



Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011

2011 No. 3

PART 4

PROCEDURE FOR MAKING PASTORAL CHURCH BUILDINGS SCHEMES

Procedure for schemes

21 Formulation and submission to bishop of draft proposals

- (1) Before deciding to make any recommendations to the bishop, the mission and pastoral committee shall so far as may be practicable ascertain the views of the interested parties or invite them to express their views.
- (2) In this Part “interested parties”, in relation to any recommendations, proposals or draft scheme, means—
 - (a) incumbents of any benefices which would be affected by the implementation thereof, including vicars in a team ministry established for the area of any such benefice;
 - (b) the patrons of any such benefices;
 - (c) the parochial church councils of any parishes which would be so affected;
 - (d) the priests in charge of any conventional districts wholly or partly within the area of any benefices which would be so affected and the parochial church councils of such districts;
 - (e) the archdeacons and rural deans of any archdeaconries and deaneries which would be so affected or to which any such benefices or parishes belong and the lay chairmen of the deanery synods of any such deaneries;
 - (f) the local planning authority or authorities concerned; and
 - (g) the parish council of the parish in which the building to which a declaration of closure for regular public worship relates is situated or, if there is no parish council for that parish, the chairman of the parish meeting.

For the purposes of this subsection a change in the patronage of a benefice shall be deemed to affect that benefice and the parish or parishes of the benefice.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (3) Where any recommendations, proposals or draft scheme relate or relates to any person holding office under Common Tenure whose office would or might be abolished if they or it took effect and any such person is entitled to receive a stipend or other emoluments of office including any provision of accommodation, that person shall be deemed to be an interested party for the purposes of this Part.
- (4) In the case of interested parties, being incumbents or vicars in a team ministry or a person referred to in subsection (3), the mission and pastoral committee shall, before reaching its decision, afford to each such person, if he or she so desires, an opportunity of meeting the committee or sub-committee or representative thereof, but, in the case of a recommendation for a union of benefices or otherwise for the dissolution of any benefice or the holding in plurality of any benefice or benefices, or the establishment of a team or group ministry for any benefice or benefices, or the abolition of any office of vicar in a team ministry, the incumbent of the benefice or each of the benefices or the holder of the office of vicar shall have an opportunity of meeting the committee (as distinct from a sub-committee or representative of the committee), if he or she so desires.
- (5) In the case of interested parties, being parochial church councils, the committee shall, before reaching its decision, afford to each council or their representative, if the council so requests, an opportunity of meeting the committee or, if the committee so decides, a sub-committee of the committee or, with the consent of the council, a representative of the committee.
- (6) Before deciding to make a recommendation that a declaration of closure for regular public worship be made in respect of any church the committee shall—
- (a) ascertain the views of any local planning authority or authorities concerned;
 - (b) notify the Church Buildings Council of the church or churches in respect of which the committee might decide to make such a recommendation and obtain from them a copy of the report which the Council is required to prepare under subsection (7).
- (7) As soon as practicable after receiving a notice under subsection (6) the Council shall prepare a report about—
- (a) the historic interest and architectural quality of each church mentioned in the notice and of other churches in the area;
 - (b) the historic interest and aesthetic qualities of the contents of that and those churches;
 - (c) any special features of any churchyard or burial ground annexed to any of them;
 - (d) any information or advice which the Council thinks appropriate to give concerning possible architectural or structural changes in each church mentioned in the notice in the event of its closure for regular public worship or, in the event that the church is not so closed, concerning any such changes which would facilitate its use for purposes which are consistent with use for regular public worship;
- and shall send a copy of that report to the Commissioners, the diocesan board of finance and the committee.
- (8) When the committee has decided to make recommendations, it shall formulate them in draft proposals and submit them to the bishop, and the bishop may, with the agreement of the committee, make such amendments to the draft proposals as appear to him desirable.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (9) The committee shall annex to the draft proposals formulated by it a statement of the views of the interested parties and a copy of the report prepared by the Council under subsection (7).
- (10) In this section “incumbent”, in relation to a benefice in respect of which a suspension period has been declared and is for the time being in force, means the priest in charge thereof.