

I have had the great privilege of representing the Diocese on General Synod for the last eleven years and would greatly appreciate the opportunity to serve for a further (and final) five years.

During the last eleven years I have attended every session of Synod and have spoken a number of times (although not as often as I would have wished). I have piloted what started as a deanery synod motion on the NHS and Social Care through Diocesan Synod and taken it to General Synod as a Diocesan Synod Motion where it received overwhelming support and led to pressure on the Government on the issues.

General Synod is a legislative body whose measures, rules and other instruments become part of English law. For the last eight years I have been one of two lay members of the Synod that sit on the Rule Committee, the body responsible for drafting secondary legislation in areas such as faculty jurisdiction and clergy discipline and which has brought about significant simplification of the faculty process.

I have also sat on a number of Steering and Revision Committees which draft primarily legislation (equivalent to Acts of Parliament) and have been involved in major amendments to Faculty Jurisdiction, Clergy Discipline, the Mission and Pastoral Measure, the Church Representation Rules, Ecumenical Relations and the Patronage Measure. It has been a really useful exercise looking at the legislation and trying to ensure that, as it is amended, it takes into account the needs of our diocese and the God for All vision and strategy. At present I am attempting to introduce changes to the Mission and Pastoral Measure to provide a place for new forms of structure such as our ecumenical Mission Communities.

In the Diocese I currently serve as the Diocesan Lay Chair and sit on Bishop's Council. I have been heavily involved in the formation and realisation of our vision and strategy and served, until recently, on the Strategy Steering and Implementation Groups. In this work I have been keen to see a much greater role and voice for the laity in our church at all levels. One reason for wishing to remain on General Synod is to provide an additional channel of communication between the Diocese and General Synod and bodies such as the Church Commissioners and the Archbishops' Council in terms of our strategic aims and the emerging strategies of the Church of England as a whole.

I have lived in Lanercost for almost thirty years and serve as churchwarden and treasurer at Lanercost Priory and play an active part in worship – reading, administering communion, leading intercessions and leading worship. I am orthodox in my faith and have a great love for the Anglican Church as a 'broad church'.

I am not standing for General Synod to represent one particular viewpoint or tradition. My great desire is to see the Church of England as a whole flourish and grow alongside our ecumenical partners. If the church is to be truly successful in mission it cannot be seen to be fighting within or across denominations.

I am now retired from paid employment. I read Engineering at Cambridge and have a PhD from Newcastle in Chemical Engineering and Computer Science. My

working life was spent designing computer software for use in engineering design, manufacture and commercial applications.

I am married with one daughter. My wife has retired from a career spent in human resource management in the public and private sector, HR consultancy and as a senior lecturer in human resource management.