

No. 5 of 1985

Serial No. 124

Reprinted as at 1 May 2019 incorporating amendments up to No. 1/2018²

Social Responsibilities Committee Act 1985

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishop, the Clergy and the Laity of the Anglican Church of Australia within the Diocese of Melbourne in Victoria duly met in Synod according to law as follows:

Short Title

- 1 (1) This Act may be cited as the **Social Responsibilities Committee Act 1985**.
- (2) This Act shall come into operation upon a day appointed by the Archbishop.

Repealed Act

- 2 The Social Questions Committee Act 1952-1971 (hereinafter called “the repealed Act”) is repealed.

Social Responsibilities Committee established

- 3 There shall be a Committee which shall be called the Social Responsibilities Committee (hereinafter referred to as *the Committee*).

Object of Committee

4. The object of the Committee shall be to enable
 - (a) the Archbishop and the Diocese of Melbourne and
 - (b) the clergy and people of the Dioceseto discern and fulfill more effectively their collective and individual responsibilities as Christians to society.

Functions of Committee

5. The functions of the Committee shall be –

- (a) to be a resource on social issues for the Archbishop, the Diocese and the community;
- (b) to assist the Diocese by identifying and formulating responses to social issues;
- (c) to undertake research and prepare materials related to social issues;
- (d) to promote education on social issues among the people of the Diocese;
- (e) to be a channel of communication with, and a source of advice to the Diocese concerning, other agencies, organisations, groups and individuals in relation to social issues.

Members of Committee

s 6 amended by No. 2/2010

6. (1) The Committee shall consist of the following persons –

- (a) A President appointed by the Archbishop
- (b) Three other persons appointed by the Archbishop; and
- (c) Eight persons, of whom not less than three shall be clergy and of whom not less than three shall be laity, elected by Synod.

(2) The term of office of a member of the Social Responsibilities Committee expires –

- (a) in the case of an elected member, on the election of the member's successor; and
- (b) in the case of an appointed member, on the commencement of the terms of office of members elected at the first ordinary session of a Synod.³

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- (3) The Committee may declare vacant the seat of any member of the Committee who has been absent from three consecutive meetings without leave of absence having been obtained.

Staff

7. The Committee may appoint staff to assist its work and shall determine the salaries and conditions of employment of such staff.

Deputy President, Secretary and Treasurer

8. (1) At its first meeting after an election of members the Committee shall appoint from its members a Deputy President, a Secretary and a Treasurer who shall, together with the President and another member appointed by the Committee, comprise the Executive of the Committee.
- (2) Casual vacancies in such appointments shall be filled by the Committee.

President or Deputy President to preside

9. The President or, in the absence of the President, the Deputy President or a member elected from those present, shall preside at meetings of the Committee and of the Executive of the Committee.

Quorum of Committee and Executive

10. (1) Six members present shall form a quorum of the Committee.
- (2) Three members present shall form a quorum of the Executive of the Committee.

Meetings

11. The Committee shall meet at least four times each year; between meetings the authority of the Committee shall be vested in the Executive of the Committee.

Sub-committees

12. The Committee may appoint sub-committees and working groups for the furtherance of its object and functions provided that at least one member of the Committee is a member of such a sub-committee or group. A sub-committee or working group shall be responsible to and subject to the direction of the Committee and may prepare reports papers and other material for the Committee but except with the express authority of the Committee or for the purpose of acquiring material or information shall not issue any document under its own name or under the name of the Committee.

Documents issued by Committee

13. Subject to any different direction by the Archbishop, every document issued by the Committee for any purpose other than the acquisition of material or information shall state that it is issued on the authority only of the Committee or of those members of the Committee who subscribe to the views therein expressed.

Report to Synod

- 14 The Committee shall not less than four weeks before each ordinary session of Synod prepare and circulate among members of Synod a report on the proceedings of the Committee since the previous report. Such a report may contain recommendations for action by Synod.

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Financial Support

15. (1) The Committee shall be financed by grants from the Diocese and from other sources approved by the Archbishop in Council.

(2) The Committee shall have absolute control of all money bequeathed, donated or granted to it and shall subject to any trusts affecting the same at its discretion allocate and spend such moneys for the purposes of the Committee.

s. 16 repealed by No. 1/2018

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S. 17 repealed by No. 2/2010

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NOTES

- ¹ The **Social Responsibilities Committee Act 1985** was assented to on 1 October and came into operation in 1985.
- ² This reprint incorporates the amendments made to the *Social Responsibilities Committee Act 1985* by the following Acts:

Name	No	Date of Assent	Date of Commencement
<i>Synod Election (Term of Office) Act 2010</i>	2/2010	8 October 2010	8 October 2010
<i>Financial Governance Act 2018</i>	1/2018	24 October 2018	1 January 2019