

Diocesan Synod Elections 2021 – 2024: Proposed Formula Calculations

The Bishop's Council recommend Column 1 as the formula for the next Diocesan Synod to maintain a sufficiently large Synod to be representative.

	House of Clergy				House of Laity			
		Column 1 (proposed option)	Column 2 (alternative option)	Column 3 (2018-2021 formula)		Column 1 (proposed option)	Column 2 (alternative option)	Column 3 (2018-2021 formula)
Deanery	No of	Ratio of	Ratio of	Ratio of	No on	Ratio of	Ratio of	Ratio of
	Clergy	1 : 3.8	1 : 4	1 : 3.6	ER 2019	1 : 190	1 : 200	1 : 250
Bristol South	25	7	6	7	1381	7	7	6
Bristol West	39	10	10	11	2243	12	11	9
City	45	12	11	13	1573	8	8	6
Chippenham	17	4	4	5	1447	8	7	6
Kingswood & South Gloucestershire	44	12	11	12	2430	13	12	10
North Wiltshire	13	3	3	4	1218	6	6	5
Swindon	38	10	10	11	1858	10	9	7
Total	221	58	55	63	12150	64	60	49
Ex-Officio		8	8	8		5	5	5
Bishop's Nominees		5	5	5		5	5	5
Co-opted		5	5	5		5	5	5
Grand Total		76	73	81		79	75	64

The Minimum no. of Synod members is 100; maximum 270. The House of Laity representation is calculated from the Electoral Roll figures from 2019 which was a new roll that year. Due to COVID the 2020 Electoral Roll figures are unavailable.

Column 1 – proposed option (yellow)

155 members in the two Houses, with the House of Laity having a majority of 3: (76 clergy, 79 laity, 2 bishops = 157)

Column 2 – alternative option (white)

148 members in the two Houses, with the House of Laity having a majority of 2: (73 clergy, 75 laity, 2 bishops = 150)

For information, shown in the greyed out column (Column 3) is the outcome if the same formula was used for 2021-2024 as was agreed for 2018-2021. Since then, the number of licensed clergy has increased and the number of laity on Electoral Rolls in 2019 has decreased.

Therefore, these previous ratios cannot be used for 2021-2024 because the Houses would not be approximately equal [as required by CRR Rule 37(5)].