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Diocesan Synod Elections 2027

Allocation of Seats

In advance of a Diocesan Synod election, the existing Synod must, before the end of the previous year (and therefore this time at the November 2026 Synod) confirm or amend the total numbers of elected members to the new Synod and approve the form of voting paper to be used.

The Church Representation Rules (CRR) state that there must be roughly equal numbers of clergy and laity. Clergy numbers must be related to the numbers of members of the deanery houses of clergy; laity numbers must be related to the total numbers of names on the deaneries' electoral rolls. Applying the CRR proportions to that same total number of seats produces the following proposed allocation (2024 and 2020 allocation shown for comparison).

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	House of Clergy			House of Laity		
	2027	**2024**	**2020**	**2027**	**2024**	**2020**
	60 Seats	60 Seats	60 Seats	60 Seats	60 Seats	60 Seats
B.Waltham	5	3	5	7	7	7
Fareham	9	9	7	9	8	8
Gosport	4	5	4	6	4	4
Petersfield	6	6	5	6	7	7
Havant	13	15	13	11	12	12
Portsmouth	12	17	15	9	9	9
Isle of Wight	11	5	11	12	13	13
Total	**60**	**60**	**60**	**60**	**60**	**60**

Together with the ex-officio, nominated and co-opted members, the total size of a Synod should not be less than 100 and not more than 270.

The full calculations are shown in **Appendix A**

Form of Voting Paper to be used

CRR require that if more candidates are nominated than there are seats to be filled the names of the candidates nominated shall be circulated on a voting paper in the form set out in either Form 6 or Form 7 in Part 10 of the CRR).

I enclose a copy of the appropriate pages from the CRR in **Appendix B**.

Fundamentally, it is a choice between the "first-past-the-post method" that we have always used in the past, and the single transferable vote (STV) system. Since the numbers of nominations rarely match the seats available (leaving deaneries to subsequently fill their allocations by judicious press ganging), and the STV system would place an onerous administrative burden on the presiding officers (deanery lay chairmen), it is proposed that the Form 6 voting form be used.

The following two motions are recommended to the Diocesan Synod:

Motions for Bishops Council and Diocesan Synod

(a) **That the allocation of synod seats to deaneries, as above, be adopted for the 2027 Diocesan Synod elections.**

(b) That Form 6 of voting paper as set out in Part 10 to the Church Representation Rules be used in the 2027 Diocesan Synod elections.!"

Diocese of Portsmouth

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Appendix A

Clergy	Deanery total clergy divided by diocesan total clergy, multiplied by number of seats (60)										
	Deanery		Dio								
	Total		Total				Seats		**2027**	**2024**	**2020**
B.Waltham	12	divided by	1967	=	0.006100661	x	60	0.36604	5	**3**	**5**
Fareham	19	divided by	1967	=	0.00965938	x	60	0.57956	9	**9**	**7**
Gosport	9	divided by	1967	=	0.004575496	x	60	0.27453	4	**5**	**4**
Petersfield	14	divided by	1967	=	0.007117438	x	60	0.42705	6	**6**	**5**
Havant	29	divided by	1967	=	0.014743264	x	60	0.8846	13	**15**	**13**
Portsmouth	26	divided by	1967	=	0.013218099	x	60	0.79309	12	**17**	**15**
Isle of Wight	24	divided by	1967	=	0.012201322	x	60	0.73208	11	**5**	**11**
	133								60	60	60

Laity	Deanery electoral roll divided by total diocesan electoral roll multiplied by number of seats (										
	Deanery		Dio								
Electoral Roll Figure			Total				Seats		**2027**	**2024**	**2020**
B.Waltham	1147	divided by	9880	=	0.116093117	x	60	6.96559	7	**7**	**7**
Fareham	1565	divided by	9880	=	0.15840081	x	60	9.50405	9	**8**	**8**
Gosport	913	divided by	9880	=	0.092408907	x	60	5.54453	6	**4**	**4**
Petersfield	984	divided by	9880	=	0.099595142	x	60	5.97571	6	**7**	**7**
Havant	1804	divided by	9880	=	0.182591093	x	60	10.9555	11	**12**	**12**
Portsmouth	1500	divided by	9880	=	0.151821862	x	60	9.10931	9	**9**	**9**
Isle of Wight	1967	divided by	9880	=	0.199089069	x	60	11.9453	12	**13**	**13**
	9880								60	60	60

Jesus-centred, Kingdom-seeking