

GUIDANCE NOTES ON HOUSE OF LAITY ELECTIONS

Qualifications of Candidates

1. A candidate must be a lay person who:
 - a) has received Communion according to the use of the Church of England or a Church in communion with it at least three times in the twelve months before the date of the dissolution of the General Synod (or would have done so but for matters connected with Coronavirus);
 - b) either is confirmed (or ready and desirous of being confirmed) or comes within paragraph 1(b) of Canon B 15A (i.e. is a communicant member of a Church which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity);
 - c) is aged at least 18 on the date of the dissolution of the General Synod; and
 - d) satisfies one of the following conditions:
 - i) is on the church electoral roll of a parish in the diocese;
 - ii) is declared by the leader of a mission initiative in the diocese to be part of the worshipping community involved in the initiative.
2. Unlike electors, candidates need not be members of a deanery synod.
3. Candidates must normally be qualified as such at 6.00 a.m. on Tuesday 13 July 2021 (the date of the dissolution of the 2015-2021 General Synod).
4. A candidate must not be the holder of a paid office or employment to which one of the following central bodies may make or confirm an appointment:
 - the General Synod
 - the Church Commissioners*
 - the Convocations
 - the Church of England Pensions Board
 - the Corporation of Church House
 - the Archbishops' Council.

**(A Church Commissioner in receipt of a salary or other emolument is not so disqualified.)*
5. A candidate may not stand for more than one diocese simultaneously.
6. Proposers and seconders must be diocesan electors qualified as such at 6.00 a.m. on the date of the dissolution, Tuesday 13 July 2021. The diocesan electors are the members of the house of laity of each deanery synod in the diocese, other than the co-opted members and the members of a religious community with representation in the General Synod.

Election Address

7. Any candidate may request the presiding officer to despatch an election address (consisting of not more than one sheet of A4 paper, which may be printed on both sides) from that candidate to every elector in the diocese. Election addresses will be sent by the presiding officer to the electors with the voting papers. If any candidate wishes to send an election address, one original copy (suitable for photocopying) must be provided by the candidate at the candidate's own expense. This must either be delivered to the presiding officer at the address above or sent by e-mail to: kirsty.mccullough@yorkdiocese.org and received by the presiding officer by Wednesday, 15 September 2021. The presiding officer is under no obligation to circulate addresses received after the due date or which are not in the prescribed form. Election addresses will be placed also on the diocesan website.

Expenses and Loss of earnings of members of the General Synod

8. Loss of earnings, where this is involved, may be claimed at a rate which currently, is up to £175.00 per day of absence, plus the normal subsistence and travelling expenses, which are reviewed annually.

Qualifications of proposers and seconders