



### Carl D. Hughes

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#### Some background to Carl

After a 32-year career in the City as a chartered accountant, I stepped back from full-time work in 2015 to develop a range of activities which, as set out overleaf, comprises several non-executive corporate, charitable and church directorships, trusteeships and activities. These roles reflect my interest in Christian service and the areas of specialisation during my career in the energy and resources sector.

I have lived in Putney since I married Teresa in 1990 and we have worshipped at our local church (Holy Trinity, Wandsworth) since that time. I am currently one of the churchwardens, a PCC member and an occasional organist. Our children, Oliver (25) and Kasia (20), are working at Durham University and the London College of Fashion respectively.

I am a keen skier (snow and water!) and enjoy swimming, scuba diving, politics, gastronomy, reading, theatre, opera and music.

# Carl Hughes

## GS21 Election Statement

September 2021

Dear General Synod Lay Elector,

I am writing to seek your support for my re-election for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term as one of your Southwark lay representatives to the General Synod for 2021-2026.

It has been a considerable honour and privilege to be able to represent you, and the Diocese as a whole, over the past 6 years. Throughout this period, I have listened carefully to views coming to me from members of deanery synods and I have sought to honour my election pledge from 2015 in reporting back to you regularly on what I have been doing – I very much hope that you have been receiving my 10 reports over the past 6 years via deanery synod lay chairs and secretaries. If re-elected, I commit to continue reporting back to you and being readily available to you.

In this election statement, I have set out details of my background, my current roles and responsibilities, what I have achieved as a member of General Synod, and what I see as the Synod's priorities for the next 5 years.

On the basis of this Statement and my record as one of your General Synod representatives, **I hope and pray that you will feel able to give me a high preference when you vote in this election.** I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Chris Elliott (Reigate Deanery) and Jane Snowden (Wandsworth Deanery) for being willing to propose and second me.

If you have any questions or matters that you would like to discuss with me, please do not hesitate to call or email me directly.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours in Christ,

Carl

#### An active member of the House of Laity 2015-2021

Over the past 6 years, I have sought to focus my efforts at General Synod, and in serving the Diocese and the national Church, in areas where I have felt that I could bring the benefits of my personal experience - and where I could make a difference.

Given my career history, I naturally inclined to engage with financial matters, and was elected by Synod to serve on the **Archbishops' Council Finance Committee** where I continue to serve deputy chairman and also as chairman of the **Investment Committee**. As regards the latter, we have been developing a strategy for investment in social impact programmes using additional funding provided by the Church Commissioners.

As a result of my Finance Committee work, I have spoken regularly at Synod on budgetary matters, the financial stresses facing the Church, giving and the deployment of historical diocesan resources. In this context, I was invited by ++Justin to join the Board of the **Lambeth Conference Company** to provide financial advice and input for the Conference which is now scheduled to take place next summer.

**An active member of the House of Laity 2015-2021 (continued)**

In addition to financial matters, I have spoken in Synod debates on a broad range of subjects including *the NHS, the environment and climate change, and education.*

In 2016, I was asked to undertake a review of the financial condition of Peterborough Cathedral. This developed into a full *Visitation* on behalf of the Bishop which, in turn, gave rise to recommendations which caused ++Justin to establish the *Cathedrals Working Group* to review cathedral governance, management and finance more broadly.

Having served on this Group and helped draft its recommendations, a process commenced to enact a new *Cathedrals Measure*. I was privileged to be able to help steer this through General Synod and to see all this work come together as new legislation which received Royal Assent last year.

**Looking ahead – General Synod priorities for 2021-2026**

General Synod is facing a large and challenging agenda:

- Addressing the financial and growth challenges, exacerbated by the pandemic, being felt across parishes, cathedrals, dioceses and the national Church – this will inevitably require restructuring of what is done where and by whom and will be informed by two of the current *Emerging Church* workstreams - *Governance* and *Transforming Effectiveness*. However, I am determined that this should NOT undermine the strength of the parish system and benefit of having as many active clergy on the ground as possible.
- Determining how to give practical effect to *Vision & Strategy* (led by ++York with the themes of a Church which is '*Jesus Christ centred and Jesus Christ shaped*' and which is '*Simpler, Humbler and Bolder*'), ensuring that the focus given to lay ministry by *Setting God's People Free* is not lost in the process.
- Bringing the debate concerning marriage and human sexuality to a conclusion following the ongoing *Living in Love and Faith (LLF)* discernment process, it now being anticipated that the House of Bishops will bring forward their conclusions and any proposals by the end of 2022.
- Bringing forward new legislation to replace the much-criticised *Clergy Discipline Measure*.
- Developing practical measures to enable the Church to progress towards its *environmental* and *carbon-neutral* goals.

I have always believed that my faith should inform and permeate all aspects of my life – home, work, play and church. I hold orthodox views of Biblical principles and am evangelical in approach. However, I understand that there are many parts of the One Body and I will continue to be persistent in listening, to distil what is best from what are often seen as quite differing views, to enable me to come to an informed view on the subjects of debate.

**My commitment to you.....I will**

- devote the **time** necessary to fulfil my obligations faithfully
- be committed to my role in **prayer** seeking the Spirit's guidance
- provide regular **reports** on Synod proceedings
- \* be **accountable to you** for my performance
- \* be **available** to you by phone, email or in-person to answer questions and receive input

**Current roles and responsibilities**

**Non-executive Directorships and Trusteeships**

<p><b>CORPORATE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>EnQuest PLC</b> (Audit Committee Chairman)</li> <li>• <b>En+ Group IPJSC</b> (Audit &amp; Risk Committee Chairman)</li> <li>• <b>UK Audit Committee Chairs Independent Forum</b> (Board member with responsibility for members' interests)</li> </ul> <p><b>CHARITABLE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Premier Christian Media Trust</b> (Finance, Risk &amp; Audit Committee Chairman)</li> <li>• <b>Evangelical Fellowship in the Anglican Communion</b> (Treasurer)</li> <li>• <b>Whitelands College, University of Roehampton</b> (Vice chair – representative of Archbishop's Council)</li> </ul>	<p><b>CHURCH OF ENGLAND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>General Synod</b> (member of House of Laity)</li> <li>• <b>Archbishops' Council Finance Committee</b> (deputy chairman – elected by General Synod)</li> <li>• <b>Archbishops' Council Investment Committee</b> (chairman – appointed by Finance Committee)</li> <li>• <b>Lambeth Conference Company</b> (appointed by ++Justin)</li> <li>• <b>Parish of All Saints w Holy Trinity Wandsworth</b> (Churchwarden, PCC member, organist)</li> <li>• <b>St Cecilia's CofE Secondary School</b> (Member of Academy Trust – Parish representative)</li> </ul>
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**Other current roles**

- *Member of the Southwark Diocesan Synod*
- *Member of the Wandsworth Deanery Synod*
- *Member of the Church of England Evangelical Council (elected lay member for Province of Canterbury; chair of Working Group)*
- *Member of the Management Committee of the Evangelical Group of the General Synod (EGGS)*

**Relevant past roles and responsibilities**

- *Member of the Cathedrals Measure Revision Committee (2019-20)*
- *Member of the Archbishops' Cathedrals Working Group (2017-18)*
- *Visitation of Peterborough Cathedral on behalf of +Peterborough (2016)*
- *Member of the Diocesan Council of Trustees (DCT); Vice-chairman - Policy and Finance Committee of the DCT and the Diocesan Board of Finance; Member of the Audit & Governance and Investment Committees (2015-18)*