

# Scottish Episcopal Church

General Synod of the Scottish Episcopal Church  
Scottish Charity No SC015962

General Synod Office  
21 Grosvenor Crescent  
Edinburgh EH12 5EE  
Tel: 0131 225 6357  
Fax: 0131 346 7247



website: [www.scotland.anglican.org](http://www.scotland.anglican.org)

## MEMORANDUM

To: Current Serving Members of the SEC Pension Fund, Diocesan Secretaries and Vestry Secretaries

From: John F Stuart, Secretary General

Date: 2nd October 2012

Subject: **Pensions Consultation**

---

General Synod 2012 received a report on the triennial actuarial valuation of the Scottish Episcopal Church Pension Fund as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011. That valuation disclosed that there was a continuing deficit in the Pension Fund, albeit that the deficit had reduced since the time of the previous valuation. However, the valuation also indicated that the cost of providing future benefits had increased materially.

The General Synod therefore asked the Provincial Standing Committee to arrange a consultation within the Church on the affordability of the current benefit provision and on possible changes to pension benefits, with a view to a report with recommendations being made to General Synod 2013.

I am pleased to attach a consultation document from the Standing Committee. It seeks your response to a number of questions which are set out in the body of the document. Appendix A comprises a response form which reiterates the various consultation questions. A separate copy of the response form is enclosed to enable replies. Your response is sought by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012.

This memo and its enclosures are being sent by both email (to those recipients for whom we hold email addresses) and by post. This includes an electronic version of the response form which can be submitted by email to [PensionsConsultation@scotland.anglican.org](mailto:PensionsConsultation@scotland.anglican.org). Queries can also be sent to that email address. (If using the email address it would be helpful if in the subject field of your email you could insert either "Response" if you are submitting a response, or "Query" if you are submitting a query.)

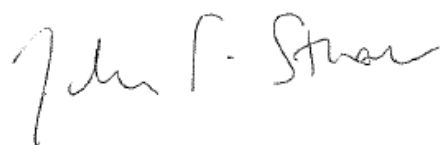
The third option for submission of responses is the use of the online response form available at [www.is.gd/SECPensions](http://www.is.gd/SECPensions). *We would encourage the use of this facility wherever possible.*

Please note that responses should only be submitted once. Whichever response method you

choose we thank you for the taking the time to consider the issues and to submit a response.

This document is sent to stipendiary clergy and staff who are serving members of the Pension Fund. It is also sent to Vestry Secretaries and Diocesan Secretaries so that a response can also be made by Vestries and Dioceses in their capacity as 'employers'. It is not being sent to pensioners or deferred members since they will be unaffected by the matters set out in the consultation document.

The respective interests of 'employer' and clergy/staff in relation to the issues dealt with in the consultation paper may not necessarily converge and in accordance with usual practice stipendiary clergy will want to declare their personal interest in the matters being discussed. Clergy and staff who are serving members of the Pension Fund have the opportunity to respond as individuals in addition to any response which vestries may wish to submit.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John P. Strain". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.