

Question: 14 October 2019

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

1.

- (a) What happens if there is a tied vote at Standing Committee or at a Session of Synod?
- (b) Does the President have a casting vote?
- (c) If so, does the President by convention cast it in favour of the *status quo ante*?
- (d) Will the passing of the Standing Committee Ordinance 1897 Amendment Ordinance 2018 alter the position?

To which the President replied –

1. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) A motion is passed only if a majority of the persons present and voting vote in favour of the motion. Therefore if there is an equality of votes there is no majority in favour and the motion is lost.
- (b) No.
- (c) Not applicable.
- (d) No.

Question: 14 October 2019

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

2.

- (a) What types of changes was the Committee (set up by Standing Committee to look at the “Composition, Purpose and Role of Synod”) proposing in its Report to the Standing Committee, which was considered by the latter at its meeting in August 2019?
- (b) Are they all referred to in pages 94 to 115 of the Standing Committee Reports dated 30 July 2019 and 29 August 2019?
- (c) If not, what other changes were that Committee proposing?

To which the President replied –

2. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The report of the Committee is in the minutes of the Standing Committee for its August 2019 meeting. These minutes are available for viewing by Synod members at the front table.

In summary, the changes recommended by the Committee in its report were to:

- (i) Increase the Synod representation for CEOs of ‘nominated organisations’ under Part 6 to include the CEOs of all Diocesan Organisations that receive funding from the Synod to pursue the diocesan mission. This would currently require the number to be increased from 7 to 9.
- (ii) Modify the current arrangements for providing ‘alternate’ representatives for Parochial Ministers so that a locum tenens who holds a general licence may be appointed as the alternate.
- (iii) Simplify the calculation for determining the number of places for members under Part 7 and 8 by basing it on the number of parishes (instead of ‘Parochial Ministers’), and that any fraction of 0.5 or above be rounded up to the next whole number.

- (iv) Provide for another ex-officio position for a woman in addition to the Archdeacon for Women's Ministry, leading to both Synod membership and membership of the Standing Committee.
- (b) No. Those reports concern Synod Resolution 40/18 'Synod business rules concerning moving amendments to motions' and Synod Resolution 14/17 'Review of the arrangements for the Diocesan Synod'.
- (c) The changes proposed by the Committee are those set out in its report to the Standing Committee in August 2019, as summarised in the answer to paragraph (a) of the question.

Question: 14 October 2019

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

3. How many Alternate Members were entitled to be present at Synod in 2017 and 2018 and how many are entitled to attend this year (2019)?

To which the President replied –

3. I am informed that the answer is as follows -

2017 – 14

2018 – 17

2019 - 17

Question: 14 October 2019

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

4.

- (a) How many Provisional Parishes are there currently in the Diocese?
- (b) How many have been created or reclassified since 2016 and by which Diocesan body/bodies?

To which the President replied –

4. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

(a) 34.

(b) Since 2016:

The Archbishop has created one new ecclesiastical district.

The Synod has reclassified eight provisional parishes to full parishes.

One parish has been reclassified as a provisional parish for failing the local revenues test.

Question: 14 October 2019

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

5. For the purposes of the Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2019:
 - (a) What are the names and localities of the “Nominated Diocesan Schools”?
 - (b) In which Regions and Diocese are they all located?

To which the President replied –

5. I am informed that the answer is as follows -

The Bill does not contain any provision for “Nominated Diocesan Schools” to have representation at Synod.

Paragraph 9 of the Explanatory Report on page 356 of Synod Book 2 explains that this was considered by the Northern Regional Council, but that the Council decided against it. The Council has recommended instead that the members of Synod elected by the Standing Committee include at least three heads of Diocesan Schools, with the Standing Committee to consider any names recommended by the Heads of Diocesan Schools in consultation with the Archbishop.

As the Bill has not yet been passed by the Synod, there have not been any consultations or decisions in respect to these members.

Question: 14 October 2019

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

6. What was the maximum attendance at the Synod Sessions in 2017 and 2018?

To which the President replied –

6. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

2017 - 610

2018 - 601

On both occasions the maximum was reached in the evening of the first day of the session.

Question: 14 October 2019

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

7. How many Members are entitled to attend this 2019 Session of Synod and by which separate Part numbers (4 to 9 inclusive) are they entitled to do so?

To which the President replied –

7. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

TOTAL – 827

Part 4 – Rectors and Acting Rectors – 257

Part 5 – Parish Lay Reps – 500

Part 6 – CEOs of Nominated Organisations – 7

Part 7 – Clergy nominated by the Archbishop – 25

Part 8 – Lay members elected by Standing Committee – 25

Part 8A – Indigenous – 1

Part 9 – Ex Officio - 12

Question: 14 October 2019

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

8. Besides what is mentioned in Ordinance number 49/2018, what were the reasons for selling certain land (being church trust property) in Eastwood?

To which the President replied –

8. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The land in question was not adequately suited to address the needs of a large ministry family. For example, holding large group meetings and adequately supervising children were difficult due to the configuration of the house and the size of the rooms. The proceeds were applied to purchase a replacement residence, better suited to ministry needs.

Question: 14 October 2019

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

9. Besides what is mentioned in Ordinance numbers 41/2012 and 1/2019, what were the reasons for selling certain land (being church trust property) in Narellan?

To which the President replied –

9. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The land in question was purchased in 1997 as part of an 18 acre block with the intention that in the future, the land would be subdivided and the surplus land would be sold to provide funds for expanding the church centre. In 2012, the land in question was considered to be surplus to the ministry needs of the Parish, and sold. The proceeds will be applied to, among other things, the cost of construction and renovation of new and existing ministry facilities.

Question: 14 October 2019

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

10. Please clarify what is to become of the land (being church trust property) (in particular the church buildings themselves) at Bondi and Waverley following the passing of Ordinance number 32/2019?

To which the President replied –

10. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The land known as 34, 34A and 36 Ocean St North Bondi (church building, rectory, hall and childcare centre), is proposed to be sold to Montessori East Primary & Pre School Bondi. The Land known as 60 Wairoa Ave, Bondi Beach (St Andrew's Church) is to be developed to build a new ministry centre and residences. The land known as 240 Birrell St, Waverley (St Mary's Church) is to be renovated to meet current and future ministry needs.

Question: 14 October 2019

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

11. Where is the land (being church trust property), currently held for the Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee, that is authorised for sale by Ordinance number 39/2019?

To which the President replied –

11. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Barrington Street, Ruse.

Question: 14 October 2019

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

12. Who currently serves on the Northern Regional Council?

To which the President replied –

12. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Bishop Chris Edwards (Chairman)

Mr Bruce Ginn

The Rev Ian Millican

Mr Fred Chilton

Mr Ian Steward (Secretary and Treasurer) (OAM)

Miss Stephanie Cole

Vacancy (arising on the resignation of the Rev Robin Kinstead)

Question: 14 October 2019

Mr Peter M G Young asked the following question –

13. How many episcopal, clerical and lay members of the Boards of Governors of the “Nominated Diocesan Schools” referred to in the proposed *Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2019* are currently on Synod?

To which the President replied –

13. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

There are no “Nominated Diocesan Schools” referred to in the Bill for the *Synod Membership Ordinance 1995 Amendment Ordinance 2019*. See the answer to question 5.

Question: 14 October 2019

The Rev Dr Raj Gupta asked the following question –

14. In regard to the number of vacant parishes:
 - (a) How many vacant parishes are there at this point in time?
 - (b) How many vacant parishes were there at year-end (31 December) for each of the last five years?
 - (c) In the last two years, how many rectors have resigned, without the reasons being retirement or the taking up of another rector role in the Diocese of Sydney?
 - (d) How many deacons are at some stage of the Presbyter application process at this point in time?
 - (e) What steps are being proactively taken, by any and all organisations related to the Diocese of Sydney, to recruit more to serve as rectors in the Diocese of Sydney?

To which the President replied –

14. I am informed that the answer is as follows –
 - (a) There are currently 44 parishes without a Rector. Of these, 4 parishes have long term arrangements/partnerships in place and 11 have a new Rector who has accepted the appointment but not yet started.
 - (b) This part of the question would require significant staff hours to research, which is not possible in the time available.
 - (c) Between 1 January 2017 and 14 October 2019, 55 Rectors resigned. Of these, 33 did not retire or take up another role as rector. Most of the 33 subsequently obtained a licence for another appointment in the Diocese.
 - (d) There are 28 applicants and 25 accepted candidates.
 - (e) It is difficult to speak on behalf of “all organisations”, however, the Ministry Training and Development staff:
 - (i) explain the needs and discernment process to assistant ministers in our Ministry Development training program,

- (ii) attend regional conferences to speak with potential candidates and their rectors,
- (iii) meet with enquirers, and
- (iv) are currently developing a new strategy to address the need to recruit more men to seek ordination as a presbyter to serve as a rectors and more generally, to help current rectors encourage suitably gifted men and women in our parishes to seek ordination for full-time Anglican ministry.

Question: 14 October 2019

The Rev Dr Max Wood asked the following question –

15. Is the Diocese up to date with payments of our General Synod Assessments?

To which the President replied –

15. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Yes. The assessments are invoiced at the end of each quarter and payments have been made for the first, second, and third quarters this year.

Question: 14 October 2019

The Rev Gavin Parsons asked the following question –

16. Which parishes have not lodged annual statistics for -

(a) 2016

(b) 2017

(c) 2018

To which the President replied –

16. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

There are 59 parishes that have not lodged statistics for one or more of the years 2016, 2017 and 2018. A list of these parishes will be posted on the notice board in the foyer and on the SDS website.

Attachment to Question 16 – Parishes that have not lodged annual statistics in the period 2016 to 2018

Parish	Years missing
Auburn - St Thomas	2018
Balgowlah	2018
Bankstown	2017
Barrenjoey	2017
Bayside	2018
Beecroft	2017
Bellevue Hill	2018
Berala	2018
Beverly Hills	2018
Blackheath	2018
Blakehurst	2018
Bomaderry	2018
Brighton	2018
Campsie	2018
Cherrybrook	2018
Chester Hill with Sefton	2018
Christ Church Northern Beaches	2018
Church Hill	2016, 2017, 2018
Coogee	2018
Cronulla	2018
Dapto	2018
Darling Point	2018
Dee Why	2016, 2018
Fairy Meadow	2018
Gerringong	2018
Gladesville	2016, 2017
Glenhaven	2018
Gordon	2016
Hoxton Park	2018
Kiama	2018
Lindfield	2018
Liverpool	2018
Liverpool South	2018
Lower Mountains	2018
Mosman - St Clements	2018
Mulgoa	2018
Naremburn/Cammeray	2017
Neutral Bay	2018
Northmead & Winston Hills	2018
Oak Flats	2018
Petersham	2018
Philadelphia Anglican Church	2018

Ryde	2018
Sadleir	2018
Seven Hills	2018
Soul Revival Church, Sutherland Shire	2018
South Carlton	2018
South Hurstville	2018
St Clair	2018
St Ives	2018
Summer Hill	2018
South Sydney	2018
Surry Hills	2016, 2018
Sussex Inlet	2018
The Oaks	2018
Wahroonga - St Paul	2018
West Lindfield	2018
Wilberforce	2018
Willoughby	2016

Question: 14 October 2019

Ms Lyn Bannerman asked the following question –

17. With respect to funds for work outside the Diocese, please provide a list of projects funded from this source, and amounts granted for the 2018 year, and for 2019 to date.

To which the President replied –

17. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The answer to this question has been prepared in tabular form and will be posted on the notice board in the foyer and the SDS website.

		Year to Dec 2018	9 mths to Sep 2019	Comment
Within Australia				
Support for other dioceses in Australia –				
	Armidale	4,000	5,000	
	North West Australia	40,000	60,000	
	Tasmania	4,000	5,000	
	Northern Territory	40,000	50,000	
	Northern Territory (travel assist. for Bishop)	10,000		
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council (NATSIAC)		1,000	1,000	
Funding for the Diocese of Bathurst			180,000	\$250k pa
Outside Australia				
Strategic travel –				
	Bishops Tasker & Richards' overseas visits	30,870	20,220	
	Sponsored visitors to Sydney		2,710	
Training and support of leaders –				
	Albert Lamoureux (Mauritius) diploma at Youthworks	7,000		
	Sammy Shehata (dean of Alexandra School of Theology)	8,000	1,416	+\$8k
Moore College PTC related training –				
	Madagascar	7,260	1,943	
	Papua New Guinea		3,000	
GAFCON related –				
	Subsidies for delegates	81,000	2,019	
	Travel by Archbishop	15,884	2,121	
	GAFCON Primates meeting Sydney 2019		2,978	
	Support for GAFCON	20,000		+\$20k
	Other	1,131	626	
Other –				
	Christchurch ministry wives	697		
	Travel insurance	116	241	
	Travel to provide FCA NZ with legal support	1,000		
	Direct support for FCA NZ	25,000	60,000	
Total		296,958	398,274	

Question: 14 October 2018

Mr Garry Allen asked the following questions –

18.

(a)

- (i) Following the passage of the amendment to the Anglican Schools Ministry Ordinance 2016 last year, have there been any chaplains dismissed by an Anglican school?
- (ii) If there have been, how many have been dismissed and what reasons were given?
- (iii) Were any of these Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation schools?

(b)

- (i) Are there any Anglican schools who have regular activities programmed on a Friday night or Sunday? (such as competitive sports competitions including rowing regattas, athletics)? If so how many
- (ii) How are these schools looking to support local churches in their youth ministry?

(c)

- (i) Following the passage of the Resolution 23/14 and the governance policy for diocesan organisations, how many schools still have alumni representatives that cannot sign the statement of personal faith?
- (ii) What steps are they taking to meet Resolution 23/14 by July 2020?

(d)

- (i) How many Anglican schools currently have principals that cannot sign the statement of personal faith?
- (ii) How many have been appointed following the passage of the governance policy for diocesan organisations in 2014?

(e)

- (i) What statistics exist for the number of school students active in youth groups within local churches across the diocese?

- (ii) Are there any statistics available reflecting school background such as percentage attending Anglican schools, other CAS or GPS schools, systemic catholic schools, independent Christian schools and state schools? If so what is the breakdown of students in youth groups in the different schooling systems?
 - (iii) Are there any statistics tracking school students continuing to attend Christian churches 5 years after graduation or enrolment into Moore College? If there are, what changes have been seen in the past 20 years?
- (f) For the most recent reporting year -
- (i) What was the excess of revenue to expenses (that is, the profit or surplus) of the Anglican Schools Corporation?
 - (ii) What was the excess of revenue to expenses (that is, the profit or surplus) of other Anglican Schools that report to this Synod?
 - (iii) What was the excess of assets to liabilities (that is, the equity or net assets) of the Anglican Schools Corporation?
 - (iv) What was the excess of assets to liabilities (that is, the equity or net assets) of other Anglican Schools that report to this Synod?
 - (v) How many students attend Anglican School Corporation Schools and other Anglican Schools that report to this Synod?
 - (vi) How have these figures changed since 2018?

To which the President replied –

18. I am informed that the answer is as follows -

- (a) No chaplains have been dismissed in the period.
- (b) and (c) These parts of the question would require a survey of all Anglican Schools to be conducted and the results analysed. This is not possible due to the staff resources required and the time available.
- (d) The Diocesan Registry does not maintain records of the statements of faith provided by the Principals of Anglican schools. These records would be maintained by the council of the relevant school.
- (e) There are no such statistics.

- (f) The answers to this part of the question are contained in the annual reports of the schools, which are available for inspection on the front table at Synod. The financial aspects of the question could also be ascertained from the financial reports of the schools that are publicly accessible on the register of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

Question: 14 October 2019

Ms Tiffany Davey asked the following question –

19. Has the Standing Committee received any legal advice about the role played by statements of faith in determining an organisation's doctrines?

If so, is it possible to advise the Synod what the legal advice suggested – at least in general terms – about the merits or otherwise of adding a clear statement into the statement of faith as to an organisation's view on gender identity, marriage and/or sexuality?

To which the President replied –

19. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) Yes.
- (b) The advice is subject to legal privilege. However, what can be said is that the Standing Committee, having considered the matter, appointed a subcommittee and requested that proposed draft motions be prepared and moved at this Synod at the request of the Standing Committee.

Question: 14 October 2019

The Rev Joe Wiltshire asked the following question –

20. In relation to the Community Care Fund of The Archbishop of Sydney's Anglican Aid (henceforth, Anglican Aid), and in light of the work of the Ministry in Socially Disadvantaged Areas Committee (MiSDAC) created as part of the commitment of our Diocese to see ministry in socially disadvantaged areas financially supported:

- (a) how much is currently in the Community Care Fund currently?
- (b) how much was in this Fund at the end of 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018?
- (c) What is this fund used for by Anglican Aid?
- (d) Which Parishes in the Diocese have benefited from contributions from this fund over the past 5 years and for what ministry or activity was each grant given?
- (e) How many Sydney Anglican Parishes and Recognised Churches have Necessitous Circumstances Funds, or other similar tax deductible funds, for charitable giving?
- (f) Does the Diocese have any existing mechanism by which churches with Necessitous Circumstances Funds or similar funds may be informed and encouraged to give towards ministries and activities identified by MiSDAC in a co-ordinated fashion?

To which the President replied –

20. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The balance in the Community Care Fund at 30 June 2019 was \$17,562.
- (b) A table showing the fund balance on 30 June for each of the years will be posted on the notice board in the foyer and the SDS website.

2010 \$374,579

2011 \$539,417

2012 \$542,130

2013 \$498,755

2014	\$670,664
2015	\$542,182
2016	\$420,056
2017	\$233,356
2018	\$221,356

- (c) The Community Care Fund has supported churches, mainly in socio-economically challenging areas to support ministries which allow local parishes to care for and support people in their local communities. Ministries include traditional poverty alleviation activities, as well as other innovative activities to care for the vulnerable in society.
- (d) Beneficiaries include asylum seekers, refugees and new migrants, single parents, ex-offenders on supervision with Corrective Services, teenagers at risk, indigenous Australians, boarding house residents and people with chronic mental illness.
- (e) So far as we can ascertain in the time available, there are currently 7 parishes with necessitous circumstances funds. In addition, there are 3 parishes that operate public benevolent institutions.
- (f) No.

Question: 14 October 2019

The Rev Anthony Douglas asked the following question –

21.

- (a) For each of the years 2010 to 2019, what fees would have been payable by a BD student undertaking the first year of full-time study at Moore Theological College (**MTC**)? What were the major drivers of any increases or decreases?
- (b) From which year did the use of FEE-Help attract the 25% levy referred to in the report "11/18 Steps to encourage ordination" at paragraph 14(c)?
- (c) What is the current maximum amount of FEE-Help available to a BD student in comparison to the expected cost of tuition over four years at the College?
- (d) How many current students are known to have insufficient FEE-Help funds available to complete their degree? Is it anticipated that the new scholarship fund will be able to address this shortfall completely?

To which the President replied –

21. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The fees payable by a BD student undertaking the first year of full-time study at MTC for each of the years 2010 to 2019 will be set out in a table that will be posted on the noticeboard in the foyer and the SDS website.

Major drivers for changes to fees were general cost of living in Sydney, cost of education and general increases in MTC expenses relating to tuition.

Year	Fee (\$)	Year	Fee (\$)
2010	15,000	2015	19,600
2011	15,800	2016	19,992
2012	16,540	2017	20,392
2013	17,400	2018	20,800
2014	18,600	2019	21,200

- (b) The use of FEE-Help attracted the 25% levy from 1 January 2005 when College students became eligible for FEE-HELP.

- (c) In 2019, the FEE-HELP limit is \$104,440. It increases by CPI each year. In comparison, the expected cost of tuition over four years at College to 2019 is \$82,384.
- (d) No current students are known to have insufficient FEE-HELP funds to complete their degree. However, in 2018 the Federal Government introduced the HELP limit which combines a student's HECS (Higher Education Contribution Scheme) loan and the amount of FEE-HELP incurred by a student at College. This will have an impact potentially from 2025 but the impact will depend on individual circumstances.

At this stage, given these uncertainties, any shortfall cannot be reliably estimated. As such, it is not possible to determine whether the new scholarship fund will be able to meet any shortfall.

Question: 14 October 2019

The Rev Bruce Stanley asked the following question –

22. With regards to the 2016 resolution “3/16 Non-parochial forms of Anglican ministry”, noting the report, “Alternative forms of Anglican Church”:
- (a) What progress has Evangelism and New Churches made in reporting to Synod suitable recommendations to support and promote non-parochial forms of Anglican ministry?
 - (b) What recommendations, if any, did the Strategic Research Group provide to the Diocesan Resources Committee as to the value and importance of potentially increasing funding for the ENC in the next triennium to provide for the employment of staff to –
 - (i) develop existing and new non-parochial forms of Anglican ministry, and
 - (ii) identify, develop and support their leadership?

To which the President replied –

22. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) ENC does not yet have particular recommendations to bring to the Synod. The Board of ENC has been developing models for non-parochial forms of Anglican Ministry. There has been strong consideration of how this may apply in areas of social disadvantage, ethnic ministry and community chaplaincy. Given the consideration that any new models need to align and be suitable for existence in a ministry matrix that includes parochial structures, the Board has been trialling these models before making any recommendations to the Synod. It is anticipated a report will be ready for the Synod at the first session of the 52nd Synod.

In the meantime, ENC continues to work with various groups on ministries to communities not reached by our current parochial structures.

- (b) The Strategic Research Group has not make any such formal recommendations. However, following consideration of information provided by ENC, the Diocesan Resources Committee recommended, and the Standing Committee approved, a special allocation of \$100,000 to ENC as part of the *Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2018* as a contribution towards the cost of funding the new position of Assistant Director (Parish Evangelism). This allocation is a response to paragraph (b) of Synod Resolution 5/18.

Question: 14 October 2019

Mrs Stacey Chapman asked the following question –

23. Regarding the new Safe Ministry Assessment procedures:

- (a) Will non-coordinating adults engaged in ministry to those below 13 years still be required to undertake the Assessment, if there are junior leaders (i.e. under 18) involved in that ministry whom they might minister alongside and towards?
- (b) For crystal clarity, are the new Safe Ministry Assessment procedures retrospective, i.e. do they apply to existing leaders or only to new leaders?
- (c) What guidance has been or will be provided to rectors to assist them in assessing responses to the information in the person's completed Safe Ministry Check and the responses from the referees before deciding whether to appoint the person to undertake ministry to children?

To which the President replied –

23. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) Yes, if the person will be undertaking ministry to the junior leader. This would usually be the case since even if the person is not directly ministering to the junior leader, the definition of “ministry to children” in the Ordinance extends to supervising the ministry of another person.
- (b) The Safe Ministry Check must be completed before a person in the relevant category undertakes ministry to children. The requirement does not apply in relation to appointment to a position. Therefore it applies to existing leaders since after 1 January 2020 they must undergo a Safe Ministry Assessment before they can undertake ministry to children.
- (c) Rectors have always had the responsibility of approving appointments to all ministry positions in the parish, including confirming the suitability of a person for appointment and talking through any concerns in a pastoral way. As such, Rectors should already have the necessary skillset to assess Safe Ministry Checks. However it is recognised that implementation of the new Safe Ministry Assessment may raise new information about an applicant that may not have previously been considered and that the assessments will involve significant work. Some Rectors may not feel adequately equipped. The PSU is developing resources to assist Rectors as they consider these issues and these will be made available to Rectors once they have received the necessary approval.

Question: 14 October 2019

The Rev Tim Mildenhall asked the following question –

24. Regarding item 43/18, p133ff:

- (a) Is there a single diocesan entity or person responsible for coordinating the many different diocesan organisations identified in the Prolegis gap-analysis review of the Diocesan implementation of the Royal Commission Recommendations?
- (b) Where are the compliance measures identified in the Prolegis review centrally published?
- (c) What plans are there for compliance reviews regarding the effectiveness of the Royal Commission recommendations going forward?

To which the President replied –

24. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The Standing Committee will oversee implementation of the actions set out in the Appendix to the report by the relevant bodies of the Diocese.
- (b) The “Advice/Next Steps” recommended by Prolegis is not centrally published.
- (c) At this stage the focus is on implementation. The Standing Committee will be communicating with the bodies that have been allocated implementation responsibilities to ensure the work is completed within a reasonable timeframe having regard to the task at hand.

The Safe Ministry Board regularly reviews diocesan safe ministry policies and procedures. This will include the measures introduced as a result of the recommendations of the Royal Commission.

Question: 14 October 2019

25. The Rev Tim Mildenhall asked the following question –

Regarding matter 43/18

Regarding Recommendation 16.1, p.140, how was the conclusion No action required reached given that according to the general synod website <https://anglican.org.au/governance/tribunals/tribunals-episcopal-standards-commission-244/> the following dioceses have excluded the Episcopal Standards Commission's power to promote a charge against a Diocesan Bishop as at 27 June 2019:

- Bendigo
- Perth
- Sydney
- Tasmania
- Wangaratta

and that the Commission's functions and the implementation of determinations made by the Episcopal Standards Board of questions which the Commission has referred to it are circumscribed if a relevant Diocese has not adopted either or both the Episcopal Standards Canon 2007 and the Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) Canon 2017?

To which the President replied –

25. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Royal Commission recommendation 16.1 is directed at the Anglican Church of Australia. The General Synod has limited jurisdiction. Uniformity depends on diocesan synods adopting the canons.

According to information provided by the General Synod office, 21 dioceses have adopted the *Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) Canon 2017*. It is expected that the remaining 2 dioceses have not yet adopted the canon due to the timing of their synods rather than due to a decision not to adopt the canon.

The *Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) Canon 2017* incorporates the provisions of the *Episcopal Standards Canon 2007* in so far as they relate to examinable conduct under the *Episcopal Standards (Child Protection) Canon 2017*. It would be otiose to adopt the 2007 Canon in so far as child sexual abuse matters are concerned.

Question: 14 October 2019

The Rev Tim Mildenhall asked the following question –

26. Regarding item 43/18:

- (a) What was the cost of the external Prolegis review and gap analysis?
- (b) What was the in house cost of preparing the scope of work for the Prolegis review and gap analysis?

To which the President replied –

26. I am informed that the answer is as follows -

- (a) \$22,000 + GST.
- (b) The dollar cost is unknown. Approximately 12-15 staff hours were spent.

Question: 14 October 2019

The Rev Martin Kemp asked the following question –

27.

- (a) Have any of those schools established by or under an ordinance of this synod hosted a Confucius Classroom, and if so, which schools?
- (b) Do these schools plan to continue hosting these classrooms beyond 2019?

To which the President replied –

- 27. I am informed that we do not have the information necessary to answer this question and that it would require a survey of schools, which is not possible in the time available.

Question: 14 October 2019

The Rev Martin Kemp asked the following question –

28.

- (a) Are those applying to be candidates for ordination assessed in any way for Narcissistic Personality Disorder, Histrionic Personality Disorder, and Borderline Personality Disorder?
- (b) If so, what happens to the application if one of these disorders is identified?

To which the President replied –

28. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) All candidates for ordination undertake a psychological assessment. A series of self-administered inventories are completed followed by a detailed interview with a psychologist who completes a psychological report for Ministry Training and Development to assist with the selection process. It is expected that there would be indications of the disorders mentioned in this assessment.
- (b) If potential disorders are identified, depending on the disorder, the application would either be paused to enable the applicant to seek further information and probably medical/counselling assistance or decline.

Question: 14 October 2019

Mrs Sue Radkovic asked the following question –

29. Is there any requirement, or if not, any wisdom, in using the new Safe Ministry requirements applicable from 1 January 2020 for vetting those who work with vulnerable adults, e.g. those in our ESL classes, with a disability and the elderly?

To which the President replied –

29. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

There is no requirement for the Safe Ministry Check to be used for vetting those who work with vulnerable adults. However, it may be beneficial to use the Safe Ministry Check as a further screening tool for those who minister in this way.

Question: 14 October 2019

The Rev Tim Swan asked the following question –

30. Following the Gafcon 2018 conference in Jerusalem, what role, if any, has the Diocese of Sydney been asked to play in strengthening theological education across Gafcon member dioceses, and what progress is being made in this regard?

To which the President replied –

30. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Bishop Peter Jensen leads the Gafcon theological education network. He is aiming to co-operate with Moore College, especially the Centre for Global Mission in pursuing its aims. The collaboration between Moore College and dioceses within the Gafcon network has been difficult to organise, but books have been provided to a College in Nigeria, and a faculty member of the college in Egypt has been given some postgraduate theological education. Moore College has been involved in Gafcon from the beginning and has built strong relationships with theological leaders in other Gafcon provinces.

Question: 14 October 2019

The Rev Tim Swan asked the following question –

31. In the last 5 years, how many people have received theological training sponsored by Anglican Aid's overseas ministry fund?

To which the President replied –

31. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

At least 780.