Saturday 10 February 2018
2.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

ORDER PAPER V

VALUING PEOPLE WITH DOWN'S SYNDROME (GS 2088)

The Bishop of Carlisle to move:

16 That this Synod, valuing all human life equally and celebrating the advances in medical technology which help alleviate human suffering:

(a) affirm the dignity and full humanity of people born with Down’s syndrome;

(b) request dioceses, parishes and the NCIs to work to review their activities and the provisions they make for people with Down’s syndrome and their families, to ensure a real welcome for all;

(c) support the continued development of ante-natal care including access to information that new, safe screening techniques provide; and

(d) call on Her Majesty’s Government and relevant professional bodies to ensure that parents who have been told that their unborn child has Down’s syndrome will be given comprehensive, unbiased information with regard to this condition.

Revd Canon Martyn Taylor (Lincoln) to move as an amendment:

29 In paragraph (a) leave out “born with Down’s Syndrome and insert “with Down’s Syndrome, before as well as after birth”.

Amendment LOST
Miss Emma Forward (Exeter) to move the following amendments:

30 After paragraph (b) insert–

“( ) advise that pregnancies should not be terminated on the basis of Down’s Syndrome;”.

And

In paragraph (d), at the end, insert–
“without initiating discussion of termination”.

Dr John Appleby (Newcastle) to move as an amendment:

31 In paragraph (d), at the end, insert–
“and be provided with full information about the support available and the future prospects of those with this condition, with no implied preference for any outcome”.

Miss Prudence Dailey (Oxford) to move as an amendment:

32 “( ) and encourage the partner churches of the Porvoo Communion, and especially the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Denmark to affirm the dignity and full humanity of people born with Down’s Syndrome in their own countries, and to oppose any policy of making society Down’s Syndrome free.”