

**Elected Representation from Deaneries on Diocesan Synod,
2018-21**

1. Under rules 31(6) and 32(6) respectively of the Church Representation Rules ('CRR'), the Diocesan Synod is required to determine not later than 31 December 2017:
 - (i) the numbers of members of the diocesan houses of clergy and laity to be elected from deaneries in the 2015 Diocesan Synod elections; and
 - (ii) the method of election to be used in those elections.
2. Owing to an oversight, this was not done by 31 December 2017. However, rule 53(1)(c) of the Church Representation Rules allows "so far as may be necessary for the purpose of giving effect to the intention of these rules, to extend or to modify the procedure laid down by these rules in connection therewith."

Scheme of representation

3. Rule 31(6) of the CRR specifies that the number to be elected from each deanery to the diocesan house of clergy is to be related to the size of that deanery's house of clergy, and the number to be elected to the house of laity to the aggregate electoral roll size for the deanery; furthermore, at least two members are to be elected by each house of every deanery synod.
4. The sizes of the deanery houses of clergy as at 30 April 2017, certified for this purpose by deaneries under rule 31(7) of the CRR, were as follows:

Berkshire		Buckingham		Dorchester	
Bracknell	12	Amersham	37	Abingdon	35
Bradfield	15	Aylesbury	29	Aston & Cuddesdon	30
Maidenhead & Windsor	27	Buckingham	9	Bicester & Islip	21
Newbury	33	Burnham & Slough	23	Chipping Norton	17
Reading	47	Claydon	9	Deddington	27
Sonning	28	Milton Keynes	30	Henley	19
		Mursley	7	Vale of White Horse	7
		Newport	6	Wallingford	17
		Wendover	12	Wantage	9
		Wycombe	34	Witney	25
				Woodstock	16
Oxford					
Cowley	27				
Oxford	69				

Electoral roll figures aggregated by deanery (as certified under CRR rule 4 following 2017 annual parochial church meetings) are as follows:

Berkshire		Buckingham		Dorchester	
Bracknell	2813	Amersham	3835	Abingdon	2088
Bradfield	1452	Aylesbury	1837	Aston & Cuddesdon	2192
Maidenhead & Windsor	2336	Buckingham	725	Bicester & Islip	1288
Newbury	2450	Burnham & Slough	2083	Chipping Norton	1017
Reading	3645	Claydon	878	Deddington	1352
Sonning	3089	Milton Keynes	1623	Henley	1319
		Mursley	736	Vale of White Horse	1029
		Newport	1041	Wallingford	1152
Oxford		Wendover	1472	Wantage	735
Cowley	1307	Wycombe	2960	Witney	1599
Oxford	2983			Woodstock	1133

5. The scheme of representation adopted by the Diocesan Synod in 2014 for use in the 2015 elections, and used previously for the 2009 and 2012 elections, is as follows:

Lay representation		Clerical representation	
Deanery aggregate electoral roll	Number to be elected	Size of deanery house of clergy	Number to be elected
<1401	2	<21	2
1401–2100	3	21–30	3
2101–2800	4	31–40	4
2801–3500	5	41–50	5
3501–4200	6	>50	6
>4200	7		

6. If adopted again, this scheme would result in a 2018–21 Synod of 174 elected members, 83 clergy and 91 laity. Including current *ex-officio* members, this would give a Synod of 102 clergy and 100 laity, in addition to the four members of the House of Bishops and any co-opted or nominated members. This would be in line with the stipulations in CRR rule 31(8) that a diocesan synod must have no fewer than 100 members and no more than 270, to include co-options and bishop’s nominees, and that the sizes of the houses of clergy and laity should be “approximately equal”.
7. For reference, breakdowns by deanery of the numbers of elected members resulting from the scheme of representation above are given in Appendix 1, and full details of the non-elected membership of the Diocesan Synod are provided in Appendix 2.

Method of election

8. Under CRR rule 32(6), the Diocesan Synod must determine whether the 2018 elections should be conducted by the first-past-the-post system, or by the single transferable vote (as used for elections to the General Synod). Diocesan Synod elections are conducted by deanery, under the supervision of volunteer presiding officers appointed by the Bishop under CRR rule 32(2). In that context the first-past-the-post system, which has been used on all previous occasions, has the significant advantage of being very much more straightforward to administer. Whichever method is chosen, rule 32(6) provides that it will also be used in any election to fill a casual vacancy arising during the 2018–21 triennium

The Bishop's Council considered that paper, thought it was appropriate that a review of the formula should take place during the coming triennium, but recommended that the current formula should operate for the 2018-21 triennium.

The Diocesan Synod is asked to consider whether it wishes to approve the recommendations that:

- (i) the scheme of representation used in the 2009, 2012 and 2015 elections should be adopted again for use in the 2018 elections;**
- (ii) the 2018 elections should be conducted by the first-past-the-post system rather than by single transferable vote.**

APPENDIX 1: BREAKDOWN BY DEANERY OF ELECTED MEMBERSHIP OF 2018-21 SYNOD UNDER PROPOSED SCHEME OF REPRESENTATION

DEANERY	2015–18 Synod		2018-21 Synod	
	Laity	Clergy	Laity	Clergy
Bracknell	4	2	5	2
Bradfield	3	2	3	2
Maidenhead & Windsor	4	3	4	3
Newbury	4	3	4	4
Reading	6	5	6	5
Sonning	5	4	5	3
<i>Berkshire Archdeaconry</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>19</i>
Amersham	6	4	6	4
Aylesbury	3	3	3	3
Buckingham	2	2	2	2
Burnham and Slough	4	3	3	3
Claydon	2	2	2	2
Milton Keynes	3	3	3	3
Mursley	2	2	2	2
Newport	2	2	2	2
Wendover	3	2	3	2
Wycombe	5	4	5	4
<i>Buckingham Archdeaconry</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>27</i>
Abingdon	3	4	3	4
Aston and Cuddesdon	4	4	4	3
Bicester and Islip	2	2	2	3
Chipping Norton	2	2	2	2
Deddington	2	3	2	3
Henley	2	2	2	2
Vale of White Horse	2	2	2	2
Wallingford	2	2	2	2
Wantage	2	2	2	2
Witney	3	2	3	3
Woodstock	2	2	2	2
<i>Dorchester Archdeaconry</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>28</i>
Cowley	2	5	2	3
Oxford	4	6	5	6
<i>Oxford Archdeaconry</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>9</i>
TOTALS	90	84	91	83

APPENDIX 2: EX-OFFICIO, NOMINATED AND CO-OPTED MEMBERSHIP

Bishops of Oxford, Buckingham, Dorchester and Reading (4)
Deans of Christ Church and St George's, Windsor (2)
Archdeacons of Berkshire, Buckingham, Dorchester and Oxford (4)
Chancellor of the Diocese (1)
Chair of the Board of Finance (1)
Chair of the Board of Education (1)
Chair of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (1)
Members of the House of Clergy of the General Synod (currently 10)
Members of the House of Laity of the General Synod (currently 8)
Lay and Clerical Vice-Presidents of Houses (2)
Bishop's nominations (clerical or lay) (up to 10)
House of Clergy co-options (up to 5)
House of Laity co-options (up to 5)