



DIOCESAN SYNOD QUESTIONS

Question 1

Q. Mr Neal Harvey (On behalf of Merton Deanery)

Is there within the diocesan structure, a person who is responsible for the formulation of suitable policies, the distribution of those policies and the provision of expertise and advice in respect of Health and Safety and upon whom a Church Committee may resort for advice, support and implementation in this important area of concern and potential liability?

A. The Diocesan Secretary

The Diocese does not have one appointed person who advises on all aspects of health and safety for parishes, but we provide various information through our website (<https://southwark.anglican.org/about-us/what/caring-for-our-churches/secular-legislation/health-and-safety>), and there is also information through the Church of England website (<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/churchcare>) as well as Ecclesiastical Insurance who provide up to date information and advice that we would refer parishes to. Archdeacons are often involved in pointing towards available resources and advice.

There is some specific advice available on a case by case basis in some specific areas such as Lone Working policies.

The Diocesan Secretary is legally liable for the diocesan offices and diocesan property including houses.

Question 2

Q. Mr Neal Harvey (Merton Deanery)

Could the Diocesan Secretary provide a written statement of the numbers declared on the electoral rolls of all parishes and churches in this Diocese?

A. The Diocesan Secretary

The total number of the electoral rolls of all parishes in the Diocese for 2019 is 36727.

The detailed numbers for each parish is available on request.

Question 3

Q. Mr Adrian Greenwood (Bermondsey Deanery)

Electoral Rolls 2018 - 2019

(a) Using the information held at Trinity House, and by Archdeaconry, what were the changes in the total number of members on electoral rolls in the parishes of each archdeaconry from 2018 to 2019 (by number and percentage)

A. Diocesan Secretary

Archdeaconry	Change in Total of Electoral Rolls from 2018-2019	Change as a Percentage of 2018 Electoral Roll
Croydon	-1319	-21%
Reigate	-1808	-20%
Lambeth	-1552	-20%
Wandsworth	-1365	-14%
Lewisham & Greenwich	-885	-13%
Southwark	-601	-13%

(b) Again by Archdeaconry, how many parishes showed an increase in their electoral rolls in the same period?

A. Diocesan Secretary

Archdeaconry	Number of Parishes Showing an Increased Electoral Roll 2018-2019
Croydon	3
Reigate	7
Lambeth	5
Wandsworth	11
Lewisham & Greenwich	15
Southwark	7

It has to be noted that electoral rolls do increase during the year after APCMs. The electoral roll is one indicator of congregation size. In its Strategic Objectives, as part of Southwark Vision, the Diocese uses Average Weekly Attendance as the key indicator.

Question 4**Q. Mr Adrian Greenwood (Bermondsey Deanery)****Allocation of Seats for Lay People on Deanery Synods in 2020 by Reference to Electoral Rolls in 2019**

By Archdeaconry, please show the numbers of parishes in each of the bands for the different numbers of seats, as set out in DS (19)27.

A. Diocesan Secretary

Archdeaconry	<25	26-75	76-125	126-200	201-300	301-400	401-600	>600
Croydon	1	15	16	10	2	6	-	-
Reigate	4	25	21	17	2	-	2	-
Lambeth	1	17	18	10	3	1	-	2
Wandsworth	1	13	21	14	4	2	3	-
Lewisham & Greenwich	1	25	23	9	5	-	-	-
Southwark	1	15	11	4	1	4	-	-

Question 5**Q. Mr Christopher Elliot (Reigate Deanery)**

Please can Synod be advised of the current status of the proposed Lay Chairs and Area Deans handbook.

A. The Diocesan Secretary

The Lay Chairs and Area Deans handbook will be published before the end of the year now that the Church Representation Rules 2020 are now, as of today, ready for publication. Lay Chairs and Area Deans will be shown the final draft of the Diocese of Southwark handbook for comments prior to publishing. We are very grateful for the input by Lay Chairs in particular to date.