

General Synod – Special Tribunal Procedure Canon 1992 Adopting Ordinance 1993

Explanatory Statement

Introduction

1. The Special Tribunal is established under the constitution ("Constitution") of the Anglican Church of Australia being the Schedule to the Anglican Church of Australia Constitution Act 1961. The Constitution is set out on pages 99 to 125 inclusive of *The Sixth Handbook*.

2. Under subsection 56(2) of the Constitution, the Special Tribunal has jurisdiction to hear and determine charges against any diocesan bishop of breaches of faith, ritual, ceremonial or discipline and such offences as may be prescribed by canon of General Synod.

Canon No.12, 1992

3. The Special Tribunal Procedure Canon 1992 ("Canon") was passed by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia in 1992. The text of the Canon is set out in the schedule to the adopting bill.

4. In general terms, the Canon updates the procedures relating to the making and hearing of a charge against a diocesan bishop by the Special Tribunal. The Canon also repeals the relevant sections of the Tribunal Procedures Canon 1962 which dealt with the Special Tribunal. The Tribunal Procedures Canon 1962 was adopted by the Synod by ordinance in 1974.

5. This Canon may affect the good order and government of the church within this diocese. This being so, the Canon does not come into effect until the Synod, by ordinance, adopts the Canon.

Recommendation

6. The Standing Committee recommends that the Synod adopt the Canon.

For and on behalf of the Standing Committee

MARK PAYNE
Legal Officer

1 September 1993