

## **Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995**

### **Explanatory Statement**

#### **Introduction**

1. The accounting, auditing and annual reporting requirements for each diocesan organisation are found in the Accounts Ordinance 1975. In some circumstances, a parish may be subject to those requirements.

2. The purpose of the bill ("Bill") for the Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995 is to repeal the Accounts Ordinance 1975 and introduce new provisions relating to accounts, audits and annual reports. The Bill has been prepared after the Synod, by resolution 16/92, asked the Standing Committee to review the Accounts Ordinance 1975 and, if thought necessary, to bring to the Synod an amending ordinance.

#### **Provisions of the Bill**

3. The Bill has 5 principal functions -

- (a) to provide for a more logical grouping of material for ease of reference and understanding;
- (b) to express provisions in a more contemporary language for ease of understanding;
- (c) to simplify or eliminate the distinctions which exist in the Accounts Ordinance 1975 between "organisations", "corporations" and "diocesan church schools";
- (d) to simplify or eliminate requirements found in the Accounts Ordinance 1975; and
- (e) to include within the accounting and auditing requirements the requirement for compliance with accepted accounting standards.

#### **Recommendation**

4. The Standing Committee recommends that the Synod pass the Bill as an ordinance. The Bill was deferred at the second session of this Synod and will start at the second reading.

For and on behalf of the Standing Committee

MARK PAYNE  
*Legal Officer*

7 August 1995