



# Anglican Church of Australia

General Synod

## SPECIAL SESSION OF THE SYNOD 26 JULY 2025

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### BUSINESS PAPER FOR SATURDAY 26 JULY 2025

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The Special Session of the Synod will commence at 11.00am AEST on Saturday 26 July 2025 by videoconference.

The business of the Synod will commence immediately following prayer.

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### ORDER OF BUSINESS

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#### 1 SYNOD ASSEMBLES

Synod will assemble at 11.00am AEST by videoconference.  
[SO 1 and s3 *General Synod Presence Canon 2022*]

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#### 2 PRAYERS

The Synod will open with Prayers by the President.  
[SO 3]

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#### 3 ROLLS

The Rolls of Bishops, Clerical and Lay Representatives summoned to the Synod will be called.  
[SO 7(a)]

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#### 4 QUORUM

There will be a determination whether or not the requirements of Section 21 of the Constitution for determining a quorum have been satisfied.  
[SO 2]

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## **5 GENERAL SECRETARY'S INTRODUCTION TO ARRANGEMENTS**

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## **6 PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**

The President will deliver his address to the Synod.  
[SO 7(b)]

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## **7 MOTIONS TO ELECT OFFICERS OF THE SYNOD**

Ms Anne Hywood moving, Ven Arthur Copeman seconding

### **7.1 A Clerical Secretary and a Lay Secretary of Synod** [SO 4 and SO 7(c)(1)]

- 7.1.1 That Bishop David Bassett be elected as Clerical Secretary of Synod.
- 7.1.2 That Ms Sarah Crutch be elected as Lay Secretary of Synod.

### **7.2 A Chair and Deputy Chairs of Committees** [SO 7(c)(2)]

- 7.2.1 That Dr Ian Gibson be elected as Chair of Committees.
- 7.2.2 That Ms Rachel Ellyard be elected as a Deputy Chair of Committees.

### **7.3 Members of a Committee to arrange the Order of Business** [SO 7(c)(4) and 11A(1)(a)]

That the General Synod appoints the members of the Executive Committee to be the members of the Committee to arrange the Order of Business for the Special Session of the Synod.

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## **8 A MOTION FOR THE ARRANGEMENT OF SYNOD BUSINESS**

Ms Anne Hywood moving, Archdeacon Arthur Copeman seconding

- (a) That so much of Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the following motion relating to the orderly arrangement of the Synod's business being considered and if, approved, being implemented forthwith; and
- (b) That Synod order the following arrangements set out in paragraphs 8.1 to 8.6.

### **8.1 Minutes Reading Committee**

That a Minutes Reading Committee of two members be appointed to read and certify as a correct record the Minutes of this session of Synod for confirmation by the Standing Committee:

- (a) Mr Clive Ellis (Convenor)
- (b) Mrs Sue Williams

## **8.2 Hours of Sitting, Synod Program and Call over of Motions** [SO 1 and SO 10]

8.2.1 That the hours of sitting for this Special Session of the Synod be those set out in the *Program for the Special Session of Synod 26 July 2025* in Synod papers.

8.2.2 That so much of Standing Orders as may be necessary be suspended to permit the program as set out in the *Program for the Special Session of Synod 26 July 2025* in Synod papers to be implemented.

## **8.3 Guests of Synod**

8.3.1 That Justice Daniel O'Connor OAM, Chancellor to the Primate, not being a member of this Synod, be granted permission to speak if called upon by the President.

## **8.4 Media Arrangements**

That in order to provide appropriate controls and to prevent interference with the Business of the Synod the following media arrangements will pertain:

8.4.1 As this Special Session of the Synod is conducted by video conference and deals with only one matter of business the media has not been invited to view the proceedings: the General Synod resolves that there will be no virtual public gallery at this Special Session of the Synod.

## **8.5 Authentication of Canon**

That pursuant to Sections 24 and 25(1) of the Constitution, the Canon passed at this Session of the Synod shall be authenticated by use of the official seal of the Synod.

## **8.6 Reading and Confirmation of Minutes**

8.6.1 That the minutes of this Special Session of the Synod be read and confirmed at the first full meeting of the Standing Committee following this Session of the Synod.

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# **9 DOCUMENTS TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE BY THE PRESIDENT**

The Constitutional amendments and canons which have come into effect since the last session of Synod (GS18) will be tabled at the Nineteenth Session of General Synod.

## **9.1 Amendment sheet prepared by the Secretaries of Synod under Standing Order 42A(a)** [SO 7(d)(7)]

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**10 PETITIONS**  
[SO 7(e)]

As there is only one confirmed item for business at the Special Session of the Synod any petitions received will be taken on notice for the Nineteenth Session of General Synod.

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**11 NOTICES OF QUESTIONS**  
[SO 7(f)]

As there is only one confirmed item for business at the Special Session of the Synod any questions received will be taken on notice for the Nineteenth Session of General Synod.

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**12 NOTICES OF MOTIONS**  
[SO 7(g)]

As there is only one confirmed item for business at the Special Session of the Synod any motions received will be taken on notice for the Nineteenth Session of General Synod.

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**13 ELECTION OF A CHAIR AND OTHER OFFICERS OF**  
**1. THE HOUSE OF CLERGY AND**  
**2. THE HOUSE OF LAITY**  
[SO 7(h)]

There will not be an election of a Chair and other Officers of the House of Clergy or the House of Laity at this Special Session of the Synod.

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**14 REPORTS, ACCOUNTS AND MOTIONS CONNECTED THEREWITH**  
[SO7(i)]

Ms Anne Hywood moving, Archdeacon Arthur Copeman seconding:

That the following reports and documents be laid on the Table and be received without preventing further discussion of specific matters arising from them:

**14.1 Bills for Canons circulated in accordance with Section 27(1)(i) of the Constitution**

**Bill 01 - A Bill for the General Synod Presence (Amendment) Canon 2025.**

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**15 MOTIONS BY REQUEST OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

[SO 7(j)(i)]

There are no motions by request of Standing Committee at the Special Session of the Synod.

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**16 MOTIONS FOR BILLS FOR CANONS BY REQUEST OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

[SO 7(j)(i)]

**16.1 Bill 01 – A Bill for the General Synod Presence (Amendment) Canon 2025**

Archdeacon Arthur Copeman moving, Bishop Michael Stead seconding:

That a Bill for the General Synod Presence (Amendment) Canon 2025 be approved in principle.

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**17 MOTIONS OF GRATITUDE**

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**18 CLOSE OF THE SESSION**