

Children's and Young People's Ministry Act 2023

AN ACT

to establish the Steering Committee for Children's and Young People's Ministry, to set out the purposes and functions of the Steering Committee, to provide for the employment of staff to assist the Steering Committee, to provide for a review of this Act in 2027 and 2030, and for other purposes.

Part 1 – Preliminary

1 Purposes

The purposes of this Act are to:

- (a) establish the Steering Committee for Children's and Young People's Ministry; and
- (b) set out the purposes and functions of the Steering Committee; and
- (c) provide for the employment of staff to assist the Steering Committee; and
- (d) provide for a review of this Act in 2027 and 2030.

2 Commencement

This Act commences on 1 January 2024.

3 Definitions

children and young people means people aged less than 30 years;

Steering Committee means the Steering Committee for Children's and Young People's Ministry established under section 4;

Strategic Plan means the five yearly strategic plans provided for in section 6.

Part 2 – Children's and Young People's Ministry

4 Establishment of Steering Committee

The Steering Committee for Children's and Young People's Ministry is established.

5 Purposes of the Steering Committee

The purposes of the Steering Committee are:

- (a) to strengthen Christian ministry among children and young people in the parishes of the Diocese; and
- (b) to plan for effective resourcing, support, and advocacy for children's and young people's ministry in the Diocese.

6 Functions of the Steering Committee

The functions of the Steering Committee are to:

- (a) develop every five years a five-yearly strategic plan for the Archbishop in Council's approval to strengthen Christian ministry among children and young people, their families, and parishes generally; and
- (b) seek input and advice from children and young people and children's and young people's ministry leaders to inform the development of the strategic plan; and
- (c) annually review and evaluate the strategic plan; and
- (d) review and recommend to Archbishop in Council appropriate staffing levels and budget required to fulfil the strategic plan.

7 Membership of Steering Committee

- (1) The Committee consists of between 6 and 10 members appointed by the Archbishop in Council of whom—
 - (a) one is a staff member of the Diocesan central office working in, or with knowledge of, children's and young people's ministry; and
 - (b) one is an assistant bishop; and

- (c) not more than two members of the Archbishop in Council; and
 - (d) two members are nominated by the Archbishop but are not members of the Archbishop in Council; and
 - (e) between two and four members are nominated by the other Steering Committee members of which at least—
 - (i) one member is a children's and young people's ministry leader licensed in the Diocese (either a clerk or an authorised stipendiary lay minister); and
 - (ii) one member is under 28 years of age at the time of their appointment.
- (2) All members of the steering committee must—
- (a) regularly and habitually attend an Anglican church, or a church of another Christian denomination; and
 - (b) hold a clearance for service or a clearance for ministry.

8 Term of appointment

- (1) A member of the steering committee holds office for two years.
- (2) Except as provided in subsection (3), a member is eligible for reappointment for two terms in addition to their first term.
- (3) A member appointed under section 7(1)(e)(ii) is not eligible for reappointment under that subsection if they are aged 28 or over at the time of reappointment.
- (4) A member of the steering committee may resign from office by giving notice in writing to the chair of the steering committee.

9 Chair

The Steering Committee must elect a chair, from its members, who is not the staff member appointed under section 7(1)(a).

10 Deputy Chair and Secretary

The Steering Committee must, from its members, appoint a Deputy Chair and a Secretary.

11 Quorum

The quorum of the Steering Committee is half the members plus one member.

12 Meetings

The Steering Committee must meet at least four times each year.

13 Reporting requirements

- (1) The Steering Committee must report on its proceedings to Synod every 12 months.
- (2) The Steering Committee must report on its proceedings to the Archbishop in Council every 12 months.

14 Staff to support the Steering Committee

- (1) Subject to approval by the Archbishop in Council, the Diocesan Corporation may employ staff in the Diocesan central office to assist the Steering Committee in meeting its purposes and functions.
- (2) Staff employed by the Diocesan Corporation under subsection (1) must have a clearance for ministry or clearance for service as relevant before undertaking any functions in their roles.
- (3) The Diocesan Corporation may determine the terms and conditions of employment of staff for the purposes of this section.

Part 3 – Review of Act

15 Review of Act

The Archbishop in Council, in consultation with the Steering Committee, must review the operation of this Act in 2027 and 2030.

NOTE

1. The **Children's and Young People's Ministry Act 2023** was assented to on 17 October 2023.