



Diocesan Synod Elections 2024

Under Church Representation Rule (CRR) 37 (1) the Diocesan Synod must determine for each house of each deanery synod in the diocese the number of members to be elected by that house.

Diocesan Synod is also required to ensure that the total number of members of the Diocesan Synod is in the range 100-270 with the number of members of the House of Clergy and the House of Laity being approximately equal (CRR) 37 (5)

At its meeting in November 2017, Truro Diocesan Synod adopted the following method of calculation:

Clergy Representation

Current representation: 1 member for every 3 members of clergy beneficed or licensed in the deanery subject to a minimum of 3 members.

Lay representation

Current representation: 1 member for every 250 people on the electoral role subject to a minimum of 3 members.

The number of members for each deanery produced by these formulae can be found at the end of the paper, along with a comparison to the current triennium. The calculations are based on the most accurate information available at the present time. If any Deanery should need to query its number of representatives for either House it should make an appeal to the Synodical Presiding Officer at Church House before 31st December 2023.

Other issues to consider

Under CRR 42 (2) Diocesan synod must also decide whether the elections are to take place by single-transferable voting or first-past-the-post voting. While the single transferable vote system is used in elections to General Synod, it is more costly and complex to operate as well as possibly being unfamiliar in its detail to those who will be responsible for carrying out the election. The first-past-the-post system is both simple and familiar, as well as being the system that has been used for these elections on past occasions. The Bishop's Council therefore recommends that the first-past-the-post system be used for the 2024 Diocesan Synod elections.

Actions

The Diocesan Synod is therefore invited to approve:

1. The numbers for election to the Diocesan Synod as set out overleaf, and
2. The use of the first-past-the-post election system for the 2024 election to Diocesan Synod.

The table overleaf sets out the existing and projected numbers in both Houses.

Deanery	Current		Proposed		2017 ER	2020 ER	2023 ER
	Clergy	Laity	Clergy	Laity			
Carnmarth North	4	3	3	3	993	726	686
Carnmarth South	3	3	3	3	773	627	648
Kerrier	3	3	3	3	827	694	640
Penwith	7	5	7	5	1,530	1,275	1,272
Powder	7	6	6	6	1,773	1,434	1,381
Pydar	3	4	3	4	1,093	886	969
St Austell	3	4	4	4	1,317	1,084	980
East Wivelshire	3	4	3	4	1,281	984	963
Stratton	3	3	3	3	724	632	601
Trigg Major	3	3	3	3	595	480	467
Trigg Minor & Bodmin	6	4	4	4	1,379	1,054	1,079
West Wivelshire	3	3	3	4	1,011	837	896
Total	47	53	45	46	13,296	10,713	10,582
House of Bishops	2		2				
Ex-officio	6	6	6	6			
Co-opted	0	0	5 (max)	5 (max)			
Bishop's Nominees	0	2	5 (max)	5 (max)			
	55	61	63	62			

NOTES:

- (1) The 2017 and 2020 (and current 2023) electoral roll figures are given for comparison purposes. Please note that there was an Electoral Roll renewal in 2019 (this occurs once every six years).
- (2) The ex-officio members are as follows:-
House of Clergy: The Dean
Two Archdeacons
Proctors elected from the Diocese to General Synod

House of Laity: Three elected General Synod members
The Chancellor
The Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance
The Chair of the DAC
- (3) Each House has the power to co-opt up to five members. In addition, the Bishop has the power to nominate up to ten members of Synod who may be of either House. The total membership of Synod - including the maximum numbers who may be co-opted or nominated - must not exceed 270.
- (4) The composition of Diocesan Synods is governed by Rules 29 - 34 of the Church Representation Rules as amended with effect from 1 January 2020.
- (5) Ex-officio membership is not a disqualification from being elected or chosen as a member of Diocesan Synod under the Rules.

November 2023