**THE REPRESENTATIVE BODY (RB)**

**What is the Representative Body?**

The Representative Body is the central administrative body of the Church in Wales responsible for managing the assets and property of the Church in Wales and providing stipends and pensions for members of the clergy.

The RB works in partnership with the six dioceses to combine central expertise and resources with local knowledge and people to ensure that resources are available for the benefit of the whole Church. As a registered charity, the RB is subject to charity law and regulations.

**How is the Representative Body’s membership made up?**

The Representative Body is made up of up to 26 members.

There are four categories of membership

* Ex-officio members: The Archbishop of Wales, the Chair of each Diocesan Board of Finance in the Province, the Chair of the Standing Committee of the Governing Body
* Elected members: One cleric and one lay person elected by the Diocesan Conference of each Diocese
* Nominated members: up to four persons nominated by the Bench of Bishops
* Co-opted members: up to two persons co-opted by the other members of the RB

**Who is eligible to become a member of the Representative Body?**

* Church in Wales clerics under the age of 70 years
* Lay communicants aged over 18 and under 75 years of age who either reside or have resided for a period of 12 months in a Church in Wales parish and who do not belong to a religious body which itself is not in communion with the Church in Wales.
* Clerics in full time salaried employment of the RB or Diocesan Board of Finance and lay persons in any salaried employment of the RB or Diocesan Board of Finance are not eligible to be members.

**What are the qualifications for membership of the Representative Body?**

There are no formal requirements beyond the membership eligibility listed above but in view of the areas of the Representative Body's work some expertise in one or more of the following would be a distinct advantage:

* Human Resources and people management
* Investments and banking
* Audit and accountancy
* Property (both residential and church buildings)

**What is the time commitment expected of Members of the Representative Body?**

The term of office for elected, nominated and co-opted members is three years but this period may be renewed.

There are normally three meetings each year – in March, June and November. The location of the meetings varies, and venues in Cardiff, Llandudno, Wrexham, and Llandrinod Wells are used. In addition, members will generally be expected to sit on one of the RB's committees (a further two to four meetings annually).

**Are members of the Representative Body able to claim expenses?**

Membership of the RB is a voluntary role, however reasonable travel expenses may be claimed and meals are provided at meetings.

**How can I find out more about the Representative Body?**

* On the Church in Wales website:

<https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/about-us/representative-body/>

* In the Church in Wales Constitution:

<https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/clergy-and-members/constitution/chapter-iii-representative-body/>

* By contacting the Provincial Office in Cardiff:

☎ 02920 348200

**How can I become a member of the Representative Body?**

Elections to appoint members are held every three years and a ballots are held accordingly. Candidates must be nominated by a member of the Diocesan Conference.

Further information about how to become an elected member of the RB is contained on the Diocese of St Davids elections webpage:

<https://stdavids.churchinwales.org.uk/en/clergy-and-members/elections/>

Or contact the St Davids Diocesan Office:

☎ 01267 236145

**📧** elections.stdavids@churchinwales.org.uk