

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW IN WELLS
NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION AND STATUTES
Publication Date 17 November 2025

BY The Chapter of The Cathedral Church of St. Andrew in Wells (the "Cathedral"):

1. The current Constitution and Statutes of the Cathedral, adopted as part of the implementation of the Cathedrals Measure 2021 ("the Measure"), came into effect on 30 November 2023 following public consultation.
2. The Measure permits the establishment of advisory bodies, and the Constitution and Statutes provided for the establishment of the Wells Cathedral Advisory Council ("the Council") in order to continue the historic Cathedral Council arrangements whilst new governance arrangements under the Measure were embedded and during the period of transition for the new leadership team.
3. The agreed role for the Council was to:
 - Consider matters submitted by Chapter in connection with the general direction and mission of the Cathedral
 - Act as an advocate for the work of the Cathedral within the Diocese of Bath and Wells and beyond
 - Help foster connections with the city of Wells and county of Somerset. This could include enabling creative partnerships or activities that enhance the cathedral's role as a cultural and community hub
 - Offer expertise in the fulfilment of projects if appropriate to do so.
4. Historically, the Council ensured that lay voices were heard in the life and governance of the Cathedral. This purpose is now being fulfilled in other, more integrated ways and, following discussions with the Chair of the Council, it is Chapter's view that the Council has concluded its work.
5. With the implementation of the Cathedrals Measure 2021, Chapter includes many lay voices, the professional staff team is expanded and there is commitment to consulting widely and regularly through a variety of means. Regular congregational meetings will continue and, which provide an open forum for discussion, feedback, and shared vision. In addition, we are deepening long-standing relationships and building new ones across the county, as part of the commitment to listening and responding to the wider community.
6. A draft of the Instrument which will implement the changes to the Constitution and Statutes and remove the requirement for the Council is available to view on the Cathedral's website at www.wellscathedral.org.uk/amendment-to-constitution
7. A physical copy of the draft Instrument may be viewed at the Cathedral Offices, 1st & 2nd floors, 16 Market Place, Wells, Somerset BA5 2RB between 9.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday, by arrangement with the Governance Officer, Mrs Rachel Summerhayes, on rachel.summerhayes@wellscathedral.org.uk.
8. The Chapter will consider any written representations addressed to it at the above address or to rachel.summerhayes@wellscathedral.org.uk, received no later than 5.00pm, Monday 15 December 2025.



The Very Reverend Toby Wright, Dean of Wells and Chair of Chapter