



The Diocese of
Southwark

Diocesan Secretary

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**By e-mail to:
All Deanery Synod Secretaries
Area Deans and Deanery Lay Chairs President and
Vice-Presidents of Diocesan Synod**

08 March 2024

Elections to Diocesan Synod 2024

Dear Colleagues

As 2024 continues, I want to say again how grateful I am for all your work to serve and support our parishes and wonderfully diverse Diocese.

In accordance with the [Church Representation Rules](#), I am writing to let you know the procedure for electing members to the Diocesan Synod in 2024. You will have already seen my letter of 24 January giving notice of the upcoming elections.

A list is enclosed showing how many are to be elected in each of the House of Clergy and House of Laity for each Deanery. Elections of members of the Diocesan Synod by the Houses of the Deanery Synods need to be completed by 17 July 2024.

New members elected shall hold office for a term of three years beginning on 1 August 2024 and the first meeting of the new Diocesan Synod will be Saturday 16 November 2024.

Candidates for the Diocesan Synod do not need to be existing members of deanery synods but must be on an electoral roll and an actual communicant member of a parish or declared by a leader of a BMO (mission initiative) to be part of its worshipping community, in the Deanery. If on more than one electoral roll then the candidate must choose which parish is appropriate. Once elected to the Diocesan Synod that person will then become an ex-officio member of the Deanery Synod and the relevant PCC.

I am aware that deaneries conduct these elections in varied ways, however, below is the method to be observed according to the Church Representation Rules. Any deviation from this may result in an appeal and the election having to be run again.

The Diocesan Synod has agreed that, for each deanery, the Lay Chair shall be the Presiding Officer for the House of Clergy and the Area Dean for the House of Laity. This will avoid complication should the Area Dean or Lay Chair wish to stand in the election.

The Diocesan Office is required to maintain the names and addresses of the qualified electors and enclosed is the current list that we hold. Please note these names were taken from the parish returns after the latest APCM, or updates received for which we have records and changes may have occurred since then. You are asked to check these against your own lists and notify Charles Hudson-Beddows (governance@southwark.anglican.org) any changes. It is the duty of the

deanery secretary to keep the Diocese informed about subsequent changes of membership of Deanery Synod is in Rule 20(3), please do continue to send us details of any changes whenever they occur. Only those appearing on the official list (for this purpose this will be the list that has been agreed by the Diocesan Office and the Deanery Secretary) will be entitled to receive nomination and voting papers. These must be sent out by the Presiding Officer. Please note that General Synod and Diocesan Synod members are able to vote in the elections, but not any co-opted members.

Southwark Diocese is one of the largest Dioceses in the Church of England, serving the people of South London and East Surrey. We are a diverse and vibrant Diocese that takes joy in the distinctiveness and variety of God's gifts and people - and we'd love our Diocesan Synod to reflect that diversity. We want to welcome and encourage members of a wide range of church traditions, age and experience and we want to ensure that we represent the communities that we serve. As we continue to implement our Diocesan Anti Racism Charter, we're particularly seeking to increase representation of United Kingdom Minority Ethnic/Global Majority Heritage (UKME/GMH) peoples as Synod members. Please publicise this election as widely as possible and encourage participation in the election process of people who are not necessarily on the deanery synod but are interested in church governance.

An induction seminar for new members is planned for Autumn.

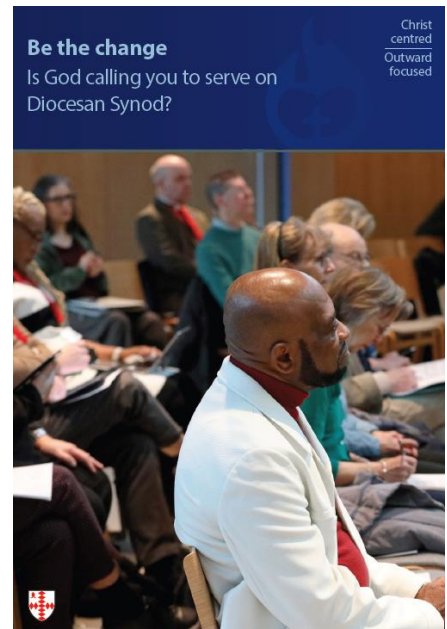
- Woolwich: Saturday 21 September 2024
- Croydon: Wednesday 2 October 2024
- Kingston: Wednesday 9 October 2024

Enclosed with this letter is a flier which can be distributed to those qualified to stand in the elections, hard copy leaflets will be sent to your Deanery Secretary and the PCC Secretary of each parish in the Diocese.

Every candidate must be nominated and seconded by a qualified elector within the Houses (lay or clergy) of the deanery synod they are nominated by. A notice indicating the number of seats to be filled and inviting nominations shall be dispatched to every elector by the Presiding Officer (see sample notification form enclosed). Nominations shall be delivered by post, e-mail, or in person to the Presiding Officer of the area. A period of at least 14 days should be allowed to enable nominations to be received and a period of 3 days after the closing date be allowed to receive the original copy of a nomination sent by e-mail. The nomination form shall be accompanied by a factual statement of not more than 100 words for circulation with the voting papers of the candidate's present office and any relevant experience, including professional qualifications if relevant.

It shall be the duty of the Presiding Officer:

- a) to scrutinise nomination papers as soon as they have been lodged and, without delay, inform the candidate concerned whether the nomination is valid. Where the nomination is invalid, the presiding officer shall give his reasons for so ruling and if, by the close of the nomination period, no valid nomination is received, the candidate shall be excluded from the election;



- b) to supply free of charge to a duly nominated candidate in the election one copy of the names and addresses of the qualified electors within seven days of receiving his/her written request.

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 (sample enclosed) to every qualified elector. The Diocesan Synod has ruled that the voting shall be by the 'First Past the Post System.', and this shall apply to any election to fill a casual vacancy which occurs during the next ensuring three years.

The voting paper duly marked, shall be signed on the reverse by the elector adding his/her name and address, and returned to the Presiding Officer by the due date. A period of at least 14 days is required for this process. No vote shall be counted if not on the prescribed form. In the event of a tie, the decision between the persons for whom the equal number of votes have been cast shall be taken by lot by the Presiding Officer.

A return of the result of the election shall be sent by the Presiding Officer to me at Trinity House and a statement of the result shall be sent by the Presiding Officer to every candidate not later than 1 August 2024.

Information and documents can also be found on the Diocesan Synod Election page of the [website](#). If you would like any further information or help please feel free contact the Assistant Secretary to Synod charles.hudson-beddows@southwark.anglican.org.

Yours faithfully,



Nicola Thomas
Diocesan Secretary

Included in this mailing is:

- List of numbers on Diocesan Synod by Deanery
- Diocesan list of Deanery members for checking and return
- Sample Notice of Election
- Sample Form of Nomination
- Sample Ballot paper
- Results sheets for clergy and laity

Elections to Diocesan Synod in 2024

Deanery	Code	No of Reps	Electoral Roll	No of Reps	No of Reps	Licensed Clergy	PTO Clergy	No of Electors	No of Reps	Total Reps 2024
		2021	2023	2024	2024	2021	2023	2023	2024	
		1/450 (min 2)		1/450 (min 2)					1/6 (min 2)	
Croydon North	CC1	2	804	2	2	13	7	14	2	4
Croydon Addington	CC2	2	888	2	2	11	7	12	2	4
Croydon Central	CC3	3	1462	3	3	13	9	14	2	5
Croydon South	CC4	2	976	2	2	11	6	12	2	4
Sutton	CR5	4	1488	3	4	28	9	29	4	7
Reigate	CR3	6	2551	5	5	28	21	30	5	10
Tandridge	CR4	5	2149	4	4	20	17	21	3	7
Lambeth North	KL1	4	1070	2	5	34	18	35	5	7
Lambeth South	KL2	2	938	2	2	20	14	21	3	5
Merton	KL3	6	2450	5	6	32	11	33	5	10
Battersea	KW1	3	1050	2	3	15	8	16	2	4
Tooting	KW2	2	1126	2	3	17	9	18	3	5
Wandsworth	KW3	3	1589	3	3	21	8	22	3	6
Richmond & Barnes	KW4	3	1260	2	3	22	14	23	3	5
Kingston	KW5	4	1808	4	4	26	14	27	4	8
Charlton	WL1	2	810	2	4	21	10	22	3	5
Eltham & Mottingham	WL2	2	359	2	1	9	6	10	2	4
Plumstead	WL3	2	591	2	2	14	7	15	2	4
East Lewisham	WL4	3	901	2	4	25	18	26	4	6
West Lewisham	WL5	2	596	2	1	9	8	10	2	4
Deptford	WL6	2	464	2	2	12	2	13	2	4
Bermondsey	WS1	2	358	2	1	8	3	9	2	4
Southwark & Newington	WS2	2	909	2	4	20	14	21	3	5
Camberwell	WS3	2	584	2	2	13	5	14	2	4
Dulwich	WS4	2	611	2	3	15	8	16	2	4
Totals		72	27792	63	75	457	253	482	72	135

	2018	2021	2024	2024
			1/500 (min 2)	1/450 (min 2)
Bishops	4	4	4	4
Elected Laity	73	72	59	63
Elected Clergy	75	78	72	72
Archdeacons & Dean	7	7	7	7
Bishop's Nominees (Clergy)	2	5		
Bishop's Nominees (Laity)	8	5		
General Synod Clergy	7	7	7	7
General Synod Laity	7	7	7	7
Chancellor	1	1	1	1
DAC Chairman	1	1	1	1
DBF Chairman	1	1	1	1
Total Laity	88	87	69	73
Total Clergy	88	97	86	86
Total Bishops	4	4	4	4
Maximum Membership	180	188	159*	163*

*excluding Bishop's Nominees