

DIOCESAN SYNOD ELECTIONS 2024

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 2023 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 (2021 allocation in italics).

	House of Clergy		House of Laity		
	2024	<i>2021</i>	2024	<i>2021</i>	
	60	<i>60</i>	60	<i>60</i>	
	Seats	<i>Seats</i>	Seats	<i>Seats</i>	
Bishop's.Waltham	3	<i>5</i>	7	<i>7</i>	Together with the ex-officio, nominated and co-opted members, the total size of a Synod should not be less than 100 and not and not more than 270
Fareham	9	<i>7</i>	8	<i>8</i>	
Gosport	5	<i>4</i>	5	<i>4</i>	
Petersfield	6	<i>5</i>	7	<i>7</i>	
Havant	15	<i>13</i>	11	<i>12</i>	
Portsmouth	17	<i>15</i>	9	<i>9</i>	
Isle of Wight	5	<i>11</i>	13	<i>13</i>	
Total	60	<i>60</i>	60	<i>60</i>	

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. 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:

- (a) **That the allocation of synod seats to deaneries, as above, be adopted for the 2024 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 2024 Diocesan Synod elections.**

Voting paper for election to diocesan synod (see [rule 42\(1\)](#) and [\(8\)](#))

Form 6

VOTING PAPER FOR ELECTION TO HOUSE OF CLERGY OR HOUSE OF LAITY OF DIOCESAN SYNOD (SIMPLE MAJORITY SYSTEM)

Portsmouth Diocesan Synod

Election of members of the House of Clergy/Laity

Deanery of _____

_____ members to be elected.

Voting Paper

Mark your vote in this column Candidates' names, addresses and year of birth

Guidance to Voters

1. The voting paper must be signed and the full name written on the reverse.
2. You have as many votes as there are members to be elected.
3. You may not give more than one vote to any one candidate.
4. You vote by placing an 'X' opposite the name(s) of the candidate(s) of your choice.
5. If you inadvertently spoil your voting paper you may return it to the Presiding Officer who will give you another paper.
6. This voting paper duly completed on the reverse must be delivered (by post or otherwise) to _____
so as to arrive by no later than _____

The following to be printed on back of form –

Signature of voter _____

Full name _____

Address _____

Form 7

VOTING PAPER FOR ELECTION TO HOUSE OF CLERGY OR HOUSE OF LAITY OF DIOCESAN SYNOD (STV SYSTEM)

_____ Diocesan Synod

Election of members of the House of Clergy/Laity

Deanery of _____

_____ members to be elected.

Voting Paper

Mark your vote in this column Candidates' names, addresses and year of birth

Guidance to Voters

1. The voting paper must be signed and the full name written on the reverse.
2. Use your single transferable vote by entering '1' against your first preference, and if desired, '2' against your second preference, '3' against your third preference, and so on as far as you wish. The sequence of your preferences is crucial. NO CROSS should be used.
3. You should continue to express preferences for as long as you are able to place successive candidates in order. A later preference is considered only if an earlier preference either has a surplus above the quota (the minimum number required to guarantee election) or has been excluded because of insufficient support.
4. The numbering of your preferences must be consecutive and given to different candidates. Remember that marking a second or subsequent preference cannot affect the chances of any earlier preference.
5. If you inadvertently spoil your voting paper you may return it to the Presiding Officer who will give you another paper.
6. This voting paper duly completed on the reverse thereof must be delivered (by post or otherwise) to _____ so as to arrive by no later than _____

The following to be printed on back of form –

Signature of voter _____

Full name _____

Address _____
