

## SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN SYNOD

### Lay Representation on Deanery Synods for Elections in 2020

#### Summary

The Diocesan Synod is asked to pass the following resolution to determine the number of lay representatives from each parish, or district church that may be elected to deanery synods in 2020.

#### Motion

*“THIS SYNOD approves the proposed table of the number of lay representatives per parish/church to be elected to deanery synods at the annual parochial church meetings in 2020 as set out in paper 19(27)”.*

#### Background

1. A deanery is a designated geographical area consisting of the Church of England parishes within it and forms an important bridge between parishes and the wider church. Deanery synods are the formal meetings of a deanery which focus on mission and ministry in the area and also share information with each other and contribute to the wider work of the diocese, supporting diocesan initiatives and in our diocese, Southwark Vision.
2. Deanery synods are triennial (three yearly) and consist both of all beneficed and licensed clergy in the deanery on the one hand, and lay people elected from the churches on the other. They are jointly chaired by an area dean and a lay chair.
3. Under the Church Representation Rules 2017 25(2), the Diocesan Synod **must** pass a resolution to determine what numbers of lay people each church may elect (at the annual parochial church meeting/annual general meeting) to the deanery synod in the year before the election. This requirement continues in the revised Church Representation and Ministers Measure 2019<sup>1</sup> (and which comes into force on 1 January 2020).
4. The Church Representation Rules require diocesan synods to use electoral rolls as the means of allocating numbers of representation. **The figures** for electoral rolls at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM/AGM) **for 2019** must be used as that is the year preceding the election. There is an added requirement that any church with less than 26 persons on its electoral roll may not be allocated more than one lay representative.

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<sup>1</sup> A reform under the Church’s simplification agenda and a measure in which the Archdeacon of Southwark played a part.

5. The 2019 electoral rolls have been analysed and checked, giving the numbers set out below in the banding which was adopted by the Southwark Diocesan Synod on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2007. This banding was confirmed again on 12 November 2016.
6. The Diocesan Synod also adopted an approach that recognised the existence of multi-church parishes. Thus team ministries, for example, elect their lay representatives separately by church according to the size of their respective electoral rolls.

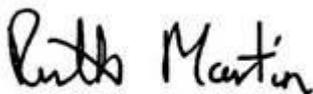
**Recommendation**

To agree the table below

Total Electoral Roll Numbers for a parish or individual church electoral roll numbers for multi-church parish <b>at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2019</b>	Number of lay representatives to deanery synod
25 or fewer	1
26 - 75	2
76 - 125	3
126 - 200	4
201 - 300	5
301 - 400	6
401 - 600	7
601 upwards	8

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The Diocesan Secretary will then include the specified number of lay representatives in the letters to PCC Secretaries that will be sent out in January ahead of the APCMs. In addition the detailed numbers are available for inspection by Diocesan Synod members.



Ruth Martin (Lay Canon)  
Diocesan Secretary