



6.1 CHURCH REPRESENTATION RULES (CRR) DEANERY SYNOD ELECTION FORMULA 2023 - 2026

Background

Every three years each parish’s Annual Parochial Church Meeting elects lay representatives to their respective Deanery Synod and the next elections will take place at the APCMs in 2023.

The effective date for the new triennium of Deanery Synods is 1st July 2023.

Lay members of the Deanery Synods are the electorate for the Diocese’s lay representatives in the General Synod (as well as being the electorate for each Deanery’s lay representatives in the Diocesan Synod).

The number of lay representatives from each parish to their Deanery Synod must be determined by resolution of the Diocesan Synod not later than 31st December in the year preceding the APCM elections and the numbers must be calculated by reference to the number of names on the Electoral Rolls of the parishes, as certified in accordance with CRR Rule 10.

Under CRR Rule 21(1)(a-b) the Diocesan Synod Formula must ensure that the total number of members of each Deanery Synod (House of Clergy and House of Laity) shall not be more than 150 (including co-options) and, so far as is practicable, shall not be less than 50. The House of Laity of a Deanery Synod must not be less in number than the House of Clergy.

The Bishop’s Council considered two options for a formula with the ratios given below. The main difference is for whether parishes with an Electoral Roll of 26-50 have one representative (A) or two representatives (B). The formula for the current triennium (2019-2022) is Formula A, during which vacancy levels have been between 20% and 25%.

In the light of current Electoral Roll numbers, the Bishop’s Council therefore recommends Formula A which generates a lower number of elected lay places but still higher than the clergy numbers.

Formula A

Number on Electoral Roll	0-25	26-50	51-100	101-200	201-300	301-500	501+
Deanery Synod Reps	1	1	2	3	4	5	6

Formula B

Number on Electoral Roll	0-25	26-100	101-200	201-300	301-400	401-500	501+
Deanery Synod Reps	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Option A

Deanery	House of Clergy			House of Laity				Total 2023 -26	Prev 2020- 23
	Mem- bers	Co- opted	PTO Repre	Elected	Co- opted	Ex- Offi- cio	Gen Syn		
Bristol South	27	3	1	30	3	7		71	71
Bristol West	42	3	3	46	3	12	1	109	97
City	45	3	2	49	3	8	1	110	106
Chippenham	17	3	1	38	3	8		69	70
Kingswood & South Gloucestershire	48	3	1	56	3	13		123	115
North Wiltshire	15	3	2	39	3	6		66	68
Swindon	33	3	2	46	3	10	1	96	98
	Total Clergy			260	Total Laity		392	652	625

Option B

Deanery	House of Clergy			House of Laity				Total 2020- 23
	Mem- bers	Co- opted	PTO Repre	Elected	Co- opted	Ex- Offi- cio	Gen Syn	
Bristol South	27	3	1	40	3	7		81
Bristol West	42	3	3	50	3	12	1	113
City	45	3	2	57	3	8	1	118
Chippenham	17	3	1	48	3	8		79
Kingswood & South Gloucestershire	48	3	1	62	3	13		129
North Wiltshire	15	3	2	54	3	6		81
Swindon	33	3	2	53	3	10	1	103
	Total Clergy		260		Total Laity		452	712