



House of Lords  
House of Commons  
Ecclesiastical Committee

---

# Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure

---

## 239th Report

*Ordered by the House of Lords to be  
printed on 4 November 2019*

*Ordered by the House of Commons  
to be printed on 4 November 2019*

**HL Paper 18  
HC 298**

Published on 4 November 2019  
by authority of the House of Lords and  
the House of Commons

## Ecclesiastical Committee

The Ecclesiastical Committee is a statutory Committee appointed under the Church of England Assembly (Powers) Act 1919.

It comprises thirty members, fifteen of whom are Members of the House of Commons, appointed by the Speaker, and fifteen of whom are members of the House of Lords, appointed by the Lord Speaker. The quorum is twelve.

Appointments to the Committee are generally made early in a Parliament. Unless the Speaker of the Lord Speaker decide otherwise, members appointed by them remain on the Committee for the life of the Parliament.

While its powers are those laid down by the Act, the procedures it has adopted are those of a Joint Select Committee.

### Current membership

#### HOUSE OF LORDS

[Baroness Butler-Sloss](#)  
[The Earl of Cork and Orrery](#)  
[Lord Cormack](#)  
[Lord Elton](#)  
[Lord Faulkner of Worcester](#)  
[Lord Glenarthur](#)  
[Baroness Harris of Richmond](#)  
[Baroness Howarth of Breckland](#)  
[Lord Judd](#)  
[Lord Lexden](#)  
[Lord Lisvane](#)  
[Baroness McIntosh of Hudnall](#)  
[Lord Plant of Highfield](#)

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS

[Sir Peter Bottomley MP](#)  
[Mr Ben Bradshaw MP](#)  
[Fiona Bruce MP](#)  
[Frank Field MP](#)  
[Sir Roger Gale MP](#)  
[Helen Goodman MP](#)  
[Mr Dominic Grieve QC MP](#)  
[Mr David Lammy MP](#)  
[Rachael Maskell MP](#)  
[Jonathan Reynolds MP](#)  
[Gavin Robinson MP](#)  
[Dame Caroline Spelman MP](#)  
[Sir Desmond Swayne MP](#)

### Remit

The Ecclesiastical Committee examines draft Measures presented to it by the Legislative Committee of the General Synod of the Church of England. It reports to Parliament on whether or not it considers the measures to be expedient.

It generally asks members of the General Synod to assist it in its deliberations. In some circumstances a conference of the Ecclesiastical Committee and the Legislative Committee may be convened.

The Church of England Measure on which the Committee has reported is presented to both Houses in its final form at the same time as the Committee makes its report.

Before the Measure becomes law, both Houses must approve motions that the Measure should be presented to the Sovereign for Royal Assent in the form that it was laid before Parliament.

Once both Houses have passed the necessary approval motions, the Measure is presented for Royal Assent and becomes law.

### Publications

The reports and proceedings of the Committee are published by Order of both Houses. All publications of the Committee are on the Internet at <http://www.parliament.uk/ecclesiastical-committee>

### Contacts

All correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary of the Ecclesiastical Committee, Legislation Office, House of Lords, London, SW1A 0PW. The telephone number for general enquiries is 020 7219 3103, and the email address is [eccttee@parliament.uk](mailto:eccttee@parliament.uk)

# Contents

---

<b>239th Report of the Ecclesiastical Committee</b>	<b>3</b>
Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure	3
View of the Committee	3
<b>Minutes of Proceedings</b>	<b>4</b>



# 239th Report of the Ecclesiastical Committee

---

1. The Ecclesiastical Committee has met and considered the Measure set out below. The measure was submitted to the Ecclesiastical Committee by the Legislative Committee of the General Synod, along with a Comments and Explanations document. The text of the Measure, and its accompanying Comments and Explanations document, are published online on the Committee's web pages.<sup>1</sup>

## Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure

2. In the accompanying Comments and Explanations document, the Legislative Committee explains that the Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure makes provision in respect of a range of matters concerning the Church of England which, individually, do not merit freestanding legislation. These matters include provisions relating to religious communities, the establishment of a national register of authorised ministers, approval for building on disused burial grounds belonging to cathedrals, the inspection of churches, the validity of certain leases and other miscellaneous matters.

3. The Committee discussed the Measure with representatives of the General Synod. The transcript of the Committee's proceedings is published online on the Committee's web pages.<sup>2</sup>

### *View of the Committee*

4. **The Committee is of the opinion that the Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure is expedient.**

---

1 [Ecclesiastical Committee](#)

2 <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/other-committees/ecclesiastical-committee/news-parliament-2015/ecclesiastical-committee-to-consider-a-draft-measure/>

# Minutes of Proceedings

---

**Tuesday 29 October 2019**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Ecclesiastical Committee held on Tuesday 29 October 2019 at 11 am in The Moses Room, House of Lords.**

**Present:**

Baroness Butler-Sloss (Chairman)	Sir Peter Bottomley MP
The Earl of Cork and Orrery	Mr Ben Bradshaw MP
Lord Elton	Fiona Bruce MP
Lord Faulkner of Worcester	Sir Roger Gale MP
Lord Judd	Mr Dominic Grieve QC MP
Lord Lexden	Rachael Maskell MP
Lord Lisvane	Dame Caroline Spelman MP
	Sir Desmond Swayne MP
	Martin Vickers MP

Mr James Cooper, Counsel to the Chairman of Committees, in attendance.

## Declaration of Interests

Members of the Committee declared the following interests:<sup>3</sup>

**Sir Peter Bottomley MP**

*Parliamentary Warden of St Margaret's, Westminster*

**Fiona Bruce MP**

*Lay Canon, Chester Cathedral*

**The Earl of Cork and Orrery**

*Trustee, Chichester Cathedral*

**Lord Elton**

*Retired, but occasionally functioning, licensed lay minister of a parochial church council in the diocese of Oxford*

*Daughter is a Church of England priest*

**Lord Lisvane**

*Churchwarden, St Leonard's Church, Blakemere, Herefordshire*

*Chair of the Fabric Advisory Committee, Hereford Cathedral*

*Married to an Anglican Priest who is also Chair of the Hereford Diocesan Board of Finance*

**Martin Vickers MP**

*Member of Lincoln Cathedral Council*

---

<sup>3</sup> Prior to the meeting, Mr Dominic Grieve QC MP, declared the following interests:  
Member, Council of Reference of the Westminster Abbey Institute  
Wife is a churchwarden and a member of a deanery synod  
Sister-in-law is an assistant curate

**Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure**

The Committee considered the Measure, with the assistance of the following representatives of the General Synod:

The Venerable Peter Spiers, Archdeacon of Knowsley and Sefton, Chair of the Steering Committee

Mr Clive Scowen, Diocese of London, Member of the Revision Committee

Mr William Nye, Secretary General of the Archbishops' Council and the General Synod of the Church of England

Ms Becky Clarke, Director of Churches and Cathedrals Department, Church House Westminster

The Reverend Alexander McGregor, Chief Legal Adviser and Head of the Legal Office of the Church of England

**Deliberation**

The Committee deliberated.

It was moved that the Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure be deemed expedient.

The motion was agreed to.

The Committee adjourned.

.