



# Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007

2007 No. 1

## PART I

### GENERAL PRINCIPLE

#### 1 General duty

It shall be the duty of any person or body carrying out functions under this Measure<sup>F1</sup> ... to have due regard to the furtherance of the mission of the Church of England.

#### Textual Amendments

**F1** Words in s. 1 repealed (1.7.2012) by [Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 \(No. 3\)](#), s. 112(3), [Sch. 9](#) (with ss. 100, 105(4), 107, 108(6), Schs. 8); 2012 No. 1, art. 2

#### Commencement Information

**II** S. 1 in force at 1.1.2008 by [2007 No. 3](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

## PART II

### PROVINCIAL AND DIOCESAN STRUCTURE

#### *Composition and duties of Dioceses Commission*

#### 2 Dioceses Commission

(1) There shall be established a body known as the Dioceses Commission which shall have the functions conferred on it by or under this Measure and the body of that name

---

**Changes to legislation:** Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

established under section 1 of the Dioceses Measure 1978 (1978 No. 1) shall cease to exist.

- (2) The provisions of Schedule 1 to this Measure shall have effect with regard to the Commission, its members and its procedures.
- (3) The Commission shall present annually to the General Synod a report of its activities during the preceding year.

#### Commencement Information

**I2** S. 2 in force at 1.9.2008 by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

### 3 Review of provincial and diocesan structure

- (1) It shall be the duty of the Commission to keep under review the provincial and diocesan structure of the Church of England and, in particular—
  - (a) the size, boundaries and number of provinces,
  - (b) the size, boundaries and number of dioceses and their distribution between the provinces, and
  - (c) the number and distribution of episcopal offices and the arrangements for episcopal oversight.
- (2) The Commission shall, when carrying out its duties under subsection (1) above—
  - (a) ensure that it is kept informed of views within the Church of England on the matters referred to in subsection (1) and of any changes in the structure of the Church which may take place, so far as these are relevant to its functions, and consult such persons and bodies as it thinks fit;
  - (b) without prejudice to its duties under sections 4, 6 and 7 below, consider whether changes are required, put forward proposals for discussion, where appropriate, and encourage detailed and reasoned responses from those persons and bodies consulted;
  - (c) disseminate, to the extent that the Commission thinks necessary and in whatever form the Commission thinks fit, guidance and information about good practice to persons and bodies involved in the administration of dioceses;
  - (d) give appropriate advice, when requested on particular issues, to such persons and bodies; and
  - (e) make and publish from time to time reports on its activities.
- (3) If, when carrying out its functions under subsections (1) and (2) above, the Commission publishes proposals to alter the number of provinces, it shall also include, in those proposals, recommendations concerning the method of achieving the changes required by the proposals.
- (4) Any report published under subsection (2)(e) above shall be laid before the General Synod either as part of the annual report required to be presented under section 2(3) above or otherwise.
- (5) The Commission may ask any person or body to provide any information which it considers necessary to enable it to carry out its functions.
- (6) Where the Commissioners, any diocesan bishop, any diocesan synod or any bishop's council and standing committee are consulted under this section or section 5(2), 5(3),

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

6(2), 6(3), 6(4) or 6(6) below or are asked to give information under subsection (5) above, the person or body concerned shall be under a duty to respond, where practicable, to any requests for comments or information and to provide any information which that person or body is asked to provide.

#### Commencement Information

- I3** S. 3(1)-(4) in force at 1.2.2009 by 2008 No. 4, Instrument made by Archbishops  
**I4** S. 3(5)(6) in force at 1.9.2008 by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

### *Reorganisation schemes*

## **4 Preparation and making of reorganisation schemes**

- (1) It shall be the duty of the Commission to prepare and make schemes in accordance with sections 6 and 7 below, and a scheme made under the said section 7 and confirmed by Order in Council under section 8 below is referred to in this Measure as a “reorganisation scheme”.
- (2) A reorganisation scheme may be made following proposals submitted to the Commission by a bishop under section 5 below or prepared by the Commission under section 6(3) below without the submission of any such proposals.
- (3) A reorganisation scheme may make provision for one or more of the following purposes—
  - (a) the foundation of one or more new diocesan bishoprics with one or more dioceses constituted from one or more existing dioceses and, if necessary, the dissolution of one or more existing dioceses and the abolition of the bishopric or bishoprics thereof;
  - (b) the transfer of the whole of the area of any diocese to another diocese and the dissolution of the first mentioned diocese and the abolition of the bishopric thereof;
  - (c) the transfer of parts of the area of any diocese to one or more other dioceses and, if necessary, the dissolution of the first mentioned diocese and the abolition of the bishopric thereof;
  - (d) the transfer of a diocese or parts of the area of any diocese from one province to another.
  - [<sup>F2</sup>(e) the re-naming of a diocesan or suffragan see;
  - (f) the creation of a new suffragan bishopric.]
- [<sup>F3</sup>(3A) Where a new suffragan bishopric is created under subsection (3) above, the suffragan bishopric shall have effect as if an Order in Council had been made under section 2 of the Suffragans Nomination Act 1888 directing that the town concerned be taken and accepted for the see of a suffragan bishop.]
- (4) Schedule 2 to this Measure, which sets out the provisions which must or may be made by a reorganisation scheme, shall have effect.

*Changes to legislation: Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

#### Textual Amendments

- F2** S. 4(3)(e)(f) added (19.5.2014) by [Church of England \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Measure 2014](#) (No. 1), **ss. 16(2)**, 21(2); S.I. 2014/1369, art. 2
- F3** S. 4(3A) inserted (19.5.2014) by [Church of England \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Measure 2014](#) (No. 1), **ss. 16(3)**, 21(2); S.I. 2014/1369, art. 2

#### Commencement Information

- I5** S. 4 in force at 1.9.2008 by [2008 No. 1](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

### *Procedure for making reorganisation schemes*

## 5 Application for reorganisation scheme

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, the bishop of a diocese may submit to the Commission proposals to be implemented by a reorganisation scheme relating to that diocese.
- (2) The proposals referred to in subsection (1) above shall be prepared by the bishop of the diocese concerned after preliminary consultation with the diocesan synod of that diocese and such other consultation as he thinks fit.
- (3) Where such proposals would, if implemented, affect two or more dioceses, the proposals shall be prepared by the bishops of those dioceses after preliminary consultation by each of them with the diocesan synod of his diocese and with such persons or bodies as each of them thinks fit, and a submission under subsection (1) above shall be made by the said bishops acting jointly.
- (4) Section 4(4) of the Synodical Government Measure 1969 (1969 No. 2) shall not be taken as permitting the consultative functions of a diocesan synod under this section to be discharged on its behalf by the bishop's council and standing committee of that synod.

#### Commencement Information

- I6** S. 5 in force at 1.9.2008 by [2008 No. 1](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

## 6 Preparation of draft scheme by Commission

- (1) In this section “interested parties”, in relation to any draft reorganisation scheme, means—
  - (a) the bishop of every diocese which would be affected by the implementing of such scheme and the archbishop of the province in which that diocese is situated;
  - (b) the diocesan synod of every such diocese;
  - (c) the bishop's council and standing committee of every such diocesan synod;
  - (d) the Chapter of the cathedral of every diocese which would be affected by the implementing of such scheme;
  - (e) the Commissioners;

---

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

- (f) where the implementing of such scheme would result in the transfer of a diocese from one province to the other, the archbishop of that other province;
  - (g) the Archbishops' Council;
  - (h) the Charity Commission;
  - (i) to the extent that the Commission thinks fit, such other persons or bodies, if any, as would be particularly affected by the implementing of such scheme.
- (2) On receiving proposals submitted to it under section 5 of this Measure, the Commission shall, after consultation with the interested parties, first prepare a statement of the effect of the proposals, if implemented, on the mission of the Church of England and a detailed estimate of the financial effect of the proposals (“the financial estimate”) and shall then, as it thinks fit, either—
- (a) prepare a draft scheme to give effect to the proposals with such amendments, if any, as the Commission thinks should be made therein; or
  - (b) if it considers that the objectives of the proposals can be better achieved without a scheme or for any other reason it considers that it would not be appropriate to make a scheme, report to the bishop of every diocese concerned that it has decided not to proceed with the preparation of such a scheme, giving the reasons for that decision.
- (3) Where the Commission has not received proposals under section 5 above, the Commission may, after consulting the interested parties, prepare a draft reorganisation scheme and, if it does so, shall also prepare the statement referred to in subsection (2) above and, after first consulting the Commissioners, a financial estimate.
- (4) Where the Commission decides to proceed under subsection (2)(a) or (3) above it shall send a copy of the draft scheme and of the statement referred to in subsection (2) above and the financial estimate to every interested party together with a notice stating that written representations with respect to the draft scheme may be made to the Commission not later than a date specified in the notice, being a date not less than three, nor more than six, months after the service of the notice and the Commission shall afford an opportunity to representatives of the diocesan synod of any diocese affected by the draft scheme to make oral representations to the Commission, whether or not that diocesan synod has made written representations.
- (5) After considering any representations made to it under subsection (4) above the Commission shall, as it thinks fit, either proceed under subsection (6) below or report to the bishop of every diocese concerned that it has decided not to proceed further with the scheme in question, giving the reasons for that decision.
- (6) Where the Commission decides to proceed under this subsection, it shall make such amendments, if any, to the draft scheme as it thinks fit as a result of such representations, and such amendments, if any, to the statement referred to in subsection (2) above and the financial estimate as, after consultation with the Commissioners in the case of the financial estimate, it thinks necessary, and shall then submit the draft scheme to the diocesan synod of every diocese which would be affected by the implementing of that scheme for its consent.
- (7) A copy of the draft scheme and of a report thereon by the Commission shall be sent to every member of every such synod at least six weeks before the session at which the draft scheme is considered.
- (8) The report referred to in subsection (7) above shall include the statement referred to in subsection (2) above and the financial estimate, as amended (if at all) under

---

*Changes to legislation: Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

subsection (6) above, and a summary of any representations made to the Commission under subsection (4) above which the Commission thinks should be brought to the attention of the diocesan synod.

#### Commencement Information

- I7** S. 6(1)-(2)(4)-(8) in force at 1.9.2008 by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops  
**I8** S. 6(3) in force at 1.2.2009 by 2008 No. 4, Instrument made by Archbishops

## 7 Making of reorganisation scheme

- (1) Subject to subsection (2) below, if the diocesan synod of every diocese affected by a draft scheme prepared under section 6 above gives its consent under subsection (6) thereof, the Commission shall lay the draft scheme before the General Synod for its approval.
- (2) If the diocesan synod of any of those dioceses does not give its consent under section 6(6) above and the archbishop of the province in which the diocese is situated is satisfied that—
  - (a) the interest of that diocese in the scheme is so small that the withholding of consent by the diocesan synod thereof should not prevent the submission of the draft scheme to the General Synod, or
  - (b) there are wider considerations affecting the province or the Church of England as a whole which require the draft scheme to be submitted to the General Synod,
 the archbishop may authorise the Commission to lay the draft scheme before the General Synod.
- (3) A copy of the draft scheme and of the report referred to in section 6(7) of this Measure and, where subsection (2) above applies, of a statement by the archbishop of the reasons for his decision shall be sent to every member of the General Synod at least fourteen days before the beginning of the group of sessions at which the draft scheme is considered.
- (4) If the General Synod approves such a scheme a copy of the draft scheme shall be signed in accordance with subsection (8) below and the Commission shall thereby make the scheme.
- (5) Except where subsection (2) above applies, where the Business Committee of the General Synod determines that the draft scheme does not need to be debated by the General Synod then, unless notice is given by a member of the General Synod in accordance with its Standing Orders that that member wishes the draft scheme to be debated, the draft scheme shall, for the purposes of subsection (4) above, be deemed to have been approved by the General Synod.
- (6) If, in accordance with its Standing Orders, a motion is carried in the General Synod that any matter contained in the draft scheme and specified in the motion should be reconsidered by the Commission the Commission shall withdraw the draft scheme, in which case the Commission may decide either not to proceed with the draft scheme or to re-submit the draft scheme to the General Synod, with or without amendment.

---

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

- (7) If the Commission decides to re-submit the draft scheme under subsection (6) above with amendments, section 6(3) to (8) and subsections (1) to (6) above shall apply in relation to the amended draft scheme.
- (8) A copy of the draft scheme shall be signed by the chair of the Commission on its behalf or, in the case of the absence or incapacity of the chair, by two other members of the Commission nominated by the Commission for that purpose and the signing of the copy of the draft scheme by the chair or by two members nominated as aforesaid shall be conclusive evidence that the provisions of this Measure relating to the draft scheme have been complied with.

---

**Commencement Information**

**I9** S. 7 in force at 1.9.2008 by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

## **8 Confirmation of scheme by Order in Council and publication of scheme**

- (1) As soon as possible after a scheme is made under section 7 above, the Commission shall submit the scheme for confirmation by Her Majesty in Council, who may confirm the scheme by Order in Council.
- (2) As soon as possible after a scheme is confirmed by Order in Council under this section there shall be published in the London Gazette a notice sufficiently identifying the scheme and stating that it has been confirmed and where a copy of the Order in Council may be obtained.
- (3) The Commission shall send a copy of every such Order in Council to the Commissioners and to the registrar of every diocese affected by the scheme, and the registrar shall file it in the diocesan registry.

---

**Commencement Information**

**I10** S. 8 in force at 1.9.2008 by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

## **9 Supplementary provisions with respect to reorganisation schemes**

- (1) Except in so far as a reorganisation scheme, or any provision thereof, is expressed to come into operation on a date, event or contingency specified therein, it shall come into operation on the first day of the month next following the confirmation of the scheme by Order in Council under section 8 above.
- (2) A reorganisation scheme may be varied or revoked by a subsequent reorganisation scheme and sections 5, 6, 7 and 8 above and subsection (1) above shall apply to such a scheme as they applied to the original scheme.
- (3) Any Order in Council confirming a reorganisation scheme may revoke any other Order in Council confirming such a scheme.

---

**Commencement Information**

**I11** S. 9 in force at 1.9.2008 by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

---

*Changes to legislation: Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

*Power of General Synod to make temporary provision  
with respect to membership of Convocations*

**10 Power of General Synod to make temporary provision with respect to membership of Convocations, etc.**

- (1) The General Synod may, by resolution, make provision with respect to—
- (a) the representation in the Convocations of Canterbury and York or either of them, as the circumstances require, during the transitional period of any new diocese created by a reorganisation scheme, any diocese the area of which is altered by such a scheme or any diocese transferred by such a scheme from one province to the other; and
  - (b) the representation during that period of any such diocese in the House of Laity of the General Synod.
- (2) In exercising its powers under subsection (1) above, the General Synod—
- (a) shall, as respects any new diocese created by the scheme, determine the number of elected members who are to represent that diocese in a Convocation or in the House of Laity;
  - (b) may, as respects any diocese the area of which is altered by the scheme, alter the number of elected members fixed for that diocese by a determination of the General Synod in force at the passing of a resolution under this section;
- but the General Synod shall not have power by virtue of this subsection to increase, as respects the Convocations, the total number of proctors elected for all the dioceses, or, as respects the House of Laity, the total number of members elected by the diocesan electors of all the dioceses, being the numbers fixed by a determination of the General Synod in force at the passing of the said resolution.
- (3) In exercising its powers under subsection (1) above, the General Synod may allocate any members of a Convocation, or of the House of Laity, who were originally elected by the diocesan electors of—
- (a) a diocese dissolved by the scheme or an electoral area thereof, or
  - (b) a diocese part of which is by virtue of the scheme to become part of another diocese or an electoral area of the first-mentioned diocese,
- to such diocese, being a new diocese created by the scheme or a diocese the area of which is altered by the scheme, as the Synod may determine.
- (4) Any member of a Convocation or of the House of Laity allocated to a diocese in accordance with a determination of the General Synod under subsection (3) above shall be in the same position as if he or she had been elected by the diocesan electors of that diocese.
- (5) A resolution under this section may make provision with respect to any matter incidental to, or consequential on, the other matters with respect to which provision may be made by such a resolution.
- (6) The power of the General Synod to make provision in pursuance of this section shall be exercisable on or after the date on which the reorganisation scheme in question is approved by the Synod under section 7 above.
- (7) In this section “transitional period” means the period beginning with the date of the commencement of the relevant provision of the reorganisation scheme in question and ending with the date of the dissolution of the General Synod which is in being on



---

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

the first mentioned date, and “relevant provision” means the provision creating a new diocese, altering the area of a diocese or transferring a diocese from one province to the other, as the circumstances require.

---

**Commencement Information**

**I12** S. 10 in force at 1.9.2008 by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

*Change of name of see*

**11 Change of name of see**

- (1) Without prejudice to any other powers of Her Majesty in Council in relation to sees, Her Majesty in Council, on receipt of a petition from the bishop of the diocese concerned under this section, shall have power to change the name of any diocesan or suffragan see.
- (2) Before submitting a petition under subsection (1) above, the bishop shall first consult the Commission and obtain the approval of the diocesan synod of the diocese concerned and shall then, if he decides to proceed with the petition, lay the petition, together with a report thereon from the Commission, before the General Synod for its approval.
- (3) Where the Business Committee of the General Synod determines that any such petition does not need to be debated by the Synod, then, unless notice is given by a member of the Synod in accordance with its Standing Orders that that member wishes the petition to be debated, the petition shall for the purposes of subsection (2) above be deemed to have been approved by the Synod.
- (4) Where the petition is approved by the General Synod the bishop of the diocese may forward it to Her Majesty in Council.

---

**Commencement Information**

**I13** S. 11 in force at 1.9.2008 by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

*General duty*

**12 Duty of the bishop to keep episcopal ministry under review**

Each bishop of a diocese shall keep under review the provision of episcopal ministry and oversight in his diocese and shall, in carrying out that duty, consult widely such persons and bodies as he thinks fit.

---

**Commencement Information**

**I14** S. 12 in force at 1.1.2011 by 2010 No. 4, art. 2(a)

---

*Changes to legislation: Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

*Provisions with respect to discharge of episcopal functions*

**13 Delegation by instrument of certain functions to suffragan bishop or assistant bishop**

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, the bishop of a diocese may by an instrument under his hand delegate to a suffragan bishop of the diocese such of his functions as may be specified in the instrument<sup>F4</sup>....
- (2) Such instrument may provide for the discharge of any function specified therein to be subject to such conditions as may be so specified.
- (3) Such instrument may provide that the functions thereby delegated may be discharged by the suffragan bishop throughout the diocese or only in a particular area thereof specified in the instrument.
- (4) Such instrument may provide that any function specified therein shall be discharged by the bishop of the diocese and the suffragan bishop acting jointly.
- (5) Such instrument may provide for the delegation to be for a period specified in the instrument, but it shall not prevent the making of a fresh instrument at the expiration of that period.
- (6) Such instrument may provide for it to continue to have effect for a period specified in the instrument after either the bishop of the diocese or the suffragan bishop ceases to hold that office (with the substitution for the suffragan bishop of his successor).
- (7) Subject to subsection (9) below, such instrument shall cease to have effect on the date on which—
  - (a) the period, if any, specified in the instrument in accordance with subsection (5) or (6) above expires, or
  - (b) if subsection (6) above does not apply, the bishop of the diocese ceases to hold that office, or
  - (c) if subsection (6) above does not apply, the suffragan bishop to whom functions are delegated by the instrument ceases to hold that office.
- (8) The bishop shall obtain the approval of the diocesan synod of the diocese before making an instrument made under this section but, except where subsection (6) above applies, where the bishop is of the opinion that the matter is urgent and it is not practicable to obtain the approval of the diocesan synod, he may, instead, obtain the approval of the bishop's council and standing committee of that diocesan synod.
- (9) Where but for this subsection such instrument would cease to have effect on the date on which the bishop of the diocese or the suffragan bishop to whom functions are delegated by the instrument ceases to hold that office, it shall, except as provided by section 15 of this Measure, continue to have effect until the date of the expiration of a period of six months beginning with the date on which another person becomes the bishop of that diocese or the date on which the suffragan bishop ceases to hold that office, whichever first occurs.
- (10) The bishop of a diocese may vary or revoke an instrument made under this section by a subsequent instrument made thereunder.
- (11) An instrument under this section shall come into operation on the day after the day on which it is made or on such later date as may be specified therein.

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (12) On making an instrument under this section the bishop shall send a copy of the instrument to the Commissioners, the Commission and the registrar of the diocese, and the registrar shall file it in the diocesan registry.
- (13) Where any function specified in an instrument under this section requires the application of the bishop's seal to a document, the document shall be issued as though it were a deed and be executed by the person authorised by the instrument to discharge that function.
- (14) A statement in a document issued in discharging any such function that the person by whom the document is signed or executed has been duly authorised by an instrument under this section to discharge that function shall be conclusive evidence of that fact.
- (15) The making of an instrument under this section shall not be taken as divesting the bishop of the diocese of any of his functions.
- (16) In this section and sections 15 and 16 below, “suffragan bishop” includes an assistant bishop.

#### Textual Amendments

- F4** Words in s. 13(1) omitted (25.1.2024) by virtue of [Church of England \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Measure 2024 \(No. 1\)](#), ss. 6(2), 22(2)(e)

#### Commencement Information

- I15** S. 13 in force at 1.5.2008 by [2008 No. 1](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

## 14 Discharge of certain functions of bishop

- (1) If—
  - (a) the bishop of a diocese has executed an irreversible instrument of resignation as bishop or the bishop considers that he will be unable to discharge any or all of his functions by reason of disability, illness or absence from his diocese or by reason of his forthcoming translation to another see; and
  - (b) there is no person in episcopal orders in the diocese who is for the time being authorised to discharge the relevant functions of the bishop,the bishop may (in the case of resignation or translation before the resignation or translation takes effect) by an instrument under his hand delegate to a person holding office as a diocesan, suffragan or assistant bishop in the Church of England, without the consent of the diocesan synod, but after consultation with the bishop's council and standing committee of that synod, unless the bishop is unable to consult the bishop's council and standing committee by reason of his disability or illness, such of his functions as may be specified in the instrument, except functions to which an instrument made under section 13 above relates<sup>F5</sup>....
- (2) Subject to section 15 below, the instrument made by a bishop under subsection (1) above shall remain in operation for a period specified in the instrument, which shall not be longer than twelve months but which may be extended by the archbishop of the province.
- (3) Where a see is vacant or where, by virtue of any circumstances mentioned in subsection (1) above, the bishop of a diocese is not able to, or does not otherwise,

---

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

exercise the power conferred on him by that subsection to delegate all of his functions which he may delegate, the archbishop of the province shall exercise the power in lieu of the bishop without the consultation with the bishop's council and standing committee required by subsection (1) of this section; and if that archbishop is unable by reason of disability, illness or absence from his province to exercise the power under this subsection or if the see of that archbishop is vacant the power shall be exercised, in like manner, by the senior bishop of the province.

- (4) An instrument made under this section shall come into operation on the day after the day on which it is made or on such later date as may be specified therein.
- (5) A power of delegation under subsection (1) or (3) above may be exercised by the appointment of two or more persons qualified for such appointment and by the division among them, whether territorially or otherwise, of the functions to be performed.
- (6) Where a function which has been delegated under this section requires the application of the bishop's seal to a document, the document shall be issued as though it were a deed and be executed by the person to whom the function has been delegated.
- (7) A statement in a document issued by a person to whom a function has been delegated under this section that the function has been so delegated to him shall be conclusive evidence of that fact.
- (8) An instrument made under this section may be varied or revoked by a subsequent instrument similarly made.
- (9) On making an instrument under this section or on making an irreversible instrument of resignation the person making the document shall send a copy to the Commissioners, the Commission and the registrar of the diocese, and the registrar shall file it in the diocesan registry.
- (10) The making of an instrument under this section shall not be taken as divesting the bishop of the diocese of any of his functions.
- (11) In this section—

“irreversible instrument” means an instrument duly executed and completed by the bishop which has been accepted by the archbishop of the province;

“senior bishop” means, in the province of Canterbury, the bishop of London and after him the bishop of Winchester and, in the province of York, the bishop of Durham and subject thereto the diocesan bishop who has held office as diocesan bishop in the province in question without interruption from any cause for the longest time.

#### Textual Amendments

- F5** Words in s. 14(1) omitted (25.1.2024) by virtue of [Church of England \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Measure 2024 \(No. 1\)](#), ss. 6(3), 22(2)(e)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 14 excluded (1.1.2011) by [Vacancies in Suffragan Sees and Other Ecclesiastical Offices Measure 2010 \(No. 2\)](#), ss. 2(5), 4(2); 2010 No. 6, art. 2

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

#### Commencement Information

**I16** S. 14 in force at 1.5.2008 by [2008 No. 1](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

### [<sup>F6</sup>14A Delegation of archbishop's functions

- (1) Either archbishop may by an instrument made under hand delegate to the other archbishop, or to such diocesan, suffragan or assistant bishop as may be specified in the instrument, the exercise of the archbishop's functions at any time when the archbishop is unable to exercise them.
- (2) An instrument under this section may not delegate a function which is capable of being delegated by an instrument under section 13 as a function which the archbishop has in the capacity as bishop of the diocese of Canterbury or, as the case may be, the diocese of York.
- (3) Subsections (2) to (7) and (9) to (15) of section 13 apply to an instrument under this section as they apply to an instrument under that section; and for that purpose—
  - (a) a reference to the bishop, or to the diocese of the bishop, is to be read as a reference to the archbishop, or to the province of the archbishop, making the delegation,
  - (b) a reference to the suffragan bishop is to the archbishop or other bishop to whom the delegation is made,
  - (c) a reference to the registrar of the diocese is a reference to—
    - (i) the registrar of the province of the archbishop making the delegation, and
    - (ii) (if the delegation is to the other archbishop) the registrar of the other province or (if the delegation is to a diocesan, suffragan or assistant bishop) the registrar of the diocese concerned, and
  - (d) a reference to the diocesan registry is to be construed consistently with a reference to the registrar of the diocese (as to which, see paragraph (c)).]

#### Textual Amendments

**F6** S. 14A inserted (25.1.2024) by [Church of England \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Measure 2024 \(No. 1\)](#), [ss. 6\(1\), 22\(2\)\(e\)](#)

### 15 Special provision with respect to rights of collation

Where by virtue of any provision of an instrument made under section 13 or 14 above or a reorganisation scheme the right to collate to any benefice upon a vacancy is exercisable by a suffragan bishop of the diocese to which the instrument or scheme relates, that provision shall be of no effect during a vacancy in the see of the bishop of that diocese.

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

**C2** S. 15 excluded (1.1.2011) by [Vacancies in Suffragan Sees and Other Ecclesiastical Offices Measure 2010 \(No. 2\)](#), [ss. 2\(5\), 4\(2\)](#); 2010 No. 6, art. 2

**Changes to legislation:** Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

#### Commencement Information

**I17** S. 15 in force at 1.5.2008 by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

### 16 Provision with respect to Acts, etc. which confer functions on a diocesan bishop [F7 or an archbishop]

[F8(1)] Any Act, Measure or Canon which confers or imposes on the bishop of a diocese any functions which by virtue of an instrument made under section 13 or 14 above or a reorganisation scheme may be discharged by a suffragan bishop shall have effect in any diocese subject to the provisions of any such instrument or scheme relating to that diocese and for the time being in force, and references in that Act, Measure or Canon to the bishop of a diocese shall be construed accordingly.

[F9(2)] Any Act, Measure or Canon which confers or imposes on an archbishop functions which by virtue of an instrument made under section 14A may be discharged by the other archbishop, or by the bishop specified in the instrument, has effect in the province subject to the provisions of the instrument for the time being in force, and references in that Act, Measure or Canon to the archbishop are to be construed accordingly.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F7** Words in s. 16 heading inserted (25.1.2024) by Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure 2024 (No. 1), ss. 6(5), 22(2)(e)
- F8** S. 16 renumbered as s. 16(1) (25.1.2024) by Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure 2024 (No. 1), ss. 6(4), 22(2)(e)
- F9** S. 16(2) inserted (25.1.2024) by Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure 2024 (No. 1), ss. 6(4), 22(2)(e)

#### Commencement Information

**I18** S. 16 in force at 1.5.2008 by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

### *Creation and filling of suffragan sees*

### 17 Provisions with respect to filling of suffragan sees

- (1) Where the bishop is aware that a see of a suffragan bishop has become vacant or is shortly to become vacant and the bishop thinks, after taking into account the duty imposed on him under section 12 above, that a proposal to fill the vacancy should be considered he shall consult the diocesan synod as to whether the vacancy should be filled, unless the bishop is of the opinion that the matter is urgent and it is not practicable to consult the diocesan synod, in which case he may, instead, consult the bishop's council and standing committee of that diocesan synod.
- (2) Where, after consulting the diocesan synod or the bishop's council and standing committee, as the case may be, under subsection (1) above, the bishop decides that the vacancy should be filled he shall notify the archbishop of the province and the Commission of his proposal and give his reasons for it.
- (3) The Commission, within the period of two months of being notified as provided in subsection (2) above, shall notify the bishop and the archbishop either that it agrees

---

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

with the bishop's proposal or that it considers that the bishop's proposal requires further consideration.

- (4) If the archbishop informs the bishop within the period of two months of being notified by the Commission as provided in subsection (3) above that he agrees with the Commission's view that the bishop's proposal requires further consideration the provisions of subsections (6) and (7) below shall apply.
- (5) If the Commission has notified the bishop and the archbishop under subsection (3) above—
  - (a) that it agrees with the bishop's proposal, or
  - (b) that it considers that the proposal needs further consideration and the archbishop has informed the bishop that he does not agree with the Commission's view,then the bishop may petition Her Majesty to exercise her powers to appoint a suffragan bishop to fill the vacancy under the Suffragan Bishops Act 1534 (26 Hen. 8 c. 14).
- (6) Where subsection (4) above applies, the Commission shall prepare a statement of the effect of the proposal to fill the vacancy on the mission of the Church of England if implemented and, in consultation with the Commissioners, an estimate of the financial effect of the proposal and report on the proposal to the bishop, including the statement and estimate in its report.
- (7) Section 18(4) to (8) below shall apply to a proposal to which subsection (4) above applies as it applies to a draft scheme under that section.
- (8) Nothing in this section shall apply to the see of the suffragan bishop of Dover <sup>F10</sup>....

#### Textual Amendments

**F10** Words in s. 17(8) repealed (17.11.2014) by [Bishops and Priests \(Consecration and Ordination of Women\) Measure 2014 \(No. 2\)](#), s. 4(2), [Sch.](#); 2014 No. 5, art. 2

#### Commencement Information

**I19** S. 17 in force at 1.1.2011 by [2010 No. 4](#), [art. 2\(b\)](#)

## 18 Provisions with respect to creation of suffragan sees

- (1) No bishop of a diocese shall petition Her Majesty in Council to direct under the Suffragans Nomination Act 1888 (51 & 52 Vict. c. 56) that a town in his diocese shall be taken and accepted for a see of a suffragan bishop as if it had been included in the Suffragan Bishops Act 1534 (26 Hen. 8 c. 14) unless his proposal to do so is approved by the diocesan synod and the General Synod.
- (2) After consulting (if the bishop is not an archbishop) the archbishop of the province the bishop shall send a copy of his proposal, together with a statement of his reasons for making it, to the Commission for it to report thereon.
- (3) On receiving such a proposal, the Commission shall prepare a statement of the effect of the proposal on the mission of the Church of England if implemented and, in consultation with the Commissioners, an estimate of the financial effect of the proposal and shall include the statement and estimate in its report.

---

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

- (4) The bishop shall consider the report of the Commission on the proposal and if he decides to proceed with it he shall lay the proposal before the diocesan synod for its approval.
- (5) A copy of the proposal and of the report of the Commission thereon shall be sent to every member of the diocesan synod at least three weeks before the session at which the proposal is considered.
- (6) If the proposal is approved by the diocesan synod, the bishop shall lay the proposal before the General Synod for its approval.
- (7) A copy of the proposal and of the report of the Commission thereon shall be sent to every member of the General Synod at least fourteen days before the beginning of the group of sessions at which the proposal is considered.
- (8) Where the Business Committee of the General Synod determines that the proposal does not need to be debated by the General Synod then, unless notice is given by a member of the General Synod in accordance with its Standing Orders that that member wishes the proposal to be debated, the proposal shall, for the purposes of subsection (6) above, be deemed to have been approved by the General Synod.

#### Commencement Information

**I20** S. 18 in force at 1.9.2008 by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

*Provisions with respect to discharge of functions of certain bodies corporate, etc.*

### **19 Schemes with respect to discharge of functions of diocesan bodies corporate, etc.**

- (1) In this and the next following section “diocesan body” means any body corporate or unincorporate or committee established for a diocese or any part thereof, other than a diocesan synod or the bishop’s council and standing committee of a diocesan synod [F11 or a Diocesan Board of Education].
- (2) A scheme under this section may make provision for one or more of the following purposes—
  - (a) for constituting a body corporate or unincorporate or committee to discharge in respect of such dioceses as are specified in the scheme the functions previously discharged in respect of each of those dioceses by such diocesan body as is so specified and for winding up or dissolving each such body;
  - (b) for empowering such diocesan bodies for such dioceses, or such parts of such dioceses, as are so specified to discharge any of their functions jointly and, in particular, to establish a joint committee to discharge any of the functions of each such body;
  - (c) for empowering such a diocesan body for such diocese as is so specified to arrange for any of its functions to be discharged by the corresponding diocesan body for such other diocese as is so specified or by a committee or sub-committee of that body.
- (3) The bishops of the dioceses to which a scheme under this section is to apply (“the participating dioceses”) shall prepare a draft of such scheme and shall obtain the consent of the Commission to proceed with it.



---

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

- (4) If the draft scheme would, if implemented, affect a charity, not being an exempt charity, the bishops of the participating dioceses shall cause a copy of the draft to be sent to the Charity Commission for it to advise and comment thereon.
- (5) After any advice or comments made by the Charity Commission on the draft scheme have been received by the bishops of the participating dioceses and the bishops have made such amendments, if any, as they think fit, the bishops shall lay the draft scheme before the diocesan synod of every participating diocese for its approval unless the Charity Commission objects to the scheme including any amendments made in consequence of their advice or comments and, in such a case, the bishops shall not proceed with the scheme, but without prejudice to the making of a new scheme under this section.
- (6) A copy of the draft scheme and of any advice or comments thereon made by the Charity Commission shall be sent to every member of the diocesan synod of every participating diocese at least six weeks before the session at which the draft scheme is considered.
- (7) If the draft scheme is approved by the diocesan synod of every participating diocese, a copy of the draft scheme shall be signed by the bishops of the participating dioceses who shall thereby make the scheme.
- (8) A scheme under this section shall come into operation on the first day of the month next following the making of the scheme or on such later date as may be specified therein.
- (9) The bishop of each participating diocese shall send a copy of the scheme to the Commission and to the registrar of his diocese, and the registrar shall file it in the diocesan registry.

---

**Textual Amendments**

**F11** Words in s. 19(1) inserted (29.6.2021) by [Diocesan Boards of Education Measure 2021 \(No. 1\)](#), ss. [4\(10\)](#), [24\(3\)](#) (with [Sch. 2 para. 6](#))

---

**Commencement Information**

**I21** S. 19 in force at 1.9.2008 by [2008 No. 1](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

## 20 Further provisions with respect to schemes under s.19

- (1) A scheme under section 19 above which makes provision for either of the purposes mentioned in subsection (2)(a) or (b) thereof may provide for regulating the term of office of members of the body corporate or unincorporate or committee referred to therein, for regulating the proceedings of that body or committee and for determining the manner in which its expenses are to be defrayed.
- (2) A scheme under section 19 above may contain such incidental, consequential and supplementary provisions as appear to the bishops by whom the scheme is to be made to be necessary or expedient for bringing the scheme into operation and giving full effect thereto and, in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing words, provisions—
  - (a) for the transfer of property and liabilities;
  - (b) for the adjustment of accounts and apportionment of liabilities; and

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (c) for the settlement of any differences arising in consequence of the operation of the scheme.
- (3) Where a body or committee is, under a scheme under section 19 above, to discharge, whether jointly or otherwise, functions previously discharged by a diocesan body established by or under a Measure, that Measure shall have effect subject to section 19 above and this section and the scheme may make such incidental, consequential or other amendments to the Measure as appear to the bishops of the participating dioceses necessary to give effect to the scheme.
- (4) A scheme under section 19 above may be varied or revoked by a subsequent scheme made thereunder.

**Commencement Information**

**I22** S. 20 in force at 1.9.2008 by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

*Miscellaneous and supplemental*

**21 Power of Commissioners to pay stipend, etc. of certain bishops**

Where a new bishopric is founded and a new diocese created by a reorganisation scheme, the Commissioners shall have power—

- (a) to pay out of their general fund to the bishop of that diocese, and to any suffragan bishop thereof, such a stipend and such annual sum in respect of the expenses incurred by him in connection with the performance of the duties attaching to his office as they think fit; and
- (b) to provide the bishop of that diocese with a suitable residence;

but before exercising the power conferred on them by paragraph (b) above the Commissioners shall consult the bishop's council and standing committee of the diocesan synod of that diocese.

**Commencement Information**

**I23** S. 21 in force at 1.9.2008 by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

**22 Interpretation of Part II**

In this Part of this Measure—

“the Commission” means the Dioceses Commission established under section 2 above; and

“reorganisation scheme” means a scheme made under section 7 above.

**Commencement Information**

**I24** S. 22 in force at 1.5.2008 by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

**Changes to legislation:** Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

**F12** PART III

PROCEDURE FOR MAKING PASTORAL SCHEMES AND  
ORDERS AND PASTORAL CHURCH BUILDINGS SCHEMES

**Textual Amendments**

**F12** Pt. III repealed (1.7.2012) by Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 (No. 3), s. 112(3), **Sch. 9** (with ss. 100, 105(4), 107, 108(6), Schs. 8); 2012 No. 1, art. 2

**F13** PART IV

CHURCH BUILDINGS CLOSED FOR REGULAR PUBLIC WORSHIP

**Textual Amendments**

**F13** Pt. IV repealed (1.7.2012) by Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 (No. 3), s. 112(3), **Sch. 9** (with ss. 100, 105(4), 107, 108(6), Schs. 8); 2012 No. 1, art. 2

**F14** PART V

MISSION

**Textual Amendments**

**F14** Pt. V repealed (1.7.2012) by Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 (No. 3), s. 112(3), **Sch. 9** (with ss. 100, 105(4), 107, 108(6), Schs. 8); 2012 No. 1, art. 2

**F15** PART VI

MISSION AND PASTORAL COMMITTEES

**Textual Amendments**

**F15** Pt. VI repealed (1.7.2012) by Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 (No. 3), s. 112(3), **Sch. 9** (with ss. 100, 105(4), 107, 108(6), Schs. 8); 2012 No. 1, art. 2

---

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

## PART VII

### OTHER PROVISIONS

#### *Care of church buildings*

#### 54 Church Buildings Council

- (1) There shall be established a body known as the Church Buildings Council (in this section and sections 55 to 57 below referred to as “the Council”) which shall have the functions set out in those sections and the body named the Council for the Care of Churches shall cease to exist.
- (2) Schedule 4 to this Measure shall have effect with respect to the membership and proceedings of the Council.
- (3) In carrying out its functions the Council shall have due regard to the role of a church as a local centre of worship and mission and, where appropriate, to the provisions of the 1983 Measure, including, in particular, those relating to the making of pastoral church buildings schemes and pastoral (church buildings disposal) schemes and to proposals for the closure of churches for regular public worship.
- (4) The Advisory Board for Redundant Churches shall cease to exist.

#### Commencement Information

**I25** S. 54 in force at 11.6.2008 by 2007 No. 3, Instrument made by Archbishops

#### 55 Functions of Council in relation to churches, etc. in use

- (1) It shall be the duty of the Council—
  - (a) to advise the Archbishops' Council and the General Synod, when requested to do so, on matters relating to churches;
  - (b) to consider consultation by and requests for advice from judges and registrars of the ecclesiastical courts and from Diocesan Advisory Committees in relation to applications or possible applications for the grant of a faculty, any other matter referred to in [<sup>F16</sup>section 7(1)(a), (c) or (d) of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018] and any matter to which [<sup>F17</sup>any of sections 56, 58(1) to (6) and (9), 60, 62 to 64, 68 to 75 and 77 to 79 of that Measure] relates and, to the extent that the Council thinks appropriate, respond to such requests or consultation;
  - (c) to promote the care and conservation of churches and greater knowledge, understanding and enjoyment of and artistic activity relating to churches both within the Church of England and more widely among the general public or sections of the public on its own or in conjunction with other persons and bodies;
  - (d) to promote, in consultation with such other persons and organisations as it thinks fit, by means of guidance or otherwise, standards of good practice in relation to the use, care, conservation, repair, planning, design and development of churches; and

---

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

- (e) to convene, annually, a meeting of the chairmen and secretaries of Diocesan Advisory Committees and, so far as practicable, to maintain regular contact with those committees.
- (2) The Council shall have power to give information and advice, whether or not requested to do so—
- (a) to any person or body having, within the Church of England, either nationally or within a diocese or part thereof or a parish or any other area, responsibility for or functions relating to the use, care, conservation, repair, planning, design and development of churches on such matters either generally or in relation to particular buildings;
  - (b) to any person or body other than one within the Church of England having responsibility for or functions relating to the matters referred to in paragraph (a) above in relation to particular buildings therein mentioned; and
  - (c) to any person or body having responsibility for or functions relating to the matters referred to in paragraph (a) above in relation to particular places used for Christian worship by Churches other than the Church of England.
- (3) The Council shall have power to charge such fee as it thinks fit and to recover expenses when responding for a request for advice under subsection (2)(b) or (c) above.
- (4) The Council shall also have power—
- (a) to liaise, co-operate and exchange information with and hold conferences with or for government departments, local authorities and other bodies or persons, whether within or outside the British Isles and, where appropriate, advise them, in relation to—
    - (i) the use, care, conservation, repair, planning, design and development of churches and corresponding buildings used by Churches other than the Church of England,
    - (ii) the obtaining or granting of funds or permission for the carrying out of works in relation to such matters, and
    - (iii) the formulation of policy or of proposals for legislation in relation to them; and
  - (b) where requested to do so by any body which makes available funds for the care and conservation of churches, to allocate funds on behalf of that body or give advice in relation to such care and conservation.
- (5) In this section and section 57 below “church” includes a part of a church and—
- (a) any other place of worship according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England, including any building to which a sharing agreement within the meaning of the Sharing of Church Buildings Act 1969 (c. 38) applies,
  - (b) any curtilage of such a church or place of worship and any churchyard or burial ground or part thereof annexed thereto,
  - (c) any other parochial burial ground, or part thereof, whether or not so annexed, and
  - (d) any contents of such a church or place of worship or any other articles appertaining thereto,
- but does not include a cathedral.

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

### Textual Amendments

- F16** Words in s. 55(1)(b) substituted (1.9.2018) by [Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018 \(No. 3\)](#), s. 99(2), **Sch. 3 para. 15(a)** (with Sch. 4 Pt. 1); S.I. 2018/720, art. 2
- F17** Words in s. 55(1)(b) substituted (1.9.2018) by [Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018 \(No. 3\)](#), s. 99(2), **Sch. 3 para. 15(b)** (with Sch. 4 Pt. 1); S.I. 2018/720, art. 2

### Commencement Information

- I26** S. 55 in force at 11.6.2008 by [2007 No. 3](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

## 56 Functions of Council in relation to churches proposed for closure for regular public worship

- (1) The Council shall be under a duty—
- (a) to prepare the reports referred to in section 3(8) of the 1983 Measure and send copies of the reports to the bodies referred to therein;
  - (b) in response to consultation by or requests for advice from the Commissioners under section 5(2), 44(5)(bb), 44(5A)(a), 44(9B)(b), 46(1), 47(2)(a), 49(1), 50(2), 50(4A) or 51(1)(b) of the 1983 Measure or otherwise to give information and advice to the Commissioners about—
    - (i) the historic and archaeological interest and architectural quality of any church to which this section applies;
    - (ii) the historic and architectural interest and aesthetic qualities of the contents of any such church;
    - (iii) the value of any such church as part of its setting and surrounding landscape;
    - (iv) the overall importance of the church; and
    - (v) having regard to the matters referred to in sub-paragraphs (i) to (iv) above, the potential impact of any architectural or structural changes or other physical alterations to the church;
  - (c) in response to consultation by or requests for advice from the Churches Conservation Trust under section 44(5)(bbb) or (7B) of the 1983 Measure to give information and advice to the Trust about any of the matters referred to in paragraph (b) above;
  - (d) to consider and, to the extent that the Council considers appropriate, make representations on any draft pastoral church buildings scheme or pastoral (church buildings disposal) scheme of which a copy is sent to it under section 6(3) or 50(3) of the 1983 Measure; and
  - (e) when requested to do so by the Archbishops' Council, the Commissioners or the General Synod, to give information and advice on any of the matters referred to in paragraph (b) above in relation, generally, to churches to which this section applies or in relation to particular categories of such churches.
- (2) The Council shall have power, when requested to do so, to give information and advice to any diocesan body or other body or person on any of the matters referred to in subsection (1)(b) above in relation to a church or group of churches to which this section applies:

Provided that—

---

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

- (i) the Council shall not give any such information or advice to a person or body other than a diocesan body in a case where the Commissioners have informed it that they have received proposals from the bishop under section 4(1) of the 1983 Measure unless it has first consulted the Commissioners and had regard to any views expressed by them and in this subsection “diocesan body” means any body corporate or unincorporate or committee established for a diocese or dioceses or part thereof; and
  - (ii) the Commissioners and the Council may, by agreement in writing, exclude from the operation of proviso (i) above any information or advice relating to any such categories of matters as may be specified in the agreement.
- (3) This section applies to a church or part of a church as respects which the question arises whether it ought to be closed for regular public worship or as respects which questions arise as to its use, demolition, or preservation on or in the event of its being closed for regular public worship or as respects which questions arise as to a proposed acquisition of a building closed for regular public worship under section 44(5A) of the 1983 Measure and references in this section to a church include part of a church and include references to its curtilage and to any churchyard or burial ground annexed thereto.

---

#### Commencement Information

**I27** S. 56 in force at 11.6.2008 by **2007 No. 3**, Instrument made by Archbishops

## 57 General functions of the Council

- (1) The Council shall also be under a duty—
- (a) to maintain jointly with the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England (in this section referred to as the “the Commission”) a library of books, plans, drawings, photographs and other material relating to churches and cathedrals and the objects in them;
  - (b) to work closely with the Commission on matters of common concern;
  - (c) to present annually to the General Synod a report of its activities during the year and to send copies of the report to the Archbishops' Council, the Commissioners and the Secretary of State and, if the Council and the Commission think fit, the Council's report may be combined with an annual report of the Commission; and
  - (d) to carry out any duties or consider whether to exercise any powers imposed or conferred upon the Council by or under any other enactment.
- (2) The Council shall have power, in connection with the carrying out of its functions, to acquire, on behalf of the Archbishops' Council, books, plans, drawings, photographs and other materials relating to churches and their contents and corresponding buildings used by Churches other than the Church of England and lands annexed thereto and their contents.
- (3) The Council shall have power to act as a trustee or administer charities and trusts for any purpose connected with the carrying out of its functions.
- (4) The Commissioners may make grants out of their general fund in respect of the expenses incurred by the Council—

*Changes to legislation: Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (a) in providing information or advice to them whether at their request or otherwise, and
- (b) in discharging any other functions of the Council under section 56(1)(b) to (d) above.

**Commencement Information**

**I28** S. 57 in force at 11.6.2008 by 2007 No. 3, Instrument made by Archbishops

*Pastoral orders*

**F18** **58 Powers exercisable by pastoral order**

.....

**Textual Amendments**

**F18** S. 58 repealed (1.7.2012) by Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 (No. 3), s. 112(3), **Sch. 9** (with ss. 100, 105(4), 107, 108(6), Schs. 8); 2012 No. 1, art. 2

**Commencement Information**

**I29** S. 58 in force at 11.6.2008 by 2007 No. 3, Instrument made by Archbishops

*Team ministries, team councils and new parishes*

**F19** **59 Amendment of Schedule 3 to 1983 Measure**

.....

**Textual Amendments**

**F19** S. 59 repealed (1.7.2012) by Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 (No. 3), s. 112(3), **Sch. 9** (with ss. 100, 105(4), 107, 108(6), Schs. 8); 2012 No. 1, art. 2

**Commencement Information**

**I30** S. 59 in force at 11.6.2008 by 2007 No. 3, Instrument made by Archbishops

*Compensation of Clergy*

**F20** **60 Amendment of Schedule 4 to 1983 Measure**

.....

**Textual Amendments**

**F20** S. 60 repealed (1.7.2012) by Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 (No. 3), s. 112(3), **Sch. 9** (with ss. 100, 105(4), 107, 108(6), Schs. 8); 2012 No. 1, art. 2



**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

**Commencement Information**

**I31** S. 60 in force at 11.6.2008 by [2007 No. 3](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

*Assistant curates*

<sup>F21</sup>**61 Assistant curates**

.....

**Textual Amendments**

**F21** S. 61 repealed (1.7.2012) by [Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 \(No. 3\)](#), s. 112(3), [Sch. 9](#) (with ss. 100, 105(4), 107, 108(6), Schs. 8); 2012 No. 1, art. 2

**Commencement Information**

**I32** S. 61 in force at 1.2.2008 by [2007 No. 3](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

**PART VIII**

MISCELLANEOUS

*Miscellaneous*

**62 Interpretation**

- (1) In this Measure, unless the context otherwise requires—
  - “the 1983 Measure” means the Pastoral Measure 1983 (1983 No. 1);
  - “charity” has the meaning assigned to it by [<sup>F22</sup>section 10 of the Charities Act 2011 ];
  - “the Commissioners” means the Church Commissioners;
  - “functions” includes powers and duties;
  - “mission” means the whole mission of the Church of England, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical;
  - <sup>F23</sup>.....
  - “pastoral church buildings scheme” has the meaning assigned to it by section 23(2) above; and
  - “pastoral scheme” and “pastoral order” have the same meanings as in the 1983 Measure.
- (2) Without prejudice to subsection (1) above, other expressions in Parts VI, VII and this Part of this Measure shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the same meaning as in the 1983 Measure.
- <sup>F24</sup>(3) .....
- (4) Any reference in any Measure or other enactment or in any instrument or document to the Council for the Care of Churches shall be construed as a reference to the Church Buildings Council and any rights, powers and duties exercisable by or imposed on

*Changes to legislation: Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

the Council for the Care of Churches immediately before the coming into force of section 54(1) above shall, from that date, be exercisable by or imposed on the Church Buildings Council.

- (5) Any reference in any Measure or other enactment or in any instrument or document to the pastoral committee or a redundant churches uses committee of a diocese shall be construed as a reference to the mission and pastoral committee.
- (6) Any reference in the 1983 Measure or in any other enactment or instrument or document to redundancy, in relation to a church, declaring a church redundant, a declaration of redundancy or redundant church, building or property shall be construed as a reference to closure for regular public worship, declaring a building closed for regular public worship, a declaration of closure for regular public worship or a building closed for regular public worship, as the case may be and any reference to a redundancy scheme shall be construed as a reference to a pastoral (church buildings disposal) scheme.
- [<sup>F25</sup>(7) For the purposes of this Measure, where a meeting is held in more than one place (including electronic, digital or virtual locations, web addresses or conference call telephone numbers), and accordingly without any, or without all, of the persons being together in the same place—
  - (a) a reference to being present at the meeting includes a reference to being present by electronic means (including by telephone conference, video conference, live webcast or live interactive streaming), and
  - (b) a person is to be regarded as present at the meeting if the person is at that time able to hear and be heard by, and where practicable to see and be seen by, the other persons present.]

**Textual Amendments**

- F22** Words in s. 62(1) substituted (14.3.2012) by [Charities Act 2011 \(c. 25\), s. 355, Sch. 7 para. 128](#) (with s. 20(2), [Sch. 8](#))
- F23** Words in s. 62(1) repealed (1.7.2012) by [Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 \(No. 3\), s. 112\(3\), Sch. 9](#) (with ss. 100, 105(4), 107, 108(6), [Schs. 8](#)); 2012 No. 1, art. 2
- F24** S. 62(3) repealed (1.7.2012) by [Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 \(No. 3\), s. 112\(3\), Sch. 9](#) (with ss. 100, 105(4), 107, 108(6), [Schs. 8](#)); 2012 No. 1, art. 2
- F25** S. 62(7) inserted (25.1.2024) by [Church of England \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Measure 2024 \(No. 1\), s. 22\(2\)\(j\), Sch. 2 para. 8](#)

**Commencement Information**

- I33** S. 62(1)(2)(3) in force at 1.1.2008 by [2007 No. 3](#), Instrument made by Archbishops
- I34** S. 62(5) in force at 1.2.2008 by [2007 No. 3](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

**63 Amendment of Measures**

- (1) The 1983 Measure shall have effect subject to the further amendments set out in Schedule 5 to this Measure.
- <sup>F26</sup>(2) . . . . .
- (3) In section 16(2)(b) of the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986 (1986 No. 3), after “1983,” there shall be inserted the words “or any period during which the benefice

---

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

is vacant immediately before the declaration of a suspension period or between suspension periods.”.

(4) In section 2(2) of the Church of England (Ecumenical Relations) Measure 1988 (1988 No. 3)—

(a) after the words “Extra-Parochial Ministry Measure 1967” there shall be inserted the words “or the bishop or bishops who make a bishop's mission order under section 47 of the Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007”; and

(b) in paragraphs (a) and (b) after the words “that institution” there shall be inserted, in each case, the words “or in connection with the initiative endorsed by the bishop's mission order”.

<sup>F27</sup>(5) .....

(6) In the Church Representation Rules contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969, in rule 24(6)(b), for the words from “a diocesan synod” to the end there shall be substituted the words “or a diocesan synod whose names are entered on the roll of any parish in the deanery”.

(7) In rule 106 of the Clergy Discipline Rules 2005 (S.I. 2005/2002) for the definition of “bishop” there shall be substituted the following definition—

““bishop” includes the suffragan, area or assistant bishop, as the case may be, where—

(a) disciplinary functions have been delegated in a diocese under an instrument made under section 13 or 14 of the Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 or in an instrument having effect as if made under either of those sections by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 6 to that Measure; or

(b) such functions are discharged under a scheme made under section 11 of the Dioceses Measure 1978 which continues in force under paragraph 5 of that Schedule.”.

---

#### Textual Amendments

**F26** S. 63(2) repealed (1.3.2019) by [Church Property Measure 2018 \(No. 8\)](#), s. 53(2), **Sch. 3** (with **Sch. 2**); [S.I. 2019/97](#), art. 2

**F27** S. 63(5) repealed (1.9.2011) by [Care of Cathedrals Measure 2011 \(No. 1\)](#), s. 34(2), **Sch. 3** (with s. 31); [2011 No. 2](#), art. 2

---

#### Commencement Information

**I35** S. 63(1) in force at 1.1.2008 for specified purposes by [2007 No. 3](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

**I36** S. 63(1) in force at 11.6.2008 in so far as not already in force by [2007 No. 3](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

**I37** S. 63(2)(3) in force at 11.6.2008 by [2007 No. 3](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

**I38** S. 63(4) in force at 31.3.2008 by [2007 No. 3](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

**I39** S. 63(5) in force at 1.1.2008 by [2007 No. 3](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

**I40** S. 63(6) in force at 1.9.2008 by [2008 No. 1](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

**I41** S. 63(7) in force at 1.5.2008 by [2008 No. 1](#), Instrument made by Archbishops

**Changes to legislation:** *Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

## 64 Transitional provisions

The transitional provisions set out in Schedule 6 to this Measure shall have effect.

### Commencement Information

**I42** S. 64 in force at 1.2.2008 by 2007 No. 3, Instrument made by Archbishops

## 65 Repeals

The enactments mentioned in Schedule 7 to this Measure are hereby repealed to the extent specified in the second column of that Schedule.

### Commencement Information

**I43** S. 65 in force at 1.2.2008 for specified purposes by 2007 No. 3, Instrument made by Archbishops

**I44** S. 65 in force at 1.5.2008 for specified purposes by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

**I45** S. 65 in force at 11.6.2008 for specified purposes by 2007 No. 3, Instrument made by Archbishops

**I46** S. 65 in force at 1.9.2008 for specified purposes by 2008 No. 1, Instrument made by Archbishops

**I47** S. 65 in force at 1.1.2011 in so far as not already in force by 2010 No. 4, art. 2(c)

## 66 Citation, commencement and extent

- (1) This Measure may be cited as the Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007.
- (2) This Measure shall come into force on such day as the Archbishops of Canterbury and York may jointly appoint, and different days may be appointed for different provisions.
- (3) This Measure shall extend to the whole of the provinces of Canterbury and York except the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, except that the provisions thereof may be extended to the Channel Islands as defined in the Channel Islands (Church Legislation) Measures 1931 and 1957 or either of them, in accordance with those Measures, and, if an Act of Tynwald or an instrument made under an Act of Tynwald so provides, shall extend to the Isle of Man subject to such exceptions, adaptations or modifications as may be specified in the Act of Tynwald or instrument.

### Commencement Information

**I48** S. 66 in force at 1.1.2008 by 2007 No. 3, Instrument made by Archbishops

**Changes to legislation:**

Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure 2007 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to :**

- s. 11(2) words inserted by [2024 No. 1 s. 4\(1\)](#)
- s. 11(3) words substituted by [2024 No. 1 s. 4\(3\)](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Measure associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Measure (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 11(2A) inserted by [2024 No. 1 s. 4\(2\)](#)