

## How does STV work?

### How the voting works

The Synod has three Houses (Bishops, Clergy, Laity) and the process differs slightly for each.

#### 1. House of Bishops

- Diocesan bishops automatically sit in the Synod.
- Some suffragan (assistant) bishops are elected by other bishops.

#### 2. House of Clergy

Who can vote?

- Ordained clergy (priests and deacons) holding a licence in a diocese.

Who can stand?

- Eligible clergy from that diocese.

#### 3. House of Laity

- APCMs elect members to the deanery synod.
- Members of the Deanery Synod elect the lay members of General Synod.

Both clergy and lay elections use STV.

### What is a Single Transferable Vote (STV) system

- It is a proportional representation method.
- Voters rank candidates in order of preference (1, 2, 3, etc.).
- Seats are allocated proportionally based on those rankings.

It aims to:

- Reflect different theological viewpoints fairly.
- Avoid “winner takes all” outcomes.
- Allow minority groups representation.