



Bishop's Council & Standing Committee

Terms of reference

Primary Purposes

The Bishop's Council & Standing Committee is tasked with advising the Diocesan Bishop and shaping strategy and policy relating to the mission of the Diocese for final approval by the Synod. Once approved by Diocesan Synod the Bishop's Council & Standing Committee members have a role in supporting the implementation and communication of new policy.

To ensure a coherent and consistent approach to strategy and implementation, the Bishop's Council & Standing Committee shall fulfil the roles of other statutorily required bodies, including the Diocesan Board of Finance and the Diocesan Mission & Pastoral Committee.

Main Functions

a. Bishop's Council & Standing Committee

- (i) To plan the business of the synod, to prepare the agenda for its sessions, and to circulate to members information about matters for discussion;
- (ii) To initiate proposals for action by the synod and to advise it on matters of policy which are placed before it;
- (iii) To advise the president on any matters which he may refer to the committee;
- (iv) Subject to the directions of the synod to transact the business of the synod when it is not in session;
- (v) To act as the Diocesan Mission & Pastoral Committee, as specified by the Pastoral & Mission Measure 2011 (as amended);
- (vi) To act as the Diocesan Parsonage Board, carry out all functions in line with the Parsonage Measure 1938 and the repair of Benefice Building Measure 1972 (as amended);
- (vii) To appoint members of committees or nominate members for election to committees, subject to the directions of the synod;
- (viii) To carry out such other functions as the synod may delegate to it.

b. Diocesan Board of Finance

- (i) To carry out all functions and responsibilities of Members and Directors of the Diocesan Board of Finance, as specified in the **Memorandum & Articles of Association of the WDBF¹**;
- (ii) To act as the employing body for all staff and consultants of the Board of Finance;
- (iii) To undertake the statutory requirements of running a company, including the approval of annual accounts and the appointment of auditors.

c. Parsonages Board

- (i) To carry out all functions and responsibilities of the Diocesan Parsonages Board as defined in the Repair of Benefice Buildings Measure 1972.
- (ii) To ensure that repairs and maintenance to benefice houses are being carried out in line with the Measure, in conjunction with diocesan priorities and budgets.
- (iii) The Parsonages Board delegates most of its responsibilities to the Property Working Group.

d. Diocesan Mission & Pastoral Committee

- (i) In line with the Mission & Pastoral Measure 2018, to maintain a strategic overview of the pastoral planning process across the Diocese.
- (ii) To consider and recommend schemes to the Bishop of Winchester as required.

Membership:

Ex officio members:

- The Diocesan Bishop (Chair);
- The Chair of the Finance Committee
- The Suffragan Bishops;
- The Archdeacons of the Diocese;
- The Diocesan Secretary
- The Dean of Winchester;

Elected Members

- The Chair of the House of Laity (Vice Chair)
- The Chair of the House of Clergy (Vice Chair)
- Two elected members of the House of Clergy of the Diocesan Synod;
- Four elected members of the House of Laity of the Diocesan Synod;

¹ A full copy of the Mem & Arts of the WDBF is available on request from the Diocesan Team

Voting Rights of Members:

Whilst the Chair and membership of the Bishop's Council & Standing Committee shall be coterminous across all functions, the voting rights of members will differ depending on the type of issue under discussion. The table below summarises the voting rights of members:

		BCSC	WDBF	Parsonage s Board	DMPC
Chair	The Bishop of Winchester	√	√	√	√
	Chair of the WDBF	√	√	√	√
Vice Chairs	The Chair of the House of Laity	√	√	√	√
	The Chair of the House of Clergy	√	√	√	√
Ex officio	The Diocesan Secretary (<i>Company Secretary</i>)				
	The Chair of the Finance Committee	√	√	√	√
Bishop's Staff Team	The Bishop of Basingstoke	√	√	√	√
	The Bishop of Southampton	√	√	√	√
	The Archdeacon of Bournemouth	√	√	√	√
	The Archdeacon of Winchester	√	√	√	√
	The Dean of Winchester	√	√	√	
Elected Clergy	Elected Clergy	√	√	√	√
	Elected Clergy	√	√	√	√
Elected Laity	Elected Laity	√	√	√	√
	Elected Laity	√	√	√	√
	Elected Laity	√	√	√	√
	Elected Laity	√	√	√	√
	Elected Laity	√	√	√	√
Co-opted Member(s)	Co-opted Member(s)	√	√	√	√