

THE CATHEDRALS MEASURE  
THE PROVOST  
14th March 1998

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FACT SHEET ~~75~~

This measure has been approved by Synod and is due to go before Parliament shortly. It is hoped that it will receive Royal Assent by Summer 1998 and come into force in 2000, following the creation of a new Constitution and Statutes.

Background: 1990: Cathedrals' Fabric Commission established.

1991: Deans and Provosts asked the Archbishops to appoint a Commission; chaired by Lady Howe. It recommended that the governing bodies of cathedrals should be answerable to an external body chaired by a lay person and called a Council (this is confusing for us as our governing body is the Council!). Southwell was mentioned as the only Parish Church Cathedral with a large parish.

New System:

1. Chapter to be the governing body and to include laity (our Chapter becomes a College of Canons) answerable to
2. Council to support, advise, consider and review.  
To meet twice a year.  
Bishop may attend and speak but not vote.
3. Dean (Provosts become Deans). Where a Dean was formerly a Provost, he will continue to be appointed by the Bishop. Other Deans will continue to be appointed by the Crown.

Problems for Southwell

1. Minimum of 2 Residentiary Canons to have no extraneous duties (Halam and Edingley?) but extra canons would have to be paid by the diocese or cathedral, not by the Church Commissioners.

Time Scale: A "Transitional" Council to be set up in July 1998. We may have a new Constitution by the end of 1999.

N.B. A more detailed account of the measure can be borrowed from the Provost.