

DIOCESE OF BRISTOL

SCHEME FOR CONCORD CHURCH

CHURCH REPRESENTATION AND MINISTERS MEASURE 2019

CHURCH REPRESENTATION RULE 24

A Scheme for the Representation of Concord Church on Deanery Synod.

BACKGROUND

- (1) In accordance with Rule 24 of the Church Representation Rules made under the Church Representation and Ministers Measure 2019 ('the Rules') a Diocesan Synod must, at the direction of the Bishop who has made a Bishop's Mission Order which is in force, make provision by a Scheme for the representation on such deanery synods as may be determined by the Scheme, of such persons to whom the Bishop's Mission Order relates as are specified in or under the Scheme.
- (2) The Bishop of Bristol has made a Bishop's Mission Order on 01 August 2025 under Part 7 of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011 to provide for the Concord Church (the Charity) Mission Initiative.
- (3) The Bishop of Bristol has requested that the Diocesan Synod make provision for the representation of the Charity on the deanery synods for the parish in which the congregation of the Charity meet.

THE SCHEME

The Diocesan Synod of the Diocese of Bristol in exercise of the powers conferred by Rule 24 of the Church Representation Rules makes the following scheme:

1. The Leader licensed to the Charity, if ordained, and other ordained ministers licensed thereto shall ex-officio be members of the House of Clergy of Kingswood and South Gloucestershire Deanery in accordance with and pursuant to the Rules.
2. Rule 27A of the Church Representation rules 2020 shall apply with the following amendments:
 - 2.1 the deletion of the word 'and' in 27A(2)(b);
 - 2.2 the substitution and the full stop at the end of 27A(2)(c) with “, and”; and
 - 2.3 the addition of the following as 27A(2)(d): “is not, and does not become, a member of the electoral roll of any parish in which the BMO operates.”
3. Such lay persons whose names appear on the Mission Initiative Roll maintained by the Leader of the Charity as are elected in accordance with paragraph 4 hereof shall be members of the House of Laity of Kingswood and South Gloucestershire Deanery.
4. Such members of the House of Laity shall be elected at the annual general meeting of the Charity as if it were an annual parochial church meeting electing parochial representatives under Rule 19(1) of the Church Representation Rules 2020.
5. The number of lay representatives for the Charity shall be determined in accordance with the Deanery Synod Election Formula for the time being approved by Diocesan Synod.

6. The election at the AGM of the Charity shall be held not later than 31 May 2023 and thereafter before 31 May in every third year.
7. Model Rule 8 of the Church Representation Rules (the Rules) (which relates to the qualification of persons to be elected) shall apply save that the roll of the parish shall mean the Mission Initiative Roll [and no person shall be nominated for election unless he or she has signified his or her consent to serve].
8. Model Rule 9 of the Rules (which relates to the conduct of elections at the annual meeting) shall apply save that the reference to the annual meeting shall mean the annual general meeting of the Charity and the reference to the roll of the parish shall mean the Mission Initiative Roll.
9. Model Rule 18 of the Rules (which relate to casual vacancies) shall apply so that any vacancies shall be filled by election by the Council Members as soon as convenient and otherwise in accordance with this scheme.
10.
 - 10.1 If the BMO plants new churches then for each of these initiatives, their Leader, if ordained, and other ordained ministers licensed thereto shall ex-officio be members of the House of Clergy on the relevant Deanery Synod in accordance with and pursuant to the Rules.
 - 10.2 Separate electoral rolls for each congregation of the Charity (“the Congregation Roll”) shall be compiled by derivation from the Mission Initiative Roll of Concord Church.
 - 10.3 A person whose name is on the Mission Initiative Roll shall be entitled to be enrolled on one Congregation Roll if, had the congregation been a separate Mission Initiative, that person would have been entitled to be enrolled on the Mission Initiative Roll of that congregation under Rule

27A(2) as amended above, save that no separate application under Rules 27A(2)(c) shall be required for enrolment on a Congregation Roll.

10.4 The Mission Leader shall keep the Congregations Rolls, and may determine in cases of doubt which roll is appropriate for any particular enrolment, subject to an appeal by the applicant to the Trustee Directors of the Charity.

10.5 If all the congregations under the BMO are in one deanery, the number of lay representatives for Concord Church in total shall be determined in accordance with the Deanery Synod Election Formula for the time being approved by Diocesan Synod ('the Formula') and the number of lay representatives that shall be elected for each congregation shall be apportioned in proportion to the numbers enrolled on the Congregation Roll.

10.6 If one or more of the congregations are in other deaneries the number of lay representatives for each of those congregations shall be determined in accordance with the Formula as if all of such congregations were one congregation and the number of lay representatives that shall be elected for each congregation shall be apportioned in proportion according to the numbers enrolled on the Congregation Roll for each of such congregations.

11. This Scheme shall come into operation upon the date of the session of the Diocesan Synod at which it receives assent and it supersedes all previous Schemes.

Signed on the

day of

2025

SIGNED by the)
President of the)
Bristol Diocesan Synod)
and Chair of the House)
Bishops of the Bristol)
Diocesan Synod)