

## Questions to Candidates

On previous occasions, those entitled to vote in the General Synod election have been able to engage candidates face-to-face at hustings. However, during recent elections, the number of candidates and electors attending these events has diminished dramatically. At the same time, electronic media make it much easier to raise questions through email, websites, Twitter, Facebook and in other ways.

***We have encouraged voters to pose questions which can be put to candidates collectively.*** The questions set out below are generic in nature, but based on those I have received.

If you would like to engage in this question and answer process, please enter your replies in the space provided after each question. I reserve the right to remove any response which might reasonably be considered offensive or prejudicial (though I do not expect that I shall need to do so).

A word limit has been set for your replies of **120 words per question**. Additional words will be cut from the final submission but you could, of course, give a shorter answer and invite anyone who wishes to discuss further with you to send supplementary comments to your email address (remembering, of course, to give it!).

Please return your completed form to [jrees@wslaw.co.uk](mailto:jrees@wslaw.co.uk) and copied to [sleader@wslaw.co.uk](mailto:sleader@wslaw.co.uk), by **9.00 am on Monday 28 September 2015**. Your submissions will be posted on the Diocesan website, with your Election Address and Video Presentation/photograph, on Wednesday 30 September at 5.00 pm.

**Canon John Rees**  
**Presiding Officer for General Synod Election**  
**September 2015**

<b>Name of Candidate</b> (please enter name in full)	<b>Susan (Sue) Elizabeth Booy</b>
---	-----------------------------------

## Questions and Replies

<b>Question:</b>	Given there are such strongly held differing views on the issue of human sexuality in our Church, how do you think the Church of England should approach the issue in the next five years?
<b>Reply:</b> 120 word limit applies	I support the commitment to listening in the “shared conversations”. I hope that one outcome will be clarity about our Church’s view of marriage given the changed understandings in State and society. This is a moment for serious and prayerful

	<p>understanding of marriage and consideration of how, whether and why we might change any part of our practice. I cannot tell what Synod will vote on so will not commit to a declaration of 'how' I will vote. I struggle with questions around changing the traditional view of marriage and I want to support Christian LGBTI couples who value the vision and promises of the Marriage Service to express their depth of relationship in a sacramental way.</p>
--	--

<p><b>Question:</b></p>	<p>What role, if any, do you think the Church of England and its partner churches in the Anglican Communion might play in response to the world's current needs?</p>
<p><b>Reply:</b> 120 word limit applies</p>	<p>The recent visits of both Archbishops within the Communion have been greatly appreciated within the Church and beyond. Their example of care and reconciliation and the call for action to support the poor and dispossessed is one that all members of the Communion should take seriously. The existence of such a broad network of Churches with influence in their own countries and through a network of agencies can and should be focussed towards the generous relief of need and outspoken action for justice.</p>

<p><b>Question:</b></p>	<p>Do you think the ministry of the Church of England might need to change in the coming years, and, if so, what changes would you support in the selection and training of its lay and ordained leadership?</p>
<p><b>Reply:</b> 120 word limit applies</p>	<p>The ministry of the church of England is changing in many ways at present. I believe that the most significant and much needed change is in taking seriously the gifts of lay people and the concept of mutual leadership. The move to encourage and train Clergy for senior leadership has been controversial but early reports of this initiative from participants has sounded encouraging. In recent years IME training has been in a constant state of change and the changes under consideration must be consulted about and carefully thought through before further change is initiated.</p>