

Tuesday, 28th July 2026

Dear Elector,

Elections to the General Synod of the Church of England

You may be aware that the Church of England's General Synod was dissolved on Tuesday 14th July, formally ending the term of its current membership. Elections to form the Synod for the next five years will be held in each diocese starting next month.

You are receiving this letter because, as a member of a Deanery Synod, you are a qualified elector and on the register of electors, and therefore can be a nominator for these elections. The election process (including nominations and voting) will be run by Civica Election Services using an online portal, however for those who wish to use a paper-based system this will still be possible; voting will take place using the single transferable vote (STV) system. A timetable giving key dates in the election process is given in Appendix A at the end of this letter and full details of the election rules, the STV rules and other information is available on the election page of the [Church of England website](#).

If you have not currently provided us with an email address (and as you are receiving this letter by post that means we do not have an email address for you) and wish to continue to nominate and vote by paper you need take no further action. However, if you now wish to provide an email address either for all election purposes or just for the purposes of submitting an election address (if standing for election) please contact: Fr Alan Murray-Simpson by no later than **Monday, 10th August 2026**.

If you choose not to provide an email address, you will receive nomination and voting information by post which will contain instructions about where to return your nomination form (if standing for election) and ballot paper (if a vote is required).

Information for all electors

- Your name and postal address will be automatically included on a register of electors unless you instruct the Presiding Officer: Karen Higgins (via St John's House), that because of personal circumstances (for example where you have been a victim of stalking or other harassment) it must not be included. Please note that your name, postal address and email address will be provided to any candidate standing for election who requests those details, except if you have instructed the Presiding Officer that it must not be included (see above). These

details can only be used for election purposes and candidates are advised that these details must be deleted after the elections.

- As an elector, you will normally be qualified to stand as a candidate in the election. There are various grounds contained in [Part 7 of the Church Representation Rules](#) under which someone may be disqualified from standing for election. A person is disqualified from being nominated or elected or from serving as a member of the General Synod if the person holds or takes a paid office or employment the appointment to which is, or may be, made or confirmed by —
 - (a) the General Synod,
 - (b) the Convocations,
 - (c) the Archbishops' Council,
 - (d) the Church Commissioners,
 - (e) the Church of England Pensions Board, or
 - (f) the Corporation of the Church House.
- A person is also disqualified if the person is included in a barred list under the [Safeguarding and Vulnerable Groups Act 2006](#) or the person has been convicted of an offence mentioned in [Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933](#).
- Those wishing to stand for election may wish to know that Synod members will be reimbursed for travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses for meetings held in London, and travel for meetings held in York (as the diocese will be billed directly for your accommodation and meals). If you are not able to pay up front for these things, we will work with you to ensure this is not a barrier to you serving on General Synod.
- Potential candidates may also wish to know that the 2025/26 rate of compensation set by the Archbishops' Council for loss of earnings due to attendance at General Synod or at meetings of the Synod's or Council's subordinate bodies is the actual loss up to £210 per day of absence.

Any reply to this letter should, if possible, reach the presiding officer by no later than: **Monday, 10th August 2026.**

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. J. Murray-Simpson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'S' at the end.

The Reverend Fr. Alan J Murray-Simpson

Head of Governance and DMPC Secretary [and Diocesan Electoral Registration Officer]

On behalf of the Presiding Officer, Karen Higgins.

elections@manchester.anglican.org

T: 0161 828 1419

M: 07553 371162

Appendix A – key dates in the timetable for elections to General Synod

Date	Stage
Tuesday 14 th July	General Synod is dissolved marking the end of the current quinquennium.
Friday 14 th August	Invitations to nominate are issued.
Monday 7 th September	Closing date for receipt of nominations. Deadline for receipt of election addresses.
Monday 21 st September	Invitations to vote are issued. Voting period opens.
Monday 12 th October	Voting period for voting by paper closes.
Tuesday 13 th October	Voting period for voting by using elections portal closes.
Wednesday 14 th October to Friday 16 th October	Dioceses will be allocated one of these three days for their count to take place.
Monday 19 th October	Declaration of result must take place by 5pm on this day.