representation: 40 per cent women, 40 per cent men, and 20 per cent discretionary, with a commitment to achieving a gender balance overall.

The policy applies to membership of all General Synod bodies, whether members are appointed by Standing Committee or the Primate on the recommendation of the Standing Committee, or elected by General Synod.

The policy established a Nominations and Appointments Committee as a permanent Standing Committee sub-committee. It has three members drawn from the Standing Committee membership.

Where the policy applies, vacancies on General Synod bodies are referred to the committee. A woman must be nominated for any vacancy on a General Synod body if women comprise less than 40 percent of the current membership. The committee reviews any nominations provided and may identify additional nominees to meet gender balance and diversity targets. It then provides advice to the Standing Committee.

The policy requires reporting to each Standing Committee meeting and General Synod session on the representation of women on General Synod bodies elected by General Synod, or appointed by the Standing Committee.

The committee is to develop and implement a process to identify and encourage women to stand for elected positions at General Synod. It is also required to report to each General Synod session on the application of the policy.

Nominations and Appointments Committee's report to General Synod

The table below shows the gender balance on General Synod bodies at December 2021

Group Name	Females	Males	Female ratio
Family Violence Working Group	4	1	80%
Anglican Consultative Council (ACC)	2	1	67%
Nominations and Appointments Committee	2	1	67%
Public Affairs Commission	5	4	56%
Ecumenical Relations Commission	4	4	50%
Episcopal Standards Board - Panel for	6	6	50%
Refugee and Migrant Working Group	2	2	50%
Safe Ministry Commission	4	4	50%
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council (NATSIAC)	15	16	48%
Australian College of Theology - Council of	11	13	46%
Church Law Commission	4	5	44%
Anglican Representative (National Redress Scheme) Limited	3	4	43%
Special Tribunal Panel	3	4	43%
Episcopal Standards Commission	2	3	40%
Legal Assistance Committee	2	3	40%
Mission and Ministry Commission	4	6	40%
The Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation (The Corporate Trustees)	2	3	40%
Standing Committee of General Synod	13	19	40%
Viability and Structures Advisory Group	2	3	40%
Panel of Electors of the Primate	11	19	37%
Executive Committee of Standing Committee	3	6	33%
Investment Committee	1	2	33%
Liturgy Commission	3	6	33%
Broughton Publishing	2	5	29%
Anglican Board of Mission - Australia Ltd (ABM)	2	6	25%
Diocesan Financial Advisory Task Force	2	6	25%
Doctrine Commission	2	7	22%
Defence Force Board	1	5	17%
Long Service Leave Board	1	6	14%
Appellate Tribunal	0	5	0%
Audit Committee	0	5	0%
Appellate Tribunal - Board of Assessors	0	7	0%
Remuneration Committee	0	2	0%
Totals	118	189	38%

In Summary - of the total 33 General Synod bodies reported:

- 19 have 40% or more women members
- 4 have between 30-49%
- 4 have between 20-29%
- 2 have between 1-19%
- 4 have no women members.

Just over half (57 per cent) of bodies meet the target of 40% female membership. Since the first report against the policy in November 2019 there has been a slow increase in the female membership of all General Synod bodies, from 35 per cent to 38 per cent.

The membership of 9 of the 33 bodies listed above is confirmed by election at General Synod. These bodies have been highlighted in blue.

Only one of these elected bodies, the General Synod Standing Committee, currently has more than 40 percent women members. However, this has been achieved by the appointment of women to fill vacancies as they have arisen since the last session of General Synod. There were less than 40 percent women members elected at GS17.

Four of these elected bodies have less than 20 per cent women members:

- the Defence Force Board has two female members. The board has been diligent in nominating female candidates when vacancies arise, but initially an all male Board was elected at GS17. All board positions are due for election at GS18.
- the Long Service Leave Board has one female member. All members elected at GS16 and GS17 were male. The only female was appointed by the board following a vacancy. Half of the board's positions are due for election at GS18.
- the Appellate Tribunal has no female members following the recent resignation of its only female member. Three positions are due for election at GS18.
- the Appellate Tribunal – Board of Assessors has no female members. All positions are due for election at GS18.

In November 2021 the Nominations and Appointments Committee recommended the retention of the 40:40:20 target to the Standing Committee. The committee agreed to promote the gender balance policy to GS18 members when nominating candidates for election.

Viability and structures

The Standing Committee established the Viability and Structures Working Group to develop proposals relating to R47/17 *Viability and Steering Group Report*.

Following receipt of the working group's report in November 2018, the Standing Committee rescinded the resolution establishing the working group, and established the Viability and Structures Advisory Group to progress this and other matters.

In November 2021, following several reports by the advisory group, the Standing Committee disbanded the group.

The group's report to General Synod is in Book 4.

GOVERNANCE

Sessions of General Synod

The Standing Committee reviewed the operations of GS17 and confirmed arrangements for GS18. Planning and arrangements for GS18 were modified a number of times in response to the impact of COVID-19. The session, initially confirmed for June 2020, was deferred to May 2021 and then again to May 2022. Government health directives and State border controls

were continually monitored to ensure that GS18 could be conducted to allow all eligible members to fully participate.

The Standing Committee monitored the implementation of resolutions and legislation passed at GS17 through reporting of the commissions, task forces, networks, working groups and other General Synod bodies.

Policy

The Standing Committee amended the Standing Committee Executive Committee Terms of Reference in relation to the number of members – an increase from 5 elected members to 6 elected members.

The Standing Committee established or revised the following General Synod policies:

- General Synod Qantas Business Rewards Policy – established as a cost saving measure for persons travelling on behalf of the General Synod.
- Legal Assistance Policy – revised in relation to granting legal assistance for the purposes of section 41(3) of the Special Tribunal Canon 2007, section 32(2) of the Episcopal Standards Canon 2007 and section 32(2) of the Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) Canon 2017.
- Investment Committee - Risk Appetite Statement – revised to incorporate editorial changes.
- Investment Committee - Policy Statement – revised to incorporate editorial changes, and further revised following changes to management arrangements for the investment of General Synod funds.
- Gender Balance in Membership of General Synod Bodies policy – established in response to General Synod resolutions.
- General Synod Office Cybersecurity Policy and Procedures – established as part of risk management in response to increased cybersecurity risk across organisations locally and internationally.
- Protocol for Making Public Statements – revised to clarify the authority of General Synod Reference Commissions when making submissions to Commonwealth parliamentary committees and making public statements.
- Ministry Wellbeing and Development: Policy, Guidelines and Resources – recommended by the Safe Ministry Commission in response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse recommendations and various Standing Committee resolutions.
- General Synod Safe Ministry Training Policy – established to comply with the Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017.

Reporting

The Standing Committee received annual and other reports required under the provisions of the *Financial Protection Canon 1995* and the *Strategic Issues, Commissions, Task Forces and Networks Canon 1998*.

General Synod Office

The Executive Committee of the Standing Committee received reports from the General Secretary on the operation and resourcing of the General Synod Office.

The Standing Committee approved a recommendation to extend the lease in the current office at 189 Kent Street, Sydney from 2022 to 2025.

ANGLICAN COMMUNION**Events**

The Standing Committee received reports from delegates attending the following Anglican Communion events:

Primates' Meeting – Canterbury, October 2017

Archbishop Philip Freier, Primate

Anglican Communion Safe Church Commission – London, October 2017, Sri Lanka, May 2022, London, July 2022

Mr Garth Blake AM SC

Anglican Communion Inter Faith Commission – Cairo, February 2018

The Rev'd Dr Ruwan Palapathwala

The Episcopal Church 79th General Convention – International visitor program – Austin, July 2018

Ms Anne Hywood, General Secretary

Council of Churches in East Asia – Bishops' Meeting and associated programs – Korea, September 2018

Archbishop Philip Freier, Primate, Mrs Joy Freier, Dr Rose Elu and the Rev'd Jacob Legarda

Anglican Bishops to the Forces Conference 2018 – Toronto, June 2018

Bishop Ian Lambert, Bishop to the Defence Force

Seventeenth Anglican Consultative Council and Provincial Secretaries Meeting – Hong Kong, April 2018

Archbishop Philip Freier, Primate, Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy, the Ven Canon Arthur Copeman, Mr Garth Blake AM SC, Ms Anne Hywood, General Secretary

Council of the Church of East Asia General Assembly – Kota Kinabalu, October 2019

Archbishop Geoffrey Smith, the Rev'd Jonathan Lopez, the Rev'd Jacob Legarda, Ms Carren Walker and Mr Cameron Burr

Primates' Meeting – Jordan, January 2020

A Primates' Meeting will be held in London in March 2022

Archbishop Geoffrey Smith, Primate

Lambeth Conference

The Lambeth Conference was to be held at Lambeth Palace in July 2020. As a result of travel restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic it was deferred to July 2022.

The Standing Committee noted the allocation of a bursary from the Lambeth Conference organisers to cover the full cost of attendance by the National Aboriginal Bishop and spouse.

Provincial contributions

In 2019 the Anglican Communion Office (ACO) proposed an increase to the Anglican Church of Australia's financial contribution to the Anglican Communion which proposed a doubling of the contribution over a three year period. The new funding model had been approved at ACC-17.

Mr David White, Chief Operating Officer, ACO visited Sydney to consult on the funding model with Ms Anne Hywood, General Secretary, Mr Keith Stephens, General Synod Treasurer, and the Ven Canon Arthur Copeman, the clergy representative on the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC) in March 2020.

The ACO has not implemented the revised funding model.

Archbishop of Canterbury visit

In 2019, planning commenced for Archbishop Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Welby to visit Australia in October 2020. The visit was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and has now been confirmed for October 2022.

DOCTRINE

The Standing Committee referred the following issues to the Doctrine Commission. and received reports:

- *Advice on the implications of the Marriage Amendment (Definitions and Religious Freedoms) Act 2017*
- *Marriage, Same-sex Marriage and the Anglican Church of Australia: Essays from the Doctrine Commission*
- Anglican Lutheran Dialogue Group document *Perspectives on Mission*.

The Standing Committee authorized the publication and distribution of 300 copies of the book - *Marriage, Same-sex Marriage and the Anglican Church of Australia: Essays from the Doctrine Commission* for distribution to the members of the Eighteenth Session of the General Synod. The distribution of the books to dioceses took place in 2019 before the session planned in 2020 was deferred. The book is available on the General Synod website at <https://anglican.org.au/our-work/doctrine-theology/>

The Doctrine Commission's report to General Synod is in Book 4.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Standing Committee referred the following issues to the Public Affairs Commission and received reports:

- Modern Slavery
- Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia.
- Religious Discrimination Bills 2019, 2020 and 2021

Matters relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples were also referred to the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council, which worked in consultation with the commission.

The Standing Committee noted the submissions made by the Public Affairs Commission to parliamentary committees and government agencies and authorised the publication of them on the General Synod website at <https://anglican.org.au/our-work/social-issues-public-affairs/>

The Public Affairs Commission's report to General Synod is in Book 4.

MISSION AND MINISTRY

The Standing Committee referred the following issues to the Mission and Ministry Commission and received reports:

- self-sustaining ministry and ordained local ministry
- proposal for a national mission conference titled 'Christ's Mission is in our Neighbourhood'
- proposal to appoint a National Mission Facilitator
- professional supervision, professional development and performance appraisal of ordained and authorised lay ministers.

The Mission and Ministry Commission's report to General Synod is in Book 4.

CHURCH LAW

The Standing Committee referred the following issues to the Church Law Commission and received reports:

- advice on the implications of the *Marriage Amendment (Definitions and Religious Freedoms) Act 2017* (Cwth)
- advice on the status of the Primate's mandate when a session of General Synod is deferred
- advice on amendments to the Episcopal Standards Commission – Protocol for Incurring Expenditure.
- Advice on Episcopal Standards Commission – Reporting Obligations

- advice on possible legislative changes to enable the Primate to license the national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander bishops, and the implications and consequences.

The Church Law Commission's report to General Synod is in Book 4.

Assent or adoption of canons

At each meeting the Standing Committee received reports on diocesan assent or adoption of canons passed at GS15, GS16 and GS17. See Section 11 of this report.

GS18 legislative program

The Standing Committee has endorsed a legislative program of bills for canons and rules, prepared or reviewed by the Church Law Commission, for presentation to GS18. The bills are presented in Book 1.

LITURGY

The Standing Committee referred the following issues to the Liturgy Commission and received reports:

- attendance at the International Anglican Liturgical Consultation meetings in 2017 and 2019
- creation of a liturgical outline for a service of lament in relation to family violence, in consultation with the Family Violence Working Group.

The Liturgy Commission's report to General Synod is in Book 4.

The Standing Committee asked the commission to coordinate the worship program at GS18.

The Standing Committee made funds available to subsidise the attendance of commission representatives at the International Anglican Liturgical Consultation meetings in 2017 and 2019.

In March 2022, the Standing Committee approved and funded a pilot project to develop a new Liturgical Psalter for the Anglican Church of Australia. A report will be provided to the Standing Committee after 12 months.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

The Standing Committee endorsed the following nominees to join the Anglican delegation at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women:

- 2018 – Ms Ruth Brigden (Northern Territory) UNCSW62
- 2020 – Ms Robyn Boosey (Melbourne) UNCSW64

The 2020 session was not held due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Robyn Boosey participated in the online session of UNCSW65 in 2021.

Reports including the communiqués from these events were distributed to dioceses for review and action as required.

SAFE MINISTRY

The Safe Ministry Commission has had a large remit following the release of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse final report. These matters are covered in detail in the commission's report in Book 4.

In November 2021, the Standing Committee recommended that a motion be prepared for consideration at GS18, seeking to establish a review of the safe ministry compliance, audit and reporting obligations of dioceses, required by the Safe Ministry Children Canon 2017, in light of developing child safety regulatory requirements of State and Territory governments.

This motion is included in the report of the Safe Ministry Commission in Book 4.

In response to a resolution at GS17 on National Consistency in Faithfulness in Service (GS64/17) the Standing Committee received a report on the adoption and variation of Faithfulness in Service as a code of conduct in the Anglican Church of Australia. The prescribed form of [Faithfulness in Service](#) can be accessed on the General Synod website.

A report on the status of the *adoption or amendment of Faithfulness in Service by each diocese* is provided at Appendix 2 to this Section 4.

National Redress Scheme

The Commonwealth Government established a National Redress Scheme for survivors of institutional child sexual abuse. The Standing Committee supported the establishment of the Anglican Representative (National Redress Scheme) Limited (ARNRSL) to facilitate Anglican dioceses, schools and agencies participating in the National Redress Scheme.

ARNRSL has been set up as an independent incorporated entity, limited by guarantee, and provides a single point of engagement with the Scheme Operator, enabling member Anglican entities to join as part of a national group.

The Commonwealth Government required that a \$10 million bank guarantee be provided by ARNRSL in order to participate in the National Redress Scheme. In May 2018, the Standing Committee authorised arrangements for the General Synod to provide a subordinated loan for that amount to ARNRSL. ARNRSL has placed these funds on deposit with Westpac as security for a guarantee provided to the Commonwealth Government for a period of 18 years. This timeframe has accommodated for a 2-year extension on the 10-year duration of the National Redress Scheme, plus an additional 6 year debt limitation period.

ARNRSL's report to General Synod is in Book 4.

In September 2018 the Executive Committee of the Standing Committee endorsed the application by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia for membership of the Anglican Representative (National Redress Scheme) Limited to become a participating

institution in the National Redress Scheme. The membership application was confirmed by resolution of the Corporate Trustees of the Anglican Church of Australia.

National Register

The Standing Committee approved and received annual audits of the National Register's operation and authorised expenditure on software and security enhancements. A full report is provided in Section 6.

The Standing Committee has authority to amend the protocols attached to the National Register Canon 2007 and develop policies and procedures in relation to its responsibilities under the protocols.

The Standing Committee has actioned the following protocols:

- Protocol for Access to and Disclosure of Information
Amended in November 2020 by SC2020/2/41

Amendments to National Register protocols are to be tabled at the next General Synod session. The amended protocol is published at Section 6.

In November 2021 the Standing Committee established a National Register Working Group, to include membership of the Safe Ministry Commission and the Directors of Professional Standards Network to identify and address strategic and operational issues associated with the effective functioning of the National Register and report to the Standing Committee.

EPISCOPAL STANDARDS

The Standing Committee amended the Episcopal Standards Protocol (General) 2011 to accommodate provisions of the Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) Canon 2017.

The Standing Committee received annual reports from the Episcopal Standards Commission and reports from the General Secretary on approval for the commission to incur expenditure in relation to its duties.

The Standing Committee supported a recommendation of the commission to present amendments to the Episcopal Standards Canon 2007 at GS18. The Standing Committee supported the preparation of a *Bill for the Episcopal Standards Investigations Amendment Canon 2022* to include an additional circumstance where, in the commission's opinion the allegations of examinable conduct have been dealt with adequately, or could be dealt with adequately, under a complaints or grievance process in force in the relevant diocese. The bill is in Book 1.

GENERAL SYNOD BODIES**Anglican Board of Mission – ABM**

The Standing Committee was consulted on proposed amendments to the constitution of the Anglican Board of Mission.

The report of the Anglican board of Mission is provided in Book 4.

Australian College of Theology – ACT

The Standing Committee has responded to a request from the Australian College of Theology (ACT) to approve amendments to the ACT constitution which will change the membership structure of the organization and impact the influence of the Anglican Church of Australia. At the time of writing this report, discussions with the ACT were still underway.

The report of the Australian College of Theology is provided in Book 4.

Broughton Publishing

The Standing Committee authorised Broughton Publishing under section 5 of the *Liturgy Publishing Canon 2001* to publish a national directory of clergy, parishes, organisations and dioceses, similar to the independently published Australian Anglican Directory, which had ceased publication.

The report of Broughton Publishing is provided in Book 4.

Defence Force Board

The Standing Committee received regular reports from the Defence Force Board and circulated them to dioceses for information.

The Standing Committee welcomed the consecration and installation of Bishop Grant Dibden as the Bishop to the Defence Force in March 2020.

The report of the Defence Force Board is provided in Book 4.

Long Service Leave Fund

Each year the Standing Committee has confirmed the annual rates for the Notional Stipend, Sabbatical Allowance and participant contribution rate.

In November 2021, the Standing Committee supported the Long Service Leave Board's proposal to amend the *Long Service Leave Canon 2010* to facilitate the payment of entitlements to participants on death and confirmation of a terminal illness. A *Bill for the Long Service Leave (Sabbatical Allowance Amendment) Canon 2022* has been prepared for presentation at GS18. The bill is presented in Book 1.

The report of the Long Service Leave Board is provided in Book 4.

National Home Mission Fund (NHMF)

The Standing Committee Executive Committee is responsible for the management of the fund and disbursement of grants.

Since 2015 there has been no advertising or promotion of the fund. It continues to attract donations from parishes and individuals at a reducing rate.

The National Home Mission Fund has disbursed the following grants to dioceses:

Year	Income	Grants	
2017	\$29,500	\$58,800	Each year grants have been distributed equally to the Dioceses of Riverina, Willochra, North West Australia and the Northern Territory
2018	\$28,200	\$21,450	
2019	\$13,700	\$22,000	
2020	\$11,600	\$17,088	

The Standing Committee received a report on the disaster relief fund established through the National Home Mission Fund which has Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. The Standing Committee asked the Executive Committee to investigate the reactivation of the disaster relief fund. The Executive Committee resolved to defer further work until the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) has finalised consultation on draft legislation to reduce red tape and increase the transparency of the charity sector. Consideration will then be given to whether the NHMF has the capacity to manage a disaster relief fund given the reporting and compliance obligations.

NATSIAC (National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Council)

Standing Committee received reports from NATSIAC and supported its position on the following issues:

- Statement of the Heart and recognition of first nations people in the Australian Constitution
- Development of a preamble and formal covenant relationship in the Anglican church of Australia Constitution

and encouraged NATSIAC to work with the Public Affairs Commission in these areas.

Standing Committee requested the Family Violence Working Group to work with NATSIAC in response to the General Synod resolution (GS23/17) on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities

Standing Committee responded to requests from NATSIAC related to ongoing funding of NATSIAC activities and the ministry of the National Aboriginal Bishop and provided project funding for the 'Story of the beginnings of NATSIAC' project.

The report of NATSIAC is provided for in Book 4.

ECUMENICAL AND INTERFAITH

The Standing Committee appointed persons to represent the Anglican Church of Australia at ecumenical forums and events, on the recommendation of the Ecumenical Relations Commission, and received reports from attendees.

Attendance at International Ecumenical Events

World Council of Churches Central Committee – Geneva, June, 2018, June 2022

Archbishop Phillip Aspinall AC

Christian Conference of Asia – Asian Ecumenical Youth Assembly – Indonesia, April 2018

The Rev'd Jonathan Lopez

World Council of Churches – 56th Meeting of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs – Bali, Indonesia, February 2019

Mrs Ann Skamp

World Council of Churches – Christian Conference of Asia – Thailand, May 2019

Mrs Ann Skamp (as a member of the WCC Commission of the Churches on International Affairs)

World Council of Churches – Christian Conference of Asia – Asian Ecumenical Women's Assembly – Taiwan, November 2019

Bishop Geneive Blackwell

World Council of Churches – 57th Meeting of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs – Brisbane, Australia, February 2020

Mrs Ann Skamp

World Council of Churches 11th Assembly 2021 (deferred) – Germany, September 2022

Archbishop Geoffrey Smith, Archbishop Phillip Aspinall AC, the Rev'd Canon Richard Tutin, Ms Ruth Brigden

International Commission for Anglican-Orthodox Theological Dialogue (ICAOTD) – Malta 2017, Cyprus 2018 and Canterbury 2019

Archbishop Phillip Aspinall AC

National Ecumenical Activities

The Standing Committee appointed representatives of the Anglican Church of Australia to national ecumenical bodies.

Australian Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialogue (AUSTARC)

The Standing Committee recommended to the Primate that Bishop Brad Billings be appointed as Anglican Co-Chair of AUSTARC and that bishop Michael Stead be appointed as a member.

Anglican Lutheran International Coordinating Committee

The Standing Committee received reports from Bishop Tim Harris as Co-Chair of this Committee.

NCCA – National Council of Churches*NCCA LTD*

The Executive Committee of the Standing Committee endorsed the nomination of Ms Anne Hywood for re-election as a Director of NCCA Ltd in October 2021.

National Council of Churches in Australia (NCCA) Forum 2019 Delegates – Canberra, June 2019.

The Standing Committee confirmed the delegates to attend the NCCA 2019 Forum and received a report from the attendees including a copy of the National Council of Australia Strategic Roadmap 2019-2022 which was confirmed at the Forum.

- Archbishop Philip Freier, Primate
- Archbishop Phillip Aspinall AC
- The Rev'd Daryl McCullough
- Mrs Ann Skamp
- Ms Anne Hywood

The NCCA invited the Rev'd Dr Jane Lee-Barker, Diocese of Willochra and ERC member to coordinate the worship program.

The Standing Committee noted the retirement of Bishop Philip Huggins from the role of President of the National Council of Churches in October 2021.

FINANCE

The Standing Committee and its Executive monitored and approved financial reports and budgets based on the forecasts approved at the Seventeenth Session of General Synod.

The Standing Committee Financial Report is provided in detail in Book 3.

General Synod Assessments Task Force

The Standing Committee established a General Synod Assessments Task Force, chaired by Mr Keith Stephens, Treasurer, in May 2020. The task force was asked to investigate equitable ways to distribute the costs of the Anglican Church of Australia between dioceses.

The task force consulted with dioceses in January 2021 on options for changes to the process for calculating diocesan assessments payable to the General Synod. The task force provided its final recommendations to the Standing Committee in April 2021 and advised that there was not broad consensus or acceptance of a change to the assessment model.

The Standing Committee accepted the task force's recommendation that a review of the assessment model be set aside and the task force go into recess.

The report of the General Synod Assessments Task Force, including its terms of reference, is provided in detail in Book 4.

GENERAL SYNOD OFFICE

Staff Members

General Secretary	Ms Anne Hywood
Finance and Operations Manager	Ms Bernadette Bateman
Executive Officer	Ms Kim Kemp
Safe Ministry and Redress Manager	Ms Meenal Selvaratnam
Administrative Assistant	Mrs Minna Magoulas
Management Accountants	Mr Jofrey Valendez
Accountant	Mrs Renee Tudehope (part time)
Long Service Leave Manager	Ms Shirall Mayers
National Register Officer	Mr Sidney Pelcz (part time)

Ms Bernadette Bateman commenced in the role of Finance and Operations Manager in April 2021 following the resignation of Ms Marianne Yacoel.

Ms Kim Kemp commenced in the role of Executive Officer in February 2022 following the resignation of Ms Sarah Mayhew.

Mr Jofrey Valendez commenced in the role of Management Accountant in February 2020 following the resignation of Mr Aaron Imperial.



Anglican Church of Australia

General Synod

POLICY

Gender Balance in Membership of General Synod Bodies

Approved by Standing Committee 1 June 2019 (SC2019/01/08)

Purpose

1. This policy is established in response to the following General Synod resolutions.
 - **Resolution of the Fourteenth Session of General Synod (GS85/07)**
That this General Synod in responding to ACC Resolution 13.31 requesting member churches to work towards the goal of equal representation of women in decision making at all levels:
 - a) *recognises and celebrates the giftedness of women and the multitude of ministries in which they participate;*
 - b) *requests Standing Committee of General Synod to apply the principle of equal representation of women in its appointments to Commissions, Task Forces, and Working Groups wherever legislatively and practically possible and to report progress to ACC14 in 2009; and*
 - c) *encourages each diocese to adopt this principle in elections and appointments and report progress to General Synod Standing Committee by the end of 2008.*
 - **Resolution of the Seventeenth Session of General Synod (GS25/17)**
 1. *Notes with disappointment that the resolution of the 2007 fourteenth Session of General Synod in regard to the equal representation of Women on General Synod Bodies (GS85/07) has not been effectively implemented, with equal representation of women on only three of the General Synod's current 27 Bodies.*
 2. *Requests the next General Synod Standing Committee to*
 - a) *Re-commit to the principle of equal representation of women in membership of its bodies and to ensure that this goal is met the Standing Committee agree to a target that all General Synod bodies (General Synod commissions, task forces and working groups) have 50% equal representation of women in their membership by 1st December 2019 wherever legislatively and practically possible.*
 - b) *Apply the principle of equal representation of women in membership of organisations where Standing Committee make appointments to other bodies wherever this is legislatively and practically possible.*
 - c) *Review annually the progress of this target.*
 3. *Encourages each diocese to adopt the target of 50% equal representation of women in elections and appointments wherever legislatively and practically possible and to report back to the next General Synod.*
 4. *Requests Standing Committee to report progress on this matter to the 18th Session of General Synod.*

Principle

2. This policy notes that the General Synod resolutions GS85/07 and GS25/17 support the principle of equal representation of women. This policy recognises that equal representation does not necessarily require a strict 50:50 balance on every committee, as this is not possible for a body with an odd number of committee members. Most General Synod bodies have less than 10 members, so the difference of a single member either way can exaggerate the statistical difference.
3. To pursue the principle of equal representation on General Synod bodies, this policy applies a target of 40:40:20 gender representation: 40 per cent women, 40 per cent men, and 20 per cent discretionary, with a commitment to achieving a gender balance overall.

Scope

4. This policy applies to membership of all General Synod bodies, whether members are appointed by Standing Committee or the Primate on the recommendation of the Standing Committee.
5. This policy does not apply to:
 - a. the election or appointment of General Synod representatives by diocesan synods
 - b. the appointment of National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council (NATSIAC) representatives by diocesan bishops
 - c. the appointment of members to General Synod bodies by the House of Bishops or diocesan bishops.

Where this policy does not apply it is recommended that the principle of gender balance be taken into account when filling these vacancies.

Nominations and Appointments Committee

6. A Nominations and Appointments Committee (the committee) will be established as a permanent committee of Standing Committee to assist Standing Committee to meet the gender balance target.
7. In addition to the gender balance target the committee's terms of reference will include broader diversity considerations including age, ethnicity, cultural background and regional participation.
8. The committee shall have three members, to be drawn from Standing Committee membership.
9. The committee will identify and maintain a list of suitably qualified persons in a range of skill categories who are willing to serve on General Synod bodies.
10. The committee will establish its own procedures for implementing its terms of reference.
11. The committee will develop and implement a process to identify and encourage women to stand for elected positions at General Synod.

Appointment and election processes at Standing Committee

12. The Standing Committee has the authority to appoint persons to General Synod bodies or recommend appointments by the Primate.
13. A woman must be nominated for any vacancy on a General Synod body if women comprise less than 40 percent of the current membership.
14. The General Synod Office will refer all vacancies to be filled by appointment to the committee and provide advice on the membership composition of the General Synod body which has the vacancy.
15. The committee will review any nominations received by the General Synod Office. The committee may identify additional nominees for consideration in the interests of meeting gender balance targets and broader diversity considerations.
16. Elections may be conducted at Standing Committee meetings when more than one nominee is submitted for appointment to a General Synod body if the decision to appoint cannot be resolved following discussion.
17. The committee will include commentary on all nominations for appointment to General Synod bodies.

Reporting

18. At each Standing Committee meeting, the General Secretary will report on progress against the gender balance target in two categories:
 - a. General Synod bodies elected by General Synod
 - b. General Synod bodies appointed by Standing Committee.
19. At each General Synod session, the Standing Committee will report on the application of this policy and progress against the gender balance target in two categories:
 - a. General Synod bodies elected by General Synod
 - b. General Synod bodies appointed by Standing Committee.

Review

20. The Nominations and Appointment Committee shall review the gender balance target and make a recommendation to the Standing Committee's second meeting in 2021.

DIOCESAN ADOPTION OF FAITHFULNESS IN SERVICE

Summary at April 2020

This table provides diocesan responses against the November 2016 version of Faithfulness in Service.

Diocese	FiS (Nov 2016) adopted?	Variance / Other comments
Adelaide	N	<p>The diocesan version of <i>Faithfulness in Service</i> has replaced section 7.4 with the following:</p> <p><i>You are to be chaste and not engage in sex outside of marriage and not engage in disgraceful conduct of a sexual nature.</i></p>
Armidale	N	The Diocese has adopted the version endorsed by the Diocese of Sydney.
Ballarat	N	<p>The Diocese still uses an earlier version of Faithfulness in Service (April 2011).</p> <p>This is used in conjunction with a Clergy Code of Good Practice although much of the content of this 2010 Code are also covered in FiS albeit not identical terminology.</p> <p>The Diocese Codes of Practice are under review with a view to simplifying to the one document and whether there is any reason not to update to the current version of FiS.</p>
Bathurst	N	<p>In the version adopted by General Synod (November 2016), Section 4.3 (Pastoral Relationships) states '<i>The issues of Children and Sexual Conduct are addressed in Sections 3 and 5 respectively.</i>'</p> <p>In the Diocese of Bathurst version it states '<i>The issues of Children and Sexual Conduct are addressed in Sections 5 and 7 respectively.</i>'</p> <p>The Diocese of Bathurst will update FiS to be the same as the General Synod November 2016 version.</p>
Bendigo	N	FiS has been modified only to the extent necessary to achieve consistency in terms with the Professional Standards Uniform Act 2016 of the Diocese.
Brisbane	N	On 25 June 2006, Brisbane Synod adopted FiS ' <i>as revised from time to time by the Standing Committee for General Synod</i> ' so that any amendments made to FiS are immediately enforceable in Brisbane. Steps were taken in 2017 to ensure the November 2016 FiS was in use.
Bunbury	Y	-

Diocese	FiS (Nov 2016) adopted?	Variance / Other comments
Canberra and Goulburn	N	The Diocese upon its adoption of the Canon for Safe Ministry to Children, in turn adopted Sections 1, 2, 3 and 5 of FiS.
Gippsland	Y	It is anticipated that section 7.4 of FiS will be amended at Synod this year (May 20'). Final wording has not yet been confirmed.
Grafton	N	Section 7.4 <i>'You are to be chaste and not engage in sex outside of marriage and not engage in disgraceful conduct of a sexual nature'</i> has been replaced by <i>'Your sexual behaviour should be characterised by faithfulness and integrity'</i> .
Melbourne	Y	FiS has been modified only to the extent necessary to achieve consistency in terms with the Professional Standards Uniform Act 2016 of the Diocese.
Newcastle	N	The diocesan version has made the following amendments: Amended definition of church worker. Amended standard 7.4 with a footnote. Added a new standard 7.9
North Queensland	Y	-
North West Australia	Y	-
Northern Territory	Y	-
Perth	N	The diocesan version of <i>Faithfulness in Service</i> has replaced section 7.4 with the following: <i>You are to be chaste and not engage in sex outside of marriage and not engage in disgraceful conduct of a sexual nature.</i>
Riverina	N	The diocesan version of <i>Faithfulness in Service</i> has replaced section 7.4 with the following: <i>Your sexual behaviour should be characterised by faithfulness and integrity in all relationships.</i>
Rockhampton	Y	-
Sydney	Y	The Diocese has recently discovered that the words <i>'and not engage in disgraceful conduct of a sexual nature'</i> had not been inserted in paragraph 7.4 by their Synod in 2007. They have also identified some differences in word choice in a small number of places.

Diocese	FiS (Nov 2016) adopted?	Variance / Other comments
		The Diocese of Sydney intend to rectify this at the next ordinary session in October 2020. It is their intention to maintain parity with the standard form.
Tasmania	N	<p>Section 2: The diocesan version of FiS has inserted a definition of marriage:</p> <p><i>Marriage means 'a lifelong partnership uniting a woman and a man in heart, mind and body to the exclusion of all others' (Page 658 of the Prayer Book of Australia, Second Order of Marriage).</i></p> <p>Section 5, subsection 5.8 inserted to refer to the diocesan ChildSafe handbooks, website and products.</p> <p>Section 5, subsections 5.171-5.172 inserted to provide guidance for disclosures.</p> <p>Section 5, subsection 5.21 insertion of extra matters requiring a risk assessment.</p>
The Murray	Y	-
Wangaratta	Y	<p>The Diocese has adopted FiS and adopts the following additional provisions to be regards as incorporated into Faithfulness in Service:</p> <p><i>Clauses 7.2 and 7.4 of Faithfulness in Service are to be understood and applied in the context that a member of the clergy or church worker who is in a committed and monogamous relationship with another person is not to be regarded as being in breach of clauses 7.2 and 7.4 only because that relationship does not have the status of a marriage solemnised according to an Anglican marriage rite.</i></p>
Willochra	N	<p>The Diocese of Willochra are currently reviewing their diocesan version of Faithfulness to bring it in line with the version as adopted at November 2016.</p> <p>The diocesan version of <i>Faithfulness in Service</i> has a number of amendments to the definitions contained in Section 2 (key terms).</p> <p>The diocesan version has removed sub-sections 4.7, 4.14, 4.15, 4.32, 4.33, 4.35, 5.41, 5.45, 5.46, 6.1, 6.2, 6.2, 6.15 and 6.16. The diocesan version has also removed the explanatory notes on grooming actions in section 5.</p>

FINANCIAL PROTECTION CANON 1995

This report has been prepared pursuant to section 3(6) of the Financial Protection Canon 1995 which provides:

The Standing Committee will, in its Report to each session of General Synod, include a list of the organisations which have been required to submit a report under this section and include such comments or report as the Standing Committee considers appropriate.

In May 2018 the Standing Committee reviewed the list of organisations required to submit periodic reports under this Canon:

It resolved as follows:

The Standing Committee certified the following organisations as Organisations required to report in accordance with s2 of the Financial Protection Canon 1995,

- Anglican Board of Mission – Australia Limited;
- Australian College of Theology Limited;
- Broughton Publishing Trust;
- Defence Force Board and AMOS Foundation;
- Long Service Leave Fund; and
- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council;

It determined that these Organisations are required to report annually.

It nominated the General Synod Audit Committee as the body to review the audited financial statements of Organisations, certified under s2 of the Financial Protection Canon 1995, and to report to the Standing Committee, commencing from the 2018 reporting year. This was a transfer of responsibility from the Diocesan Financial Advisory Task Force.

In November 2018, the Standing Committee certified that the Anglican Redress (National Redress Scheme) Limited, as a newly established entity, was also required to report in accordance with s2 of the Financial Protection Canon 1995.

Since 2018, the Standing Committee has received all reports required in accordance with the Financial Protection Canon.

NATIONAL REGISTER CANON 2007

The National Register is a register of abuse incidents maintained in accordance with the National Register Canon 2007 and is a tool to assist with the screening of ministry appointments.

This report has been prepared pursuant to section 17 of the National Register Canon 2007 which provides:

The Standing Committee shall prepare a report on the operation of this Canon for each ordinary session of General Synod which shall include:

- a) any protocol under this Canon which the Standing Committee has approved or revised, and*
- b) any other decision under this Canon which the Standing Committee has made, since the last ordinary session of General Synod.*

National Register Audit

The National Register Canon 2007 provides that an annual audit report of the operation of the National Register to verify compliance with the Canon and the protocols under the Canon for each calendar year shall be published on the General Synod website. Reports from 2017 to 2020 are available at

<https://anglican.org.au/our-work/professional-standards-commission/national-register/>

National Register statistical information at 31 December 2021

Number of persons on the National Register

400 persons were listed on the National Register (381 in 2020).

The net increase of 19 persons from 2020 arose from 20 new persons added onto the Register and 1 person removed. The removed person was due to removal due to death.

Number of incidents on the National Register

539 incidents had been entered against 400 persons (515 against 381 in 2020).

The net increase of 24 incidents from 2020 arose from 27 new incidents added onto the Register and 3 incidents removed. The 3 removed incidents all related to the 1 person removed during the year due to death while the 27 new incidents included 2 additional incidents added to 2 existing persons on the Register and multiple incidents against 5 new persons.

Number of requests for information

Requests for information can only be submitted by authorised persons. Authorised persons are defined in section 11 of the canon:

'Access to and disclosure of Information in the National Register shall, subject to sections 12 and 13, be limited to the following authorised persons:

- 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;*
who agree to abide by the protocols under this Canon approved by the General Synod, or the Standing Committee by a two-thirds majority.'

12,760 information requests were processed in 2021 (6,967 requests in 2020). Over 2020, information requests declined 15% on the previous year. However, the total number of information requests in 2021 increased by 83% primarily due to the increased enquiries originated by the Kooyoora organization for the Melbourne and Bendigo Diocese.

Number of requests for information made where information on the National Register matched a request

There were 9 full matches of information requests to National Register records made by system users (32 matches in 2020).

These matched requests were received by 5 different diocesan users and the National Register Officer (NRO – refer item 12 below). Of these 9 matches, the matched reasons given were for:

- abuse and allegations of abuse (1)
- application for appointment to a position within the diocese (1)
- application for issue of a license within a diocese (1)
- appointment to a position within the diocese (1)
- ordination or issue of a license or appointment to a position within the diocese (1)
- requests for own information on the National Register from respondents (2)
- request to produce documents for a court ordered subpoena on the GSO (1)
- request for an urgent report to the National Register Officer from a Diocesan DPS who had just commenced in role and was unsure of operational processes (1).

Number of requests for own information/access received from persons in respect of whom information exists on the National Register

The General Synod Office received 2 requests for own information and/or information on who has had access to that same information (1 request in 2020).

Number of requests for amendments to own information

No (0) requests were received by the General Synod Office in 2021 to amend/remove information on the National Register (1 request received in 2020 was referred to the relevant Director of Professional Standards).

Frequency of use by individual dioceses

The National Register Officer (NRO) provides statistical reports on access to the National Register by authorised users, recording the number of searches and the management of new and existing records.

As some Directors of Professional Standards have responsibilities for more than one diocese it is difficult to provide an accurate breakdown by diocese. The following information gives an indication of some provincial collaborative groupings.

Diocese/Province	Records management (new and amendments)		Requests for information ¹	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Sydney	2	19	609	572
Western Australia (Perth, Bunbury and North West Australia)	5	0	315	387
Queensland and Northern Territory ⁴	17	29	4,123	3,038
Melbourne and Bendigo (services provided by Kooyoora Ltd)	15	13	5,381	711
Ballarat and Wangaratta	8	27	21	21
Gippsland	0	0	82	98
Tasmania	0	0	652	539
Newcastle	2	18	92	146
Grafton	0	0	23	35
Canberra & Goulburn, Bathurst and Riverina (services provided by Safer Communities)	10	11	455	332
South Australia (Adelaide, The Murray and Willochra)	0	2	681	1,014
Armidale	0	0	239	8
Riverina ²	0	N/A	13	N/A
General Secretary / NRO ³	N/A	N/A	74	66
Total	59	168	12,760	6,967

¹ Figures include all authorised users within the diocese/province indicated as serviced by the same Director of Professional Standards.

² Riverina Diocese records management services was provided by Safer Communities until the last quarter of 2020 when they appointed their own Director of Professional Standards. 2020 figures for Riverina are grouped with Canberra & Goulburn and Bathurst. 2021 figures for Riverina reflect the work of the Director appointed at the end of 2020.

³ The General Secretary/NRO is not authorized to create new records on the Register. The Requests for Information primarily relate to appointment to General Synod bodies.

AMENDMENT TO NATIONAL REGISTER PROTOCOLS

The Standing Committee by a two-thirds majority may revise any protocol or make any additional protocol under the *National Register Canon 2007* where it is necessary or convenient to carry out or give effect to the Canon (section 16).

The Standing Committee has approved one amendment to National Register Protocol for Access to and Disclosure of Information in the National Register since the Seventeenth session of General Synod.

Amendment Approved - November 2020 (SC2020/2/41)**- Protocol for Access to and Disclosure of Information in the National Register**

In November 2020 the Standing Committee was advised that the protocol did not provide for access to the National Register for the purposes of facilitating a diocesan audit under the Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017.

The protocol was amended to include a new Part 8 - Disclosure to independent person for the purpose of audit under the Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 or equivalent ordinance of a diocese

PROTOCOL FOR ACCESS TO AND DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Part 1 General

Title

1. The Protocol may be cited as the "Protocol for access to and disclosure of Information in the National Register 2007".

Part 2 Access by authorised persons

Acknowledgment and agreement of authorised persons

2. The General Secretary must not allow an authorised person other than himself or herself to have any access to Information in the National Register unless he or she has received a signed document in the form of the acknowledgement and agreement at the end of this Schedule from the authorised person. The General Secretary must sign this form of acknowledgement and agreement before undertaking any responsibility under this Canon. The acknowledgment and agreement will remain in force unless withdrawn or the signatory ceases to be an authorised person.

Register of authorised persons

3. The General Secretary must maintain a register of the name, contact details, and the period of access to the National Register, of each authorised person.

Record of reason for access

4. Each time an authorised person has access to Information in the National Register relating to a member of the clergy or lay person (other than the General Secretary, or any person within the General Synod Office whose duties include assisting the General Secretary in maintaining the National Register), he or she must declare to the General Secretary the reason for the access, and the Church authority to which the Information will be disclosed.

Log of access by authorised persons

5. The General Secretary must maintain a log of each access recording the name of the authorised person and the member of the clergy or lay person, the details on the declaration relating to the access, and the date of access.

Access by and disclosure to third parties under compulsion of law

6. Subject to this Protocol, an authorised person may only give access to, and disclose, Information in the National Register relating to a member of the clergy or lay person to a person if compelled by law to do so.

Non-disclosure of information where there is a police request

- 6A.¹ An authorised person who has access to Information in the National Register in respect of which there is a notation of a police request must not disclose the existence or substance of the Information to the person to whom the Information relates.

Part 3 Access and disclosure by a Diocesan Representative***Ordination, the issue of a licence or appointment to a position within the diocese***

7. Where a Church authority proposes to ordain, or issue a licence to, or to appoint to a position within the diocese, a member of the clergy or lay person, the Diocesan Representative, where required to by the procedures of the Church authority, is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to the member of the clergy or lay person and disclose whether there is any such, and if so what, Information to the Church authority.

Application for ordination, the issue of a licence or appointment to a position within the diocese

8. Where a member of the clergy or lay person applies for ordination, or the issue of a licence, or appointment to a position within the diocese, the Diocesan Representative, where required to by the procedures of the Church authority, is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to the member of the clergy or lay person and disclose whether there is any such, and if so what, Information to the Church authority.

Invitation to apply for ordination, the issue of a licence or appointment to a position within the diocese

9. Where a Church authority invites a member of the clergy or lay person to apply for ordination, or the issue of a licence, or appointment to a position within the diocese, and the member of the clergy or lay person expresses interest in making an application, the Diocesan Representative, where required to by the procedures of the Church authority, is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to the member of the clergy or lay person and disclose whether there is any such, and if so what, Information to the Church authority.

Part 4 Access and disclosure by the Defence Force Representative

10. The Defence Force Representative, where required to by the Primate or the Bishop to the Defence Force, is authorised to have access to and disclose any Information in the National Register relating to a member of the clergy or lay person in the same circumstances as a Diocesan Representative.

¹ Inserted at the Sixteenth Session of General Synod 1 July 2014.

Part 5 Access and disclosure by a Director of Professional Standards***Abuse and allegations of abuse***

11. Where a Director of Professional Standards receives information relating to sexual misconduct or child abuse or alleged sexual misconduct or child abuse by a member of the clergy or a lay person, he or she is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to the member of the clergy or lay person. The Director of Professional Standards is authorised to disclose whether there is any such, and if so what, Information to an Investigator, Determiner or other applicable Church authority.

Appointment of persons to professional standards roles

12. Where a Church authority proposes to appoint a member of the clergy or lay person to or in a professional standards role, and the member of the clergy or lay person has expressed interest in accepting the appointment, the Director of Professional Standards, where required by the relevant procedures for the appointment of persons to professional standards roles, is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to the member of the clergy or lay person. The Director of Professional Standards is authorised to disclose whether there is any such, and if so what, Information to the person expressing interest in the appointment, and the Church authority.

Election of bishop

- 13.² Where a member of the clergy accepts nomination, or expresses interest in accepting nomination, for appointment as a bishop, or has been so nominated and consents to a search of the National Register for Information relating to the nominee, the Director of Professional Standards, where required by the procedures of the diocese for the election of a bishop, is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to the member of the clergy. The Director of Professional Standards is authorised to disclose whether there is any such, and if so what, Information to each member of the clergy accepting nomination or expressing interest in accepting nomination, and the Church authority or nomination committee.

Election of persons by a Church authority

14. Where a Church authority holds an election for which members of the clergy or lay persons are candidates, the Director of Professional Standards, where required by the procedures of the diocese for the conduct of elections, is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to the candidates. The Director of Professional Standards is authorised to disclose whether there is any such, and if so what, Information to the candidates, and the Church authority.

² Amended by General Synod Standing Committee Resolution SC2010/1/54.

Consecration of bishop

15. Where a person in priest's orders is to be consecrated bishop:
- (a) the Director of Professional Standards of the diocese for or in respect of which the consecration is to take place; or
 - (b) the Director of Episcopal Standards in any other case; is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to the person. The Director of Professional Standards is authorised to disclose whether there is any such, and if so what, Information to the person to be consecrated and the Metropolitan, Primate or other bishop as the case requires.

Disclosure to third parties where there is consent

16. A Director of Professional Standards is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to a member of the clergy or lay person and disclose in writing whether there is any such, and if so what, Information to a third party, where he or she has received the consent in writing of the member of the clergy or lay person. The Director of Professional Standards must take reasonable steps to check the postal or electronic address of the third party before sending a letter containing the disclosure to the third party at that address.

Disclosure to third parties where necessary to protect persons from the risk of abuse

17. A Director of Professional Standards is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to a member of the clergy or lay person and disclose that Information to a third party, where he or she reasonably believes that disclosure is necessary to protect the third party or any other person from the risk of abuse by the member of the clergy or lay person.

Part 6 Access and disclosure by the General Secretary***Election of the Primate***

18. When an election is held for the Primate, each of the General Secretary and the Director of Episcopal Standards, where required to by the Primate Canon 1985, is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to the candidates and disclose whether there is any such, and if so what, Information to the candidates, and the Board of Electors.

Election and appointment of persons by the General Synod

19. Where the General Synod holds an election for which members of the clergy or lay persons are candidates, or proposes to appoint a member of the clergy or lay person to a position and the member of the clergy or lay person expresses interest in the appointment, the General Secretary, where required to by the procedures of the General Synod for the conduct of elections and making appointments, is authorized to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to the candidates or the member of the clergy or lay person and disclose whether there is any such, and if so

what, Information to the candidates or persons expressing interest in the appointment, and the General Synod.

Election, appointment and nomination of persons by the Standing Committee³

20.⁴ Where the Standing Committee holds an election for which members of the clergy or lay persons are candidates, or proposes to appoint or nominate a member of the clergy or lay person to a position or for election by the General Synod under rule 7(c)(1) and (2) of the Standing Orders and the member of the clergy or lay person expresses interest in the appointment or nomination, the General Secretary, where required to by the procedures of the Standing Committee for the conduct of elections and making appointments, is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to the candidates or the member of the clergy or lay person and disclose whether there is any such, and if so what, Information to the candidates or persons expressing interest in the appointment, and the Standing Committee.

Advice by the Standing Committee to the Primate regarding the appointment of members of a Reference Commission

20A.⁵ Where the Primate seeks the advice of the Standing Committee regarding the appointment of a member of a Reference Commission under s 14 of the Strategic Issues, Commissions, Task Forces and Networks Canon 1998, and a person expresses interest in the appointment, the General Secretary, where required to by the procedures of the Standing Committee for giving advice regarding such an appointment, is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to the person and disclose whether there is any such, and if so what, Information to the person, and the Standing Committee.

Preparation of material for and submissions to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse⁶

20B.⁷ The General Secretary is authorised to have access to Information relating to child abuse and to disclose it in de-identified form to the Royal Commission Working Group and to any lawyer or other person retained on behalf of the General Synod for any purpose in connection with providing advice to the Primate, Dioceses and Anglican organisations with the preparation of material for and submissions to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Information for a Determiner

20C.⁸ Where a request is received from or on behalf of a Determiner as to whether there is any Information in the National Register relating to a member of the clergy or lay person, the General Secretary is authorised to have access to the National Register and disclose whether there is any such, and if so what, Information therein to the Determiner.

3 Amended by General Synod Standing Committee Resolution SC2017/02/47.

4 Amended by General Synod Standing Committee Resolution SC2017/02/47.

5 Inserted by General Synod Standing Committee Resolution SC2009/3/036; amended by General Synod Standing Committee Resolution SC2016/2/35.

6 Inserted by General Synod Standing Committee Resolution SC2016/2/30.

7 Inserted by General Synod Standing Committee Resolution SC2013/1/22.

8 Inserted by General Synod Standing Committee Resolution SC2016/2/30.

20D.⁹ When the General Secretary receives an application for information about a church worker from a prescribed person, whether directly or through a diocesan authority or otherwise, within the meaning of the Disclosure of Information Canon 2017, the General Secretary is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to the church worker and disclose whether there is any such, and if so what, Information relating to the church worker to the prescribed person.

Certificate as to Information in the National Register

21. The General Secretary will provide to a member of the clergy or lay person, at his or her request, a certificate stating whether there is any, and if so what, Information in the National Register relating to the member of the clergy or lay person.

Part 6A Access and Disclosure by the Primate

Appointment of the General Secretary

21A.¹⁰ Where the Standing Committee proposes to appoint the General Secretary (whether in a permanent or acting capacity), and a person expresses interest in the appointment, the Primate, where required to by the procedures of the Standing Committee for making such an appointment, is authorized to have access to any Information in the National Register relating to the person and disclose whether there is any such, and if so what, Information to the person, and the Standing Committee.

Part 7 Access by staff of the General Synod Office

22.11 Any person within the General Synod Office whose duties include assisting the General Secretary in maintaining the National Register is authorised to have access to any Information in the National Register for the purposes of:

- (a) providing assistance to another authorised person and carrying out any maintenance or enhancement of the National Register; and
- (b) disclosing to a person duly authorised by the Bishop of a diocese to conduct an audit or other formal review of compliance by personnel of that diocese with duties under the National Register Canon 2007 and the protocols made thereunder subject to the person so authorised signing a confidentiality agreement in a form approved by the General Secretary.

⁹ Inserted at the Seventeenth Session of General Synod 6 September 2017.

¹⁰ Inserted by General Synod Standing Committee Resolution SC2009/3/036.

¹¹ Amended by General Synod Standing Committee Resolution SC2014/3/27.

Part 8 Disclosure to independent person for the purpose of audit under the Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 or equivalent ordinance of a diocese

23¹² Where a General Synod audit or a diocesan audit is undertaken under the Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 or an equivalent ordinance of a diocese and a Diocesan Representative, a Director of Professional Standards, the Defence Force Representative, the General Secretary or the Primate has been authorised to access and disclose Information in the National Register under this Protocol, they are also authorised to disclose that information to the independent person or person undertaking the audit under the equivalent ordinance of a diocese for the purposes of the person determining whether a national register assessment has occurred in relation to a member of clergy or layperson, on the condition that the person have signed a confidentiality agreement in a form approved by the General Secretary.

12 Inserted by General Synod Standing Committee Resolution SC2020/2/41.

Acknowledgment and agreement

I (insert name), the (insert position and diocese if applicable) acknowledge that I have read the protocols approved under the National Register Canon 2007:

- (a) Protocol for provision of Information for inclusion in the National Register 2007;
- (b) Protocol for access to and disclosure of Information in the National Register 2007;
- (c) Protocol to ascertain the details of any Information and access to that Information in the National Register 2007;
- (d) Protocol for amendment of Information in the National Register 2007.

I agree to abide by these protocols, and not to disclose my password to any other person.

(Date)

(Signature).

SAFE MINISTRY TO CHILDREN CANON 2017

At December 2021, 21 of 23 dioceses of the ACA had adopted the Safe Ministry to Children 2017. The Diocese of Rockhampton is considering adoption of the Canon in 2022. The Diocese of North West Australia is considering its own Safe Ministry Bill which will be developed in light of the Canon and the recommendations of the Royal Commission. The Diocese of Sydney has adopted the Canon but has not yet brought it into effect. The Diocese of Sydney is operating within the standards and guidelines of its Safe Ministry to Children Ordinance 2018.

This report has been prepared pursuant to the Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 which provides:

Publication of prescribed code of conduct s7(2)

The General Secretary shall table at each ordinary session of the General Synod any amendments to the prescribed code of conduct, or any substituted code of conduct, prescribed by the Standing Committee since the preceding ordinary session of the General Synod.

Publication of prescribed standards and guidelines s11(2)

The General Secretary shall table at each ordinary session of the General Synod any amendments to the prescribed standards and guidelines, or substituted standards and guidelines, or further standards and guidelines, prescribed by the Standing Committee since the preceding ordinary session of the General Synod

Prescribed Code of Conduct

[Faithfulness in Service](#) is the prescribed code for personal behaviour and the practice of pastoral ministry by clergy and church workers in the Anglican Church of Australia.

The Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 confirms Faithfulness in Service as the prescribed code of conduct for a Church body subject to the Canon, unless an application for the adoption of an alternative code is approved by the General Synod Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee may, by a two-thirds majority, approve amendments to the prescribed code of conduct or approve a substituted code of conduct.

The Standing Committee has not approved any substitutions or amendments and Faithfulness in Service is confirmed as tabled at the Seventeenth Session of the General Synod in 2017.

The Standing Committee may, by a two-thirds majority, approve an equivalent code of conduct, adapted to the context of the Church body which gives substantial effect to the standards and guidelines for conduct contained in the prescribed code of conduct.

On 10 November 2018, the Standing Committee approved an application from Anglican Schools and Education & Care Services (Anglican Church Southern Queensland) to operate within an alternative code of conduct.

[A Code of Conduct for Anglican Schools and Education & Care Services](#)

Prescribed Standards and Guidelines

The canon prescribes standards of screening, standards of training and standards for safe ministry with persons of concern in the Second Schedule of the Canon.

The General Synod, or the Standing Committee by a two-thirds majority, may by resolution amend the Second Schedule by:

- a) prescribing amendments to the prescribed standards and guidelines or substituted standards and guidelines;
- b) prescribing further minimum standards for observance, and guidelines to be followed, for safe ministry to children;

and determine when these amendments may come into effect.

Section 8(3) of the canon requires the Standing Committee to consult with diocesan safe ministry authorities before approving any amendments to the canon.

Since the Seventeenth Session of General Synod the Standing Committee has amended the Second Schedule on the recommendation of the Safe Ministry Commission on four occasions, following diocesan consultation.

1. Screening Standards – Voluntary Church Workers – Safe Ministry Assessment

Following consultation with diocesan safe ministry authorities, the Safe Ministry Commission recommended amendments to the Safe Ministry Check Forms used for the screening of persons applying for ordained and lay ministry and amended the Second Schedule to change the definition of Safe Ministry Check Forms.

Resolution:

The Standing Committee:

1. *received the report of the Chair of the Safe Ministry Commission dated 23 October 2018*
 - a. *noted the tabling of the following documents:*
 - i. *Safe Ministry Check form – Ordained Ministry, or appointment as a Paid, Licensed or Authorised Church Worker*
 - ii. *Safe Ministry Check form – Referee for Ordained Ministry, or appointment as a Paid, Licensed or Authorised Church Worker*
 - iii. *Safe Ministry Check form – Application for appointment as a voluntary church worker aged 18 years and over*
 - iv. *Safe Ministry Check form – Application for appointment as a voluntary church worker aged between 13 and 17 years*
 - b. *amended the Second Schedule of the Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 by:*

- v. deleting “17th ordinary session of the General Synod held in 2017” and substituting “the meeting of the Standing Committee held on 9–10 November 2018” in the definition of “Safe Ministry Check” in clause 1
 - vi. adding “when the person is aged 13 years and over” after “assessment” in subclause 6(2)(c)
2. determined that these amendments will come into force on 1 January 2019.
(SC2018/03/39)

2. Screening Standards – Voluntary Church Workers – Working with Children Checks (WWCC) and, Working with Vulnerable People Checks (WSVPC) and Criminal History Assessment

The Safe Ministry Commission consulted with diocesan safe ministry authorities on amendments to the screening standards relating to the holding of a WWCC, or a WWVPC, and a criminal history assessment for voluntary church workers under the age of 18 years.

It resolved to recommend amendments to the standards to acknowledge that government regulated checks were not available to persons under the age of 18 years in all jurisdictions.

Resolution:

The Standing Committee:

1. received the report of the Chair of the Safe Ministry Commission dated 23 October 2018
 - a. amended the Second Schedule of the Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 by:
 - i. inserting the matter “or able to be obtained under” after the words “where required by” in the rider to subclause 6(1)
 - ii. inserting the matter “, the person is not able to obtain either check and the person is aged 18 years or over” after the word “Territory” in subclause 6(2)(a)
 - iii. substituting the words “the person” for the words “a volunteer” in subclause 6(2)(a)
 - b. determined that these amendments will come into force on 1 January 2019.
(SC2018/03/40)

3. Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 – Definition of Psychological Assessment

The Safe Ministry Commission considered feedback from dioceses on the definition of psychological assessment for the screening of deacons prior to ordination.

It recommended an amendment to the definition to the following:

Psychological assessment means consideration of a psychological report that includes an assessment of the personal, social and psychosexual maturity of the person by a registered psychologist experienced in psychological assessment;

Resolution:

The Standing Committee:

1. received the report of the Safe Ministry Commission dated 7 April 2021
2. amended the Second Schedule of the Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 by inserting ‘the personal, social and’ after the words ‘assessment of’ and by inserting

‘experienced in psychological assessment’ after the word ‘psychologist’ in the definition of ‘psychological assessment’ in clause 1

3. *determined that these amendments will come into force on 1 July 2021.*

SC2021/2/25

4. Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 – Supervision of Church Workers Under the Age of 16

The Safe Ministry Commission identified that the Canon contained no requirement that church workers who are under 16 years old be directly supervised while undertaking ministry to children. The Commission proposed an amendment to the Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 to address this issue through the insertion of a new Part 5.

PART 5 – STANDARDS OF SUPERVISION

Application

14. *This part applies to all persons licensed or authorised or appointed as church workers who are under the age of 16 years.*

15. *A church worker who is under the age of 16 years shall, except in an emergency, undertake all ministry to children under the direct supervision of at least one church worker who is aged 18 years or over.*

Creation and retention of records

16. *Accurate records relating to the supervision of church workers who are under the age of 16 years are to be created and maintained in a secure manner.*

Resolution:

The Standing Committee:

1. *received the report of the Safe Ministry Commission dated 26 March 2021 on proposed changes to the Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 relating to the supervision of church workers under 16 years old*
2. *amended the Second Schedule of the Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 by:*
 - *inserting a new Part 5 in the form set out in Attachment 2*
 - *renumbering the existing Part 5 to become Part 6 and the existing clause 14 to become clause 17*
3. *determined that these amendments will come into force on 1 January 2022 and inserted clause 17(4) to specify this commencement date.*

SC2021/2/26

All resolutions were passed by the required two-thirds majority. The current version of the Canon incorporating these amendments can be accessed on the General Synod website at: [The Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017](#)

TRUST CORPORATION OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

The Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation is a body corporate which acts as trustee of Church trust property. Its members are known as the Corporate Trustees.

The Trust Corporation is the entity which enters into formal legal arrangements on behalf of the General Synod. The Trustees are required to carry out all determinations of the Standing Committee or its delegate.

This report has been prepared pursuant to section 21 of the Trust Corporation Canon 2010.

The current corporate trustees are:

- Mr Michael Blaxland
- Ms Rachel Ellyard
- Mr Douglas Marr
- Dr Karin Sowada
- The Rt Rev'd Dr Michael Stead

The Trust Corporation has executed the following agreements:

- Loan agreement of \$1million to the Anglican Representative (National Redress Scheme) Limited from the Reserve Fund of the General Synod to enable the entity to meet its contractual obligations with the Commonwealth Government's National Redress Scheme. (20 July 2019).
- Sub-Lease agreement for the General Synod Office at Suite 4 level 5, 189 Kent St Sydney NSW 2000 for a 3 year term commencing 1 September 2019. (19 August 2019).
- Application by Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation to become a Participating Member of Anglican Redress (National Redress Scheme) Limited and join the National Redress Scheme. (28 Jan 2020).
- Letters of Financial Support for AMOS Foundation and the Defence Force Anglican Chaplaincy Inc in regard to membership of the Anglican Redress (National Redress Scheme) Limited. (28 Jan 2020).
- Deed of Release on behalf of the Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation. (28 Jan 2020).

- Resolution of company members to terminate the Australian Hymn Book Charitable Trust. (9 July 2021).

APPELLATE TRIBUNAL

The Appellate Tribunal determines appeals from the Special Tribunal, a provincial tribunal or a diocesan tribunal in accordance with the Appellate Tribunal Canon 1981.

It may also deal with references in any matter relating to the powers of General Synod and involving questions of faith, ritual, ceremonial or discipline matter in the Church, as specified by relevant sections of the Constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia.

The Appellate Tribunal currently comprises the following members:

- The Hon Keith Mason AC QC (President)
- The Most Rev'd Dr Phillip Aspinall, Archbishop of Brisbane
- The Rt Rev'd Garry Weatherill, Bishop of Ballarat
- The Hon Justice Richard Refshauge
- The Hon Justice Clyde Croft AM
- Vacancy following retirement of The Rt Rev'd John Parkes AM, Bishop of Wangaratta in September 2019
- Vacancy following resignation of Ms Gillian Davidson in October 2019

The Hon Keith Mason AC QC retires as a member at the commencement of this session of General Synod having reached the retirement age specified in s4 of the Appellate Tribunal Canon 1981.

There has been two determinations of the Appellate Tribunal since the Seventeenth Session of the General Synod in response to referrals from the Primate.

1. Blessing of Persons Married According to the Marriage Act 1961 Regulations 2019 (Diocese of Wangaratta)

On 5 September 2019 the Primate referred the following to the Appellate Tribunal:

- At a session in August 2019 the Synod of the Diocese of Wangaratta purportedly made the Blessing of Persons Married According to the Marriage Act 1961 Regulations 2019 pursuant to Section 5 (2) of the *Canon Concerning Services*
- Section 5 (3) of the *Canon Concerning Services* 1992 provides that all forms of service used pursuant to Section 5 (2) "must be reverent and edifying and must not be contrary to or a departure from the doctrine of the Church."

The following questions arising under the Constitution were referred to the Appellate Tribunal:

- Whether the Blessing of Persons Married According to the Marriage Act 1961 Regulations 2019 made by the Synod of the Diocese of Wangaratta is consistent with

the Fundamental Declarations and Ruling Principles in the Constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia.

- Whether the regulation is validly made pursuant to the *Canon Concerning Services* 1992.

The Appellate Tribunal released its Opinion in response to this reference on 11 November 2020.

It can be accessed on the General Synod website at:

[Wangaratta Blessing Service Opinion – 11 November 2020](#)

2. Clergy Discipline Ordinance 2019 Amending Ordinance 2019 (Diocese of Newcastle)

On 31 October 2019 the Primate referred to the Appellate Tribunal the following questions:

- Is any part of the Clergy Discipline Ordinance 2019 Amendment Ordinance 2019 of the Diocese of Newcastle inconsistent with the Fundamental Declarations or the Ruling Principles of the Constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia?
- Does the Synod of the Diocese of Newcastle have the authority under section 51 of the Constitution to pass the Clergy Discipline Ordinance 2019 Amendment Ordinance 2019?
- Where an Ordinance is passed by a Synod of a Diocese in the Province of New South Wales and referred to the Appellate Tribunal prior to the Bishop giving her/his assent in accordance with Constitution 5(c) of the Schedule of the Anglican Church of Australia Constitution Act 1902, may the Bishop give assent to the Ordinance on receiving the opinion of the Appellate Tribunal or is the Synod required to pass the ordinance again?

The Appellate Tribunal released its Opinion in response to this reference on 11 November 2020.

It can be accessed on the General Synod website at:

[Newcastle Clergy Discipline Ordinance Opinion – 11 November 2020](#)

SPECIAL TRIBUNAL

The Special Tribunal determines charges promoted against diocesan bishops in accordance with the Special Tribunal Canon 2007.

Since the Seventeenth Session of General Synod the panel for the Special Tribunal has comprised:

Presidential Members

- Justice Debra Mullins AO (President)
- Mr Michael Shand AM QC (Deputy President)

Bishops

- The Rt Rev'd Dr Glenn Davies (term concluded in April 2021)
- The Rt Rev'd Dr Richard Condie
- The Most Rev'd Kay Goldsworthy AO

Priests of at least 7 years' standing

- The Ven John Davis (term to conclude in May 2022)
- The Rev'd Canon Dr Colleen O'Reilly AM
- The Rev'd Andrew Sempell

Changes in Membership since the Seventeenth Session of General Synod

There has been one change in membership in the category of Bishop:

A vacancy created by the retirement of The Rt Rev'd Dr Glenn Davies as a diocesan Bishop in April 2021

There will be one change in membership in the category of priest of seven years standing.

A vacancy will be created when the Ven John Davis attains the age of 75 years in May 2022.

There has been no matter considered by the Special Tribunal since the Seventeenth Session of General Synod.

GENERAL SYNOD LEGISLATION

INTRODUCTION

This report provides information concerning the lists of bills and canons which the President shall lay upon the table at this session of General Synod pursuant to SO 7(d):

- (1) *A list of special bills which he has declared to be canons under Sec. 28(3)(iii) of the Constitution since the last session of Synod and the dates on which they respectively came into force.*
- (2) *A list of special bills which have not been assented to by every diocesan synod together with the reports and recommendations received from such synods.*
- (2A) *A list of bills which have come into force under Section 28A of the Constitution since the last Session of Synod.*
- (3) *A list of canons which he has declared to be in force following upon a reference of any question to the Appellate Tribunal under Sec. 29 of the Constitution and the dates on which they respectively came into force.*
- (4) *A list of canons in respect of which the Appellate Tribunal has found inconsistency or breach of Sec. 28(1) after reference thereto under Sec. 29 of the Constitution together with the relevant reports of the Appellate Tribunal thereon.*
- (5) *A list of canons duly passed by Synod together with the date appointed by him upon which the said canons came into force under Sec. 30 of the Constitution.*
- (6) *Notifications and advices from dioceses under Sec. 30(c) of the Constitution.*

The report also includes comprehensive lists of bills and canons altering the Constitution which have not come into effect and responses of dioceses to each canon passed at the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Sessions of General Synod.

1. SPECIAL BILLS WHICH THE PRESIDENT HAS DECLARED TO BE CANONS UNDER SEC. 28(3)(iii) OF THE CONSTITUTION SINCE THE LAST SESSION OF SYNOD AND THE DATES ON WHICH THEY RESPECTIVELY CAME INTO FORCE

There is no bill in this category.

2. SPECIAL BILLS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN ASSENTED TO BY EVERY DIOCESAN SYNOD TOGETHER WITH THE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS RECEIVED FROM SUCH SYNODS

There is no bill in this category.

3. BILLS WHICH HAVE COME INTO FORCE UNDER SECTION 28A OF THE CONSTITUTION SINCE THE LAST SESSION OF SYNOD

There is no bill in this category.

4. CANONS WHICH THE PRESIDENT HAS DECLARED TO BE IN FORCE FOLLOWING UPON A REFERENCE OF ANY QUESTION TO THE APPELLATE TRIBUNAL UNDER SEC. 29 OF THE CONSTITUTION AND THE DATES ON WHICH THEY RESPECTIVELY CAME INTO FORCE

There is no canon which falls into this category and there is no pending reference to the Appellate Tribunal under section 29 of the Constitution.

5. CANONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH THE APPELLATE TRIBUNAL HAS FOUND INCONSISTENCY OR BREACH OF SEC. 28(1) AFTER REFERENCE THERETO UNDER SEC. 29 OF THE CONSTITUTION TOGETHER WITH THE RELEVANT REPORTS OF THE APPELLATE TRIBUNAL THEREON

There is no canon in this category and there is no pending reference to the Appellate Tribunal under section 29 of the Constitution.

6. CANONS DULY PASSED BY SYNOD TOGETHER WITH THE DATE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT UPON WHICH THE SAID CANONS CAME INTO FORCE UNDER SEC. 30 OF THE CONSTITUTION

No 1, 2017	Appellate Tribunal Amendment (Qualification) Canon 2017 4 September 2017
No 3, 2017	Appellate Tribunal Amendment (Reserve List) Canon 2017 1 December 2019
No 4, 2017	Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017 5 September 2017
No 5, 2017	Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) Canon 2017 5 September 2017
No 7, 2017	Offences Amendment Canon 2017 5 September 2017
No 8, 2017	Redress for Survivors of Abuse Canon 2017 6 September 2017

- No 9, 2017 Disclosure of Information Canon 2017
6 September 2017
- No 10, 2017 National Register Amendment Canon 2017
6 September 2017
- No 11, 2017 Special Tribunal Amendment Canon 2017
6 September 2017
- No 12, 2017 Special Tribunal (Limitation Period) Canon 2017
8 September 2017
- No 13, 2017 Long Service Leave (Revision of Entitlement) Canon 2017
2 October 2017
- No 14, 2017 Long Service Leave (Notification of Participating Organisation)
Canon 2017
6 September 2017
- No 15, 2017 Canon to Ratify the Amended New South Wales Provincial Synod
Constitution 2017
6 September 2017
- No 16, 2017 Canon Concerning Confessions (Revision) Canon 2017
7 September 2017
- No 17, 2017 Canon Concerning Confessions (Vulnerable Persons) Canon
2017
7 September 2017
- No 18, 2017 Holy Orders (Removal from Exercise of Ministry) Canon 2017
7 September 2017
- No 19, 2017 Canon Concerning Services Amendment Canon 2017
7 September 2017
- No 20, 2017 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council
Amendment Canon 2017
7 September 2017
- No 21, 2017 Strategic Issues, Commissions, Task Forces and Networks
Amendment Canon 2017
7 September 2017
- No 22, 2017 Missionary Dioceses (Amendment) Canon 2017
7 September 2017

7. NOTIFICATIONS AND ADVICES FROM DIOCESES UNDER SEC. 30(C) OF THE CONSTITUTION

No notification or advices have been received since the Seventeenth Session of General Synod.

8. BILLS AND CANONS ALTERING THE CONSTITUTION WHICH HAVE NOT COME INTO EFFECT

The following Bills and Canons to alter the Constitution were passed at sessions of General Synod up to and including the Seventeenth Session and have not come into effect:

- A Bill to alter the Constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia with respect to the Ordination of Women (Bill 1, 1981)
- A Bill to alter the Constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia with respect to the Mode of Appointment of the Appellate Tribunal (Bill 2, 1981)
- Constitution Alteration Canon 1987
Constitution Alteration Bill 1987 (Bill 1, 1987)
- Constitution Alteration (Title of the Primate) Canon 1989
Constitution Alteration (Title of the Primate) Bill 1989 (Bill 3, 1989)
- Constitution Amendment (Section 51) Canon 1992
- Constitution Amendment (Relations with other Churches) Canon 2004
- Constitution Alteration (Chapter IX) Canon 2004
- Constitution Amendment (Diocesan Council) Canon 2007
- Constitution Alteration (Chapter IX) Canon Amendment Canon 2007
- Constitution Amendment (Section 10) Canon 2007
- Constitution Amendment (Section 54A) Canon 2007
- Constitution Amendment (Suspension of Bishops) Canon 2007
- Constitution Amendment (Provinces and Dioceses) Canon 2007
- Constitution Amendment (Diocesan Council) Repeal Canon 2010
- Constitution Amendment (Appellate Tribunal Part Heard Matters) Canon 2010
- Constitution Amendment (Section 30) Canon 2010
- Constitution Amendment (Sentences Of Tribunals) Canon 2010

9. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT IN THE PERIOD SINCE THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF GENERAL SYNOD

No 4, 2014	Constitution Amendment (Membership of the Diocesan Tribunal) Canon 2014 1 July 2019
No 5, 2014	Constitution Amendment (Membership of the Provincial Tribunal) Canon 2014 1 July 2019
No 2, 2017	Constitution (Appellate Tribunal) Amendment Canon 2017 1 December 2019
No 6, 2017	Constitution (Jurisdiction of Special Tribunal) Amendment Canon 2017 1 November 2019

10. RESPONSES OF DIOCESES TO EACH CANON PASSED AT THE SIXTEENTH AND SEVENTEENTH SESSIONS OF GENERAL SYNOD

See the following tables for each relevant session recording:

- Canons requiring assent or adoption to have effect in a diocese
- Canons altering the Constitution.

Assent to and adoption of 2017 canons

Twenty-three dioceses have provided certification of the adoption of the 2017 canons at their diocesan synods.

On 23 October 2018 the Diocese of Sydney advised its synod has adopted the Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017. However, a commencement date has not been set and will be determined by resolution of the Sydney Synod or Standing Committee. The key arrangements in the canon apply in Sydney via an ordinance passed by the Sydney Standing Committee on 24 September 2018.

Assent to and adoption of 2014 canons

Nineteen dioceses have provided certification of the adoption/non-adoption of the 2014 canons at their diocesan synods.

Repealed 2014 canons

Canon 11 Canon Concerning Confessions 1989 (Amendment) Canon 2014 was repealed by Canon 16 Canon Concerning Confessions (Revision) Canon 2017.

Repealed 2010 canons

Canon 3 Constitution Amendment (Appellate Tribunal Part Heard Matters) Canon 2010 was repealed by Canon 2 Constitution (Appellate Tribunal) Amendment Canon 2017 when it came into effect on 1 December 2019.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA - CANONS AND BILLS 2017

CANONS / BILLS TO BE ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE OF DIOCESAN SYNODS

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA - CANONS AND BILLS 2017

CANONS / BILLS TO BE ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE OF DIOCESAN SYNODS

	Canon 4 Safe Ministry to Children Canon 2017	Canon 5 Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) Canon 2017	Canon 7 Offences Amendment Canon 2017	Canon 12 Special Tribunal (Limitation Period) Canon 2017	Canon 16 Canon Concerning Confessions (Revision) Canon 2017	Canon 17 Canon Concerning Confessions (Vulnerable Persons) Canon 2017	Canon 18 Holy Orders (Removal from Exercise of Ministry) Canon 2017	Canon 19 Canon Concerning Services Amendment Canon 2017
ADELAIDE	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted
ARMIDALE	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted
BALLARAT	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Non-Adopted	Adopted	Adopted
BATHURST	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted
BENDIGO	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted
BRISBANE	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted
BUNBURY	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted
CANBERRA & GOULBURN	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted
GIPPSLAND	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted					
GRAFTON	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	
MELBOURNE	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted		Adopted	Adopted
NEWCASTLE	Adopted	Adopted			Adopted		Adopted	
NORTH QUEENSLAND	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted
NORTH WEST AUSTRALIA			Adopted	Adopted			Adopted	
NORTHERN TERRITORY	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted
PERTH	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted
RIVERINA	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted
ROCKHAMPTON		Adopted						
SYDNEY	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted			Adopted	Adopted
TASMANIA	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted
THE MURRAY	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted		Adopted	Adopted
WANGARATTA	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	Non-Adopted	Adopted	Non-Adopted
WILLOCHRA	Adopted	Adopted	Adopted		Adopted	Adopted	Adopted	

CONSTITUTIONAL ALTERATIONS TO BE ASSENTED TO BY ORDINANCE OF DIOCESAN SYNODS

	Canon 2	Canon 6
	Constitution (Appellate Tribunal) Amendment Canon 2017	Constitution (Jurisdiction of Special Tribunal) Amendment Canon 2017
ADELAIDE	Assented	Assented
ARMIDALE	Assented	Assented
BALLARAT	Assented	Assented
BATHURST	Assented	Assented
BENDIGO	Assented	Assented
BRISBANE	Assented	Assented
BUNBURY	Assented	Assented
CANBERRA & GOULBURN	Assented	Assented
GIPPSLAND		
GRAFTON		Assented
MELBOURNE	Assented	Assented
NEWCASTLE		
NORTH QUEENSLAND	Assented	Assented
NORTH WEST AUSTRALIA	Assented	Assented
NORTHERN TERRITORY	Assented	Assented
PERTH	Assented	Assented
RIVERINA	Assented	Assented
ROCKHAMPTON		
SYDNEY	Assented	Assented
TASMANIA	Assented	Assented
THE MURRAY	Assented	Assented
WANGARATTA	Assented	Assented
WILLOCHRA		

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA - CANONS AND BILLS 2014

CANONS / BILLS TO BE ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE OF DIOCESAN SYNODS

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA - CANONS AND BILLS 2014

CANONS / BILLS TO BE ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE OF DIOCESAN SYNODS

	Canon 6	Canon 7
	Use of Church Names Canon 1989 Amendment Canon 2014	Holy Orders, Relinquishment and Deposition Canon 2004 Amendment Canon 2014
ADELAIDE		Adopted
ARMIDALE		Adopted
BALLARAT		Adopted
BATHURST		
BENDIGO		Adopted
BRISBANE		Adopted
BUNBURY		Adopted
CANBERRA & GOULBURN		Adopted
GIPPSLAND		Adopted
GRAFTON	Adopted	Adopted
MELBOURNE		
NEWCASTLE		
NORTH QUEENSLAND		
NORTH WEST AUSTRALIA		Adopted
NORTHERN TERRITORY		Adopted
PERTH		Adopted
RIVERINA	Adopted	Adopted
ROCKHAMPTON		Adopted
SYDNEY	Adopted	Non-Adopted
TASMANIA		Adopted
THE MURRAY		Adopted
WANGARATTA		
WILLOCHRA		Adopted

CONSTITUTIONAL ALTERATIONS TO BE ASSENTED TO BY ORDINANCE OF DIOCESAN SYNODS

	Canon 4 Constitution Amendment (Membership of the Diocesan Tribunal) Canon 2014	Canon 5 Constitution Amendment (Membership of the Provincial Tribunal) Canon 2014
ADELAIDE	Assented	Assented
ARMIDALE	Assented	Assented
BALLARAT	Assented	Assented
BATHURST		
BENDIGO	Assented	Assented
BRISBANE	Assented	Assented
BUNBURY	Assented	Assented
CANBERRA & GOULBURN	Assented	Assented
GIPPSLAND	Assented	Assented
GRAFTON	Assented	Assented
MELBOURNE	Assented	Assented
NEWCASTLE		
NORTH QUEENSLAND		
NORTH WEST AUSTRALIA	Assented	Assented
NORTHERN TERRITORY	Assented	Assented
PERTH	Assented	Assented
RIVERINA	Assented	Assented
ROCKHAMPTON	Assented	Assented
SYDNEY	Assented	Assented
TASMANIA	Assented	Assented
THE MURRAY		
WANGARATTA		
WILLOCHRA	Assented	Assented

11. EXCLUSIONS OF CANONS UNDER SECTION 30(d) OF THE CONSTITUTION

Section 30(d) of the Constitution empowers a diocese to exclude a canon it has previously adopted. The following exclusions have been notified:

Canon	Diocese	Exclusion date
Canon 14 Episcopal Standards Canon 2007	Adelaide	18 Oct 2015
	Bendigo	29 May 2015
	Canberra & Goulburn	10 Sept 2016
	Perth	11 Oct 2011
	Willochra	31 May 2015
Canon 10 Holy Orders, Relinquishment and Deposition Canon 2004	Sydney	18 Oct 2011
Canon 3 Solemnization of Matrimony Canon 1981	North West Australia	5 Oct 2014
	Sydney	18 Oct 2011
Canon 7 Form of Declaration and Assent Canon 1973	Sydney	11 Oct 2011
Canon 12 Lay Assistants at Holy Communion Canon 1973	Sydney	16 Oct 2019
Canon 6 Consecration of Bishops Canon Amendment Canon 1969	North West Australia	4 Oct 2020
Canon 3 Consecration of Bishops Canon 1996	Sydney	3 May 2021

12. EXCLUSION OF EPISCOPAL STANDARDS COMMISSION'S POWER TO BRING A CHARGE AGAINST A BISHOP (SECTION 43(2) OF THE SPECIAL TRIBUNAL CANON 2007)

Section 43(2) of the Special Tribunal Canon 2007 empowers a diocese to exclude the power of the Episcopal Standards Commission (ESC) to bring a charge against its Bishop. The following exclusions have been notified:

Canon	Diocese	Exclusion date
Special Tribunal Canon 2007 – s43(2)	Bendigo	29 May 2015
	Perth	11 Oct 2011
	Sydney	21 Oct 2009
	Tasmania	15 Jun 2019
	Wangaratta	3 Jun 2011

CHANGES IN THE EPISCOPATE SINCE THE SEVENTEENTH GENERAL SYNOD

APPOINTMENTS

2018

- Peter Stuart was installed as Bishop of Newcastle on 2 February 2018.
- Kay Goldsworthy AO was installed as Archbishop of Perth on 10 February 2018.
- Matthew Brain was installed as Bishop of Bendigo on 17 February 2018.
- John Roundhill was consecrated to serve as an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Brisbane on 14 April 2018.
- Sonia Roulston was consecrated to serve as an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Newcastle on 10 May 2018.
- Charlie Murry was consecrated to serve as an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Newcastle on 10 May 2018.
- Murray Harvey was consecrated and installed as Bishop of Grafton on 29 September 2018.
- Richard Treloar was consecrated as Bishop of Gippsland on 21 July 2018 and installed on 18 August 2018.
- Kate Prowd was consecrated on 6 October 2018 to serve as Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Melbourne.
- Ian Coutts was consecrated as Bishop of Bunbury on 1 November 2018 and installed on 3 November 2018.

2019

- Keith Joseph was consecrated and installed as the Bishop of North Queensland on 31 March 2019.
- Mark Short was consecrated and installed as Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn on 6 April 2019
- Donald Kirk was consecrated and installed as Bishop of The Riverina on 15 June 2019.
- Denise Ferguson was consecrated to serve as an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Adelaide on 2 July 2019

- Malcolm Richards was consecrated to serve as an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Sydney on 6 July 2019.
- Keith Dalby was consecrated and installed as Bishop of The Murray on 16 August 2019.
- Mark Calder was consecrated as Bishop of Bathurst on 21 November 2019 and installed on 23 November 2019.
- Gary Koo was consecrated on 20 December 2019 to serve as an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Sydney.

2020

- Carole Wagner was consecrated on 22 February 2020 to serve as Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn.
- Clarence Bester was consecrated and installed as the Bishop of Wangaratta on 22 February 2020.
- Grant Dibden was consecrated as the Bishop to the Defence Force on 18 March 2020

2021

- Peter Grice was consecrated and installed as Bishop of Rockhampton on 24 February 2021.
- Rod Chiswell was consecrated and installed as the Bishop of Armidale on 27 February 2021.
- Kanishka Raffel was consecrated and installed as Archbishop of Sydney on 28 May 2021.

RESIGNATION AND RETIREMENTS**2017**

- Bishop Andrew Curnow retired from the office of Bishop of Bendigo on 2 December 2017.
- Bishop Kay Goldsworthy AO resigned from the office of Bishop of Gippsland on 16 December 2017.
- Bishop Allan Ewing retired from the office of Bishop of Bunbury on 9 December 2017.

2018

- Bishop Sarah Macneil retired from the office of Bishop of Grafton on 3 March 2018.
- Bishop Stuart Robinson resigned from the office of Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn on 31 March 2018.
- Bishop Robert Gillion retired from the office of Bishop of the Riverina on 3 August 2018.

- Bishop William Ray retired from the office of Bishop of North Queensland on 21 September 2018
- Bishop Philip Huggins retired as Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Melbourne in October 2018.

2019

- Bishop Ian Palmer retired from the office of Bishop of Bathurst, effective 27 April 2019.
- Bishop John Ford retired from the office of Bishop of The Murray on 31 May 2019.
- Bishop Ian Lambert retired from the office of Bishop to the Defence Force on 27 October 2019.
- Bishop John Parkes AM retired from the office of Bishop of Wangaratta on 22 December 2019.

2020

- Bishop David Robinson retired from the office of Bishop of Rockhampton on 22 February 2020.
- Bishop Trevor Edwards retired as Assistant bishop in the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn in February 2020.
- Bishop Ivan Lee died on 4 March 2020 after resigning as Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Sydney.
- Archbishop Glenn Davies retired from the office of Archbishop of Sydney on 20 July 2020.

2021

- Bishop Richard Lewers announced his retirement from the office of Bishop of Armidale, effective January 2021.

Deaths of Retired Bishops

- Bishop Graham Walden died 27 November 2017.
- Bishop Ken Mason AM died 20 December 2018.
- Bishop Ian George AO died 29 January 2019.
- Bishop Stanley (Bruce) Rosier AM died 28 February 2019.
- Bishop James Alexander Grant AM died 10 July 2019.
- Bishop Tony Nichols died 24 August 2019.
- Bishop Cecil Warren died 13 September 2019.
- Bishop Brian Kyme died on 16 April 2020.
- Bishop Bruce Wilson died on 20 March 2021.

MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL SYNOD EIGHTEENTH SESSION MAY 2022

DIOCESE OF ADELAIDE

House of Bishops Archbishop Geoff Smith

House of Clergy

The Rev'd Assoc Prof Matthew Anstey
The Rev'd Paula Bullock
The Venerable Ruth Mathieson
The Rev'd Professor Peter Sandeman

House of Laity

Mr Thomas Bassett
Mr Grant Chapman
Ms Ann Nadge
Dr David Phillips

DIOCESE OF ARMIDALE

House of Bishops Bishop Rodney Chiswell

House of Clergy

The Venerable Dr Bernard Gabbott
The Rev'd Christopher Pears

House of Laity

Mr Paul Harvey
Mr James Levingston

DIOCESE OF BALLARAT

House of Bishops Bishop Garry Weatherill

House of Clergy

The Rev'd Canon Scott Lowrey
The Rev'd Glen Wesley

House of Laity

Mr Peter Jarvis
Ms Alice Knight OAM

DIOCESE OF BATHURST

House of Bishops Bishop Mark Calder

House of Clergy

The Rev'd Tim Fogo

House of Laity

Mrs Karen Trafford

DIOCESE OF BENDIGO

House of Bishops Bishop Matt Brain

House of Clergy

The Very Rev'd Elizabeth Dyke
The Ven George Hemmings

House of Laity

Ms Sarah Crutch
Mr Ian Dallas

DIOCESE OF BRISBANE**House of Bishops** Archbishop Phillip Aspinall AC**House of Clergy**

The Very Rev'd Peter Catt

The Rt Rev'd Jeremy Greaves

The Rev'd Suzanne Grimmett

The Rev'd Canon Gary Harch

The Rt Rev'd Jonathan Holland

The Venerable Geoffrey Hoyte

The Rev'd Lynda Johnson

The Rev'd Adam Lowe

The Rt Rev'd John Roundhill

The Rt Rev'd Cameron Venables

House of Laity

Vacant

Mr Timothy Coates

Mr Alan Gallimore

Dr Christopher Gourlay

Ms Sarah Gover

Dr Ruth Kerr

Ms Kay Lauchland

Justice Debra Mullins

Mr Tim Reid

Mr Allan Thomson

DIOCESE OF BUNBURY**House of Bishops** Bishop Ian Coutts**House of Clergy**

The Very Rev'd Darryl Cotton

The Rev'd Dr Lucy Morris

House of Laity

Dr Renae Barker

Mrs Marilyn Royer

DIOCESE OF CANBERRA & GOULBURN**House of Bishops** Bishop Mark Short**House of Clergy**

The Rev'd Canon Patrick Cole

The Rev'd Judy Douglas

The Venerable Tom Henderson-Brooks

The Rev'd David McLennan

The Rev'd Dr Katherine Rainger

The Rt Rev'd Carol Wagner

House of Laity

Mr Trevor Ament

Mr Wayne Harris

Mr Tim McGhie

Ms Helen Rainger

Acting Justice Richard Refshauge

Mrs Margaret Wheelwright

DIOCESE OF GIPPSLAND**House of Bishops** Bishop Richard Treloar**House of Clergy**

The Venerable Graham Knott

The Rev'd Tracy Lauersen

House of Laity

The Hon Robert Fordham AM

Mr Richard Connolly

DIOCESE OF GRAFTON**House of Bishops** Bishop Murray Harvey**House of Clergy**

The Venerable Tiffany Sparks

The Rev'd Christian Ford

House of Laity

Canon Terry Shorten

Mr Christopher Nelson

DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE**House of Bishops** Archbishop Philip Freier**House of Clergy**

The Venerable Gregory Allinson
 The Rev'd John Baldock
 The Rt Rev'd Dr Paul Barker
 The Rev'd Canon Dr Rhys Bezzant
 The Rev'd Dr Michael Bird
 The Rt Rev'd Genieve Blackwell
 The Rev'd Len Firth
 The Rev'd John Forsyth
 The Rt Rev'd Stephen Hale
 The Rev'd Shane Hubner
 The Rev'd Canon Prof Dorothy Lee
 The Rev'd Professor Mark Lindsay
 The Rev'd Peter MacPherson
 The Rt Rev'd Kate Prowd
 The Rev'd Natalie Rosner
 The Rev'd Alexander Ross
 The Rev'd Wayne Schuller
 The Rev'd Robert Vun

House of Laity

Dr Timothy Arnold-Moore
 Ms Jillian Batterbury
 Dr Leanne Beagley
 Mrs Michelle Budhathoki
 Dr Sally Burt
 Dr Denise Cooper-Clarke
 Ms Elizabeth Culhane
 Dr Jennifer George
 Dr Ian Gibson
 Ms Seak-King Huang
 Mrs Fiona McLean
 Mr Alexander Milner
 Mr Colin Reilly
 Canon Michael Shand AM QC
 Ms Dianne Shay
 Professor Peter Sherlock
 Mr Kimberly Smith
 Mr Michael Urwin

DIOCESE OF NEWCASTLE**House of Bishops** Bishop Peter Stuart**House of Clergy**

The Very Rev'd Katherine Bowyer
 The Venerable Canon Arthur Copeman
 The Rev'd Nathan Killick
 The Rt Rev'd Sonia Roulston

House of Laity

Mr Howard Benson
 Dr Di Rayson
 Mr Stuart Southwell
 Mrs Sue Williams

DIOCESE OF NORTH QUEENSLAND**House of Bishops** Bishop Keith Joseph**House of Clergy**

The Venerable Jeffery Coop
 The Venerable Christopher Wright OAM

House of Laity

Mrs Sally Cavalieri
 Dr Reuben Scott

DIOCESE OF NORTH WEST AUSTRALIA**House of Bishops** Bishop Gary Nelson**House of Clergy**

The Rev'd Simon Roberts

House of Laity

Dr Khim Harris

DIOCESE OF PERTH**House of Bishops** Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy AO**House of Clergy**

The Venerable Peter Boyland

The Very Rev'd Chris Chataway

The Rev'd Dave Deeny

The Rev'd Katrina Holgate

The Rt Rev'd Jeremy James

The Rev'd Dr Elizabeth Smith AM

The Venerable Angela Webb

The Rt Rev'd Kate Wilmot

House of Laity

Mr Eric Ross-Adjie

Ms Carine Collins

Mr Philip Goldsworthy

Mr Alan Dungey

Dr Bill Leadbetter

Mr Keith Stephens

Dr Carolyn Tan

Mrs Julie Ward

DIOCESE OF RIVERINA**House of Bishops** Bishop Donald Kirk**House of Clergy**

The Venerable Peter Richards

House of Laity

Mr William Barwick

DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON**House of Bishops** Bishop Peter Grice**House of Clergy**

The Rev'd Jennifer Hercott

House of Laity

Canon Valerie Gribble ML

DIOCESE OF SYDNEY**House of Bishops** Archbishop Kanishka Raffel**House of Clergy**

The Rev'd Dr Marshall Ballantine-Jones

The Rev'd Andrew Bruce

The Rev'd Canon Phillip Colgan

The Rev'd Roger Cunningham

The Rt Rev'd Chris Edwards

The Rev'd Dr Andrew Ford

The Rev'd Nigel Fortescue

The Rev'd Stephen Gibson

The Very Rev'd Sandy Grant

The Rev'd Kate Haggard

The Rev'd James Harricks

The Venerable Kara Hartley

The Rt Rev'd Peter Hayward

The Rev'd Dr David Hohne

The Rt Rev'd Gary Koo

House of Laity

Mr Rowen Atkinson

Mr Garth Blake AM SC

Mrs Briony Bounds

Mr John Breen

Mr Lachlan Bryant

Mrs Kirsten Bucknell

Mrs Stacey Chapman

Mrs Jackie Coffey

Mrs Louise Cunningham

Mr Michael Easton

Mr Clive Ellis

Mr James Flavin

Miss Jenny Flower

Mr Philip Gerber

Mr Daniel Glynn

The Rt Rev'd Rick Lewers	Mr Greg Hammond OAM
The Rt Rev'd Peter Lin	Mrs Fiona Henderson
The Rev'd Timothy Mildenhall	Mr Paul Larby
The Rev'd Kerrie Newmarch	Mr Steve Lucas
The Rt Rev'd Ross Nicholson	Mr Doug Marr
The Rev'd Andrew Nixon	Justice Michael Meek
The Rev'd Caitlin Orr	Mr Craig Moore
The Rev'd David Ould	Dr Barry Newman
The Rev'd Gavin Parsons	Mrs Jenny Nixon
The Rev'd Gavin Poole	Mr Malcolm Purvis
The Rev'd Jason Ramsay	Mrs Catherine Rich
The Rt Rev'd Malcolm Richards	Dr Laurie Scandrett
The Rev'd Canon Craig Roberts	Dr Claire Smith
The Rev'd Andrew Schmidt	Dr Karin Sowada
The Rt Rev'd Dr Michael Stead	Mr Mark Streeter
The Rev'd Canon Dr Mark Thompson	Dr Andrew Tong
The Rev'd Peter Tong	Dr Robert Tong AM
The Rev'd Dr Danielle Treweek	Ms Jane Tooher
The Rev'd Zac Veron	Ms Nicola Warwick-Mayo
The Rev'd James Warren	Mr Rob Wicks
The Rev'd Cath Wynn Jones	The Hon Peter Young AO QC

DIOCESE OF TASMANIA

<i>House of Bishops</i>	Bishop Richard Condie
<i>House of Clergy</i>	<i>House of Laity</i>
The Venerable Stephen Carnaby	Dr Richard Lord
The Venerable Dane Courtney	Mrs Audrey Mills
The Very Rev'd Richard Humphrey	Mr James Oakley

DIOCESE OF THE MURRAY

<i>House of Bishops</i>	Bishop Keith Dalby
<i>House of Clergy</i>	<i>House of Laity</i>
The Very Rev'd David Price	Mr Murray McFarlane

DIOCESE OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

<i>House of Bishops</i>	Bishop Gregory Anderson
<i>House of Clergy</i>	<i>House of Laity</i>
The Rev'd Kate Beer	Dr Michael Tong

DIOCESE OF WANGARATTA

<i>House of Bishops</i>	Bishop Clarence Bester
<i>House of Clergy</i>	<i>House of Laity</i>
The Very Rev'd Ken Goodger	Dr Jane Freemantle

DIOCESE OF WILLOCHRA

House of Bishops Bishop John Stead

House of Clergy

The Rev'd Louise Lang

House of Laity

Mrs Anne Beinke

NON-DIOCESAN MEMBERS – NATSIAC NOMINEES

House of Bishops Bishop Christopher McLeod – National Aboriginal Bishop

House of Clergy

The Rev'd Cameron Burr

Vacant

House of Laity

Dr Togiabmacrose Elu t

Mr Milton Walit

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
 PROGRAM - EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL SYNOD 2022 - RACV ROYAL PINES RESORT, GOLD COAST

Time	Sunday 8 May 2022		Monday 9 May 2022		Tuesday 10 May 2022		Wednesday 11 May 2022		Thursday 12 May 2022		Friday 13 May 2022		Time					
6.30 AM			Breakfast - Kalinda Restaurant - from 6.30am		Breakfast - Kalinda Restaurant - from 6.30am		Breakfast - Kalinda Restaurant - from 6.30am		Breakfast - Kalinda Restaurant - from 6.30am		Breakfast - Kalinda Restaurant - from 6.30am		6.30 AM					
7.00 AM			Holy Communion 7.00am - 7.45am Garden Chapel		Holy Communion 7.00am - 7.45am Garden Chapel		Holy Communion 7.00am - 7.45am Garden Chapel		Holy Communion 7.00am - 7.45am Garden Chapel		Holy Communion 7.00am - 7.45am Garden Chapel		7.00 AM					
7.30 AM													7.30 AM					
8.00 AM					Information Desk from 7.00am Royal Benowa Foyer										8.00 AM			
8.30 AM							Information Desk from 8.00am Royal Benowa Foyer		Information Desk from 8.00am Royal Benowa Foyer		Information Desk from 8.00am Royal Benowa Foyer		Information Desk from 8.00am Royal Benowa Foyer		8.30 AM			
9.00 AM					Morning Prayer and Reflection on Scripture - Synod Hall 8.45am - 9.15am		Morning Prayer and Reflection on Scripture - Synod Hall 8.45am - 9.15am		Morning Prayer and Reflection on Scripture - Synod Hall 8.45am - 9.15am		Morning Prayer and Reflection on Scripture - Synod Hall 8.45am - 9.15am		Morning Prayer and Reflection on Scripture - Synod Hall 8.45am - 9.15am		9.00 AM			
			ARRIVALS Coach transfers to Resort from Brisbane Airport Coach transfers to Resort from Gold Coast Coast Airport Hotel express check- in available from 2.00pm		Nominations for Appellate Tribunal, Panel for Special Tribunal and Standing Committee will close at 7.30pm Monday 9 May 2022	Opening Business Session Synod Hall 9.15am - 10.30am		Business Session Synod Hall 9.15am - 10.30am		Business Session Synod Hall 9.15am - 10.30am		Business Session Synod Hall 9.15am - 10.30am		Business Session Synod Hall 9.15am - 10.30am		9.30 AM		
9.30 AM																		10.00 AM
10.00 AM																		10.30 AM
10.30 AM																		
11.00 AM								Nominations for all other elections under Rule III will close at 1.30pm on Tuesday 10 May 2022		Morning Tea - Royal Benowa Foyer 10.30am - 11.00am		Morning Tea - Royal Benowa Foyer 10.30am - 11.00am		Morning Tea - Royal Benowa Foyer 10.30am - 11.00am				
11.30 AM										Order of the Day - Family Violence at 11.00am		Order of the Day - Marriage, Human Sexuality and Same-sex Relationships at 11.00am (if required)		Business Session Synod Hall 11.00am - 12.30pm		11.00 AM		
12.00 PM										Business Session Synod Hall 11.00am - 12.30pm		Business Session Synod Hall 11.00am - 12.30pm		Business Session Synod Hall 11.00am - 12.30pm		11.30 AM		
12.30 PM										Lunch - Royal Benowa Foyer 12.30pm - 1.30pm		Lunch - Royal Benowa Foyer 12.30pm - 1.30pm		Business Session Synod Hall 11.00am - 12.30pm		12.00 PM		
1.00 PM														Close of the 18th Session of General Synod				
							Order of the Day - Finance Presentation Introduction at 1.30pm		Order of the Day - Finance Presentation Final at 1.30pm				12.30 PM					
1.30 PM							Business Session Synod Hall 1.30pm - 3.00pm		Business Session Synod Hall 1.30pm - 3.00pm				1.00 PM					
2.00 PM							Afternoon Tea - Royal Benowa Foyer 3.00pm - 3.30pm		Afternoon Tea - Royal Benowa Foyer 3.00pm - 3.30pm				1.30 PM					
2.30 PM							Order of the Day - Safe Ministry 3.30pm to 5.30pm		Order of the Day - Marriage, Human Sexuality and Same-sex Relationships - 3.30pm to 5.30pm				2.00 PM					
3.00 PM							Business Session Synod Hall 3.30pm - 5.30pm		Business Session Synod Hall 3.30pm - 5.30pm				2.30 PM					
													3.00 PM					
3.30 PM							Afternoon Tea - Royal Benowa Foyer 3.00pm - 3.30pm		Afternoon Tea - Royal Benowa Foyer 3.00pm - 3.30pm				3.30 PM					
4.00 PM							Order of the Day - Marriage, Human Sexuality and Same-sex Relationships - 3.30pm to 5.30pm		Business Session Synod Hall 3.30pm - 5.30pm		DEPARTURES		4.00 PM					
							Business Session Synod Hall 3.30pm - 5.30pm		Business Session Synod Hall 3.30pm - 5.30pm		Coach transfers from Resort to Brisbane Airport departing							
4.30 PM											Coach transfers from Resort to Gold Coast Airport departing		4.30 PM					
5.00 PM							Evening Prayer - Synod Hall 5.30pm - 6.00pm		Evening Prayer - Synod Hall 5.30pm - 6.00pm				5.00 PM					
5.30 PM							Dinner Royal Benowa Foyer 6.00pm - 7.30pm		Free time				5.30 PM					
6.00 PM							Business Session Synod Hall 7.30pm - 9.00pm		Dinner Royal Benowa Foyer from 7.00pm				6.00 PM					
6.30 PM													6.30 PM					
7.00 PM							Free time						7.00 PM					
7.30 PM													7.30 PM					
8.00 PM													8.00 PM					
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