WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEAN OF JERSEY BY DEPUTY K.G. PAMPLIN OF ST. SAVIOUR ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2019

Question

Further to the recent publication of a report regarding the relationship between the Church of England in the Channel Islands and the wider church that made seven recommendations, including that the Deaneries of Guernsey and Jersey should in future be attached to the Diocese of Salisbury, will the Dean advise members of his involvement in the process that led to the report and will he explain what implications, if any, it is anticipated there will be for the States?

Answer

The Dean welcomes the recommendations of the Archbishop's Commission. The Deans of the respective islands were invited to a preliminary meeting of the Commission in November 2018, to present a joint report from the Channel Island deaneries outlining the background to the events that led to the breakdown of the relationship between Jersey and Guernsey and the Bishop of Winchester and the subsequent options as the Islands moved forward. That joint report was welcomed by the Commission and formed an initial framework for their work.

The Dean was invited to make written submission to the Commission prior to their visit to Jersey and subsequently met the Commission when they visited the Island. He was invited to comment upon the draft report and did so.

On the assumption that the Deanery Synod endorses the recommendations in the report, the States will be asked to give its approval to an Order in Council, seeking Her Majesty's consent for the new Canons for the Deanery of Jersey, which will include:

- provision for Women Bishops,
- provisions equivalent to the relevant parts of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016,
- provisions relating to the transfer to the Diocese of Salisbury,
- a power for the Deanery Synod to make subordinate legislation to give effect to church legislation in England, and other minor amendments.

Alongside the revision of the Canons, the States will also need to debate the Measure which would provide for Her Majesty to make an Order in Council to attach the Channel Islands to the Diocese of Salisbury.