**The Very Reverend Simon Robinson**

**Dean-designate of Truro Cathedral**

**The Old Cathedral School**

**14 St Mary’s Street**

**TRURO**

**TR1 2AF**

**THE VACANCY IN SEE COMMITTEE**

The VACANCY IN SEE COMMITTEE of the Diocese of Truro operates under the VACANCY IN SEE COMMITTEE Regulations 1993 with various amendments having been made. A briefing paper including the Amended Regulations can be found at this link [BRIEFING FOR MEMBERS OF (churchofengland.org)](https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2023-11/briefing-for-the-vacancy-in-see-committee-january-2020.pdf).

The Diocese is duty bound to have the ViSC established and ready to operate at the point of the departure of the Diocesan Bishop.

The role of the Vacancy in See Committee is as follows:

• to prepare a brief description of the diocese and a statement setting out the desired profile of the new Bishop;

• to elect the diocesan representatives to the Crown Nominations Commission. The Committee will meet at least twice. Its discussions (but not the date, time and place of its meetings) should be kept confidential.

The Vacancy in See Committee comprises ex-officio members, elected members and nominated members, nominated by the BDC.

The Very Reverend Simon Robinson was nominated and elected by the BDC as Chair of the ViSC.

The Reverend Simon Cade was nominated and elected by the BDC as Secretary to the Committee.

Anna Corbett was nominated and elected by the ViSC as Deputy Chair to the ViSC.

Kate Cortez will provide clerical support to the Chair and the Secretary of the ViSC.

The first meeting took place on Thursday 9th of November 2023. This was a Zoom meeting. Mr Stephen Knott, Archbishops’ Secretary for Appointments and Helen Dimmock, Crown Ecclesiastical Secretary were both present. Stephen briefed the ViSC on their duties.

The second meeting of the ViSC will take place on Tuesday 28th of November 2023. This will be an in person meeting.

Further meetings are to take place of the whole ViSC and of a sub group who will create a draft Statement of Needs. The sub group will be convened and led by the Deputy Chair of the ViSC. This group is not yet established, although expressions of interest for membership of this group have been received. It is important that this group is representative of the Diocese.

Various pieces of work will be undertaken and presented to the ViSC for consideration before the second meeting including a schedule of meetings. At this stage these will be undertaken by the Chair, Deputy-Chair, Secretary and clerical support.

Key dates for the ViSC

31 January 2023 Deadline for content of the Statement of Need

5 and 6 February 2024 Online individual, group and public consultations

17 February 2024 Deadline for finalised Statement of Need and final Vacancy In See committee

19 February 2024 Group and individual consultations

22 February 2024 ‘In diocese’ day with Archbishops’ Appointments Secretary and Crown Ecclesiastical Secretary

There are several key themes to be aware of

1. The importance of prayer.
2. This is a process of discernment. For further information read [Discerning in Obedience.](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/2v8os1j1r9o7ddycqvsr9/GS-Misc-1171-Discerning-in-Obedience-Report-on-the-Review-of-the-CNC.pdf?rlkey=23hq7jdi10on9ka01aaxny79y&dl=0)
3. Representation is important and clarity on what good representation in this diocese looks like. For further information read [Responsible Representation](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/bqvx17xqfoecv4tvqokjm/GS-2202-Responsible-Representation-Final.pdf?rlkey=iilgdlmmpynswblenxalfufib&dl=0). A variety of voices must be heard and the CNC members should be as representative as possible of the diocese. When voting for them, consideration should be make of this.

**The Very Reverend Simon Robinson**

**Chair of ViSC**

**16/11/23**