

**MINUTES OF THE MISSION COUNCIL
HIGH LEIGH CONFERENCE CENTRE MAY 17-19TH 2011**

THE Council Meeting was constituted with worship led by Revd Dr James Coleman and Revd Rachel Poolman, chaplains to the Moderators, Mrs Val Morrison and Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe.

SESSION 1

Moderator Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe took the chair.

Welcomes:

The Moderator welcomed all present and then introduced those new to the Mission Council:

Revd Clare Downing, Moderator Wessex Synod; Mrs Rhona Dunn, Northern Synod; Revd Nicola Furley-Smith, Moderator Southern Synod; Mr Robert Jones, Northern Synod; Miss Elizabeth Lawson QC, Thames North Synod; Miss Victoria Paulding, FURY Moderator; Revd Alistair Smeaton, North Western Synod; Revd Edward Sanniez, Thames North Synod; Miss Katy Unsworth, FURY.

Apologies were received from: Ms Suzanne Adolfo, CRCW; Revd Kay Alberg, Yorkshire Synod; Revd Ed Cox, Mission Committee Convenor; Revd Dr Peter Cruchley-Jones, Wales Synod (alternate Mrs Ruth Henriksen); Revd Gillian Poucher, East Midlands Synod (alternate Revd Richard Turnbull); Revd David Tatem, Secretary for Ecumenical Relations; Revd Alison Tomlin, Methodist Observer; Mr Alistair Wilson, Southern Synod; Revd Geoffrey Clarke, North Western Synod; Mr John Brown, Secretary for Youth; Ms Frances Brienen, Secretary for Mission.

Communications Protocol.

It was noted that many people outside the meeting were interested in its proceedings and that a wi-fi enabled room enabled communications which could detract from the due processes of a church which believes that the guidance of the Holy Spirit is discerned by people meeting together in council. It was proposed: "We ask those present to agree to abide by a protocol that we will not circulate information from, or opinions about, Mission Council on social networking sites, or by any other means which has potential for widespread dissemination, until after reports have been communicated by the Communications team." The Clerk introduced the resolution:

Mission Council accepts the protocol for communications as shown on the screen for this Mission Council meeting.
Resolved by consensus.

11/01 Minutes

Minutes of the Joint Council meeting of the United Reformed and Methodist Churches held at The Hayes, Swanwick, October 13th-15th, 2010 were presented by the Clerk. The Moderator signed them as a correct record.

11/02 Matters Arising

1..Reports from synods regarding Vision 2020 (10/39)

The General Secretary moved:

Mission Council requests every synod to submit a brief written report on its progress with Vision 2020 for the November meeting of the Mission Council and come prepared to answer questions.

Resolved by consensus

2..Paper Q Follow-up to 'buildings opportunities' (BT10/04)

Mr John Ellis presented paper Q

He proposed the resolution:

Noting the decisions of the Methodist Council at its April 2011 meeting, Mission Council:

1. accepts the Terms of Reference for the Buildings Follow-up Group;

2. approves the principle of funding half of the three-year fixed-term Executive Officer post to support the Group.

Resolved by consensus

3.Paper Q1 Follow up to 'Better Together'

Mr Ellis presented Paper Q1 . He said that feedback from the last meeting suggested that a further meeting would be regarded positively. The Methodist Council suggested that this might take place in Autumn 2012

He proposed:

Noting the support from the April meeting of the Methodist Council, Mission Council:

- (i) **supports a proposal to hold a further joint meeting of the Mission Council and the Methodist Council in the autumn of 2012;**
- (ii) **agrees a planning group should be set up to facilitate the event and should include representatives of both Councils and the Faith & Order bodies of each denomination.**

Resolved by consensus

4.Paper Q2: Cross Representation between the Methodist and United Reformed Churches.

Mr Ellis presented two recommendations regarding the URC Representative to Methodist Council.

- a) **The URC continue to provide a representative at the Methodist Council.**
- b) **The position of URC representative at the Methodist Council should be held by the Assembly Moderators/Moderators Elect, one of whom would attend any particular meeting. The two year term would commence one year before being inducted and would conclude after one year as Moderator.**

Resolved by consensus.

11/03 Paper C MIND Change to age limit for service.

The Clerk presented the paper and proposed the resolution.

Mission Council, acting on behalf of the General Assembly, agrees to make the following changes to the Disciplinary Process and the Incapacity Procedure:

Disciplinary Process (Section O, Part II)

Paragraph A.6.1 Delete the words: "Subject to the age limit imposed by Paragraph A.6.4," and begin the following word "appointment" with a capital letter.

Paragraph A.6.2 Delete the words: "Subject to the age limit imposed by Paragraph A.6.4," and begin the following word "members" with a capital letter.

Paragraph A.6.4 Delete.

Incapacity Procedure (Section P, Part II)

Paragraph C.2 Delete the words: "Subject to the age limit imposed by Paragraph C.3," and begin the following word "members" with a capital letter.

Paragraph C.3 Delete.

Resolved by majority vote. (1 abstention)

In response to a question the clerk stated that other retirement age changes were under consideration by the Ministries Committee.

11/04 Safeguarding Issues.

Revd Richard Mortimer spoke of a 'willing volunteer' in her retirement offering expertise to assist the church to compile and present a portfolio of documents regarding all aspects of safeguarding.

11/05 Revd Graham Jones

The Deputy General Secretary asked Mission Council to reaffirm the decision made at the joint meeting last October.

Mission Council agrees to the appointment of the Revd. Graham Jones as Rural Officer (Methodist/URC) for five years from 1st September 2011.

Reaffirmed by consensus

11/06 Paper L2: Maintenance of the Ministry Sub-Committee

Mr Ellis introduced the paper and proposed the resolution.

Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly adopts the amendments to The Plan for Partnership in Ministerial Remuneration as detailed below. (See appendix 1)

11/07 Moderators Think Tank.

The two moderators engaged in dialogue, referring to many of the initiatives and themes that have exercised our church over the recent past and those which are currently under discussion in the church. These are the agenda items of the Think Tank.

Mission Council was invited to respond in writing after discussion in small groups, How do we tackle this as a God-guided process? Is there anything we have left out?

SESSION 2

Moderator Mrs Val Morrison took the chair.

11/08 Paper A Resourcing Synods

Mr John Ellis introduced Paper A. He asked Mission Council for its reactions to the recommendations.

Recommendations:

Mission Council affirms the commitment of the United Reformed Church to be a Church in three nations, working through two national Synods and eleven English synods.

Mission Council agrees that from 2012 the central budget should include provision for a 50% ecumenical officer post to be held by a Minister of Word and Sacraments in each of the national Synods, with a corresponding reduction in the number of stipendiary ministers available for local deployment in the Church as a whole.

Mission Council welcomes the proposal that documents should be proof read to ensure the context and implications for all Synods are incorporated, as far as this is reasonable.

Mission Council agrees that in principle the unavoidable core costs of each Synod should be underpinned by a willingness to consider support from the Church's central budget, financed through the M&M Fund.

Mission Council requests the Finance Committee to bring to a future meeting of the Council proposals for how such a system of underpinning Synod finances might work in practice.

A number of questions were posed to which Mr Ellis responded.

The Moderator ruled that the discussion be deferred until later in the meeting.

11/09 Paper B1 Response to UK Poverty and Inequality and the Big Society.

Mr Peter Pay introduced the paper and showed a short film of work with asylum seekers in Southampton. Such centres are suffering from cuts in Government funding, which have a negative impact on the work.

A resolution was presented on behalf of Church and Society.

A number of questions were posed to which Mr Frank Kantor responded.

As further work was needed on the wording of the resolution, Mission Council discussed its substance in 'buzz groups'.

11/10 Paper P 'The Ad Campaign'

Mr Lawrence Moore, co-chair of the Steering Group introduced the paper and explained the ethos of 'Radical Welcome'.

The Moderator invited questions. A number of points were made to which Ms Lucy Berry and Revd Fiona Thomas responded.

The Moderator invited Revd Dr Catherine Ball to present the resolution.

In light of the alteration of the marketing campaign from a 'marketing identity' campaign to a campaign solely of 'radical welcome', and in view of concerns raised about its negative and unbalanced content and its potential for causing damage to the unity of our denomination, Mission Council instructs the Steering Committee not to go ahead with the public launch of the national marketing campaign, until it is fully discussed both in concept and implementation by the councils of the church and then approved by Mission Council or General Assembly.

(Moved by: Revd Dr Catherine Ball. Seconded by: Revd Ruth Whitehead.)

Dr Ball spoke to the resolution. She felt that more consultation was needed in the wider councils of the church as the campaign has a much changed focus from that originally agreed at Mission Council, the identity of the United Reformed church is not clear within it, and there are fears of disagreement and splits in our church.

The Moderator invited questions; there were none.

The Moderator invited Mr Peter Pay to present the alternative resolution from the Mission Committee.

Mission Council recognises the enthusiasm and the concern raised by the URC ad campaign and agree to form an independent Review Group that will both allow progress on the campaign to continue, whilst at the same time creating opportunities for further reflection and consultation, and possible changes to, its content, implementation and impact.

The Review Group will:

Comprise a representative of Mission Committee, a representative of Mission Council and a Synod Moderator, not involved in the Campaign Steering Group;

Work closely with the Campaign Steering Group, involving members in discussion about proposed ways forward;

Bring its proposals to the October meeting of the Mission Committee and then to November's Mission Council for approval.

A number of questions were raised to which members of the steering group, Catherine Ball and Peter Pay responded. The Moderator suggested discussion in 'buzz groups' before dinner.

SESSION 3

Moderator Mrs Val Morrison outlined how the evening's business would be structured.

Dr Coleman led in prayer.

Mr Pay and Dr Ball presented a further resolution as an alternative to those presented earlier.

Mission Council recognises the enthusiasm and the concern raised by the URC ad campaign and agree to form an independent Review Group that will both allow progress on the campaign to continue, whilst at the same time creating opportunities for further reflection and consultation, and possible changes to, its content, implementation and impact.

The Review Group will:

Comprise a representative of Mission Committee, two representatives of Mission Council and two Synod Moderators, not involved in the Campaign Steering Group;

Work closely with the Campaign Steering Group, involving members in discussion about proposed ways forward;

Ask synods for feedback from Synod meetings where possible, and from at least some of their local churches.

Bring its proposals to the October meeting of the Mission Committee and then to November's Mission Council for approval.

Again many questions were asked and comments made. Whilst there was much support for the campaign it was clear there was some ongoing unease. The response of the Steering Group was given by Revd Peter Noble and Mr Lawrence Moore. They indicated that the Group needed a clear steer from Mission Council about the next steps. If Council did not want to take up the campaign it should be made quite clear.

The Moderator invited discussion.

In discussion it was clear that very many supported the thrust of the campaign but had concerns about possible division within the church, the possible damage to ecumenical relationships and congregations not really understanding what would be involved.

The Evangelical Alliance statement on homosexuality was circulated and Ms Berry read the Steering Group's response which also gave a clear picture of its understanding of a Radical Welcome church.

The Moderator thanked everyone for their contributions thus far, especially the steering group whose lengthy work was under some critical scrutiny.

Revd John Humphreys suggested that a Facilitation Group be formed to do further work on the proposed review group. The Revd Mary Thomas had agreed to convene such a group and further volunteers were requested.

Closing worship was led by the chaplain, Revd Rachel Poolman.

Wednesday May 18th

Worship was led by Revd Rachel Poolman and Bible study by Revd Dr James Coleman.

SESSION 4.

Moderator Mrs Val Morrison took the chair.

11/11 Paper D. From multicultural to intercultural: Transforming Mission and Ministry

The Deputy General Secretary suggested that Revd Dr Michael Jagessar introduce D for work in discussion groups to use the time effectively as there was a problem with the audio system.

SESSION 5

Moderator, Mrs Val Morrison, requested that any feedback from the group discussions be handed directly to Dr Jagessar.

11/12 Paper F God's Reign our Unity. Healing the past – Building the future

Moderator Mrs Val Morrison welcomed those who had come especially to speak to Paper F: the Revd Elizabeth Welch and the Revd Dr David Peel.

Elizabeth introduced the paper, saying all had shared a most positive experience of working together, listening and exploring the issues of what God might want of us in God's world today.

The Ven. Joy Tetley gave her perspective as the Anglican co-convenor of the group. She believed it is "high time" for this step toward closer working be taken. The message for the Church of England is "we have stalled long enough, we must go with the Spirit."

The Moderator invited members of Mission Council to discuss briefly any questions they would like to address to the Study Group members.

Revd Elizabeth Welch moved the resolution:

Mission Council receives and approves the recommendations of the Church of England and the United Reformed Church Study group, paragraphs 144a,

a)The joint Church of England-United Reformed Church Study Group on God's Reign and Our Unity therefore recommends to the Council for Christian Unity of the Church of England and the Mission Council of the United Reformed Church that the necessary steps should be taken by both churches in order to bring about a joint event in 2012, marking both the 350th anniversary of the Great Ejection of 1662 and the 40th anniversary of the inauguration of the United Reformed Church, which would involve a public declaration of their penitence for the divisions of the past, and their mutual recognition of each other in the present as churches belonging to the one Church of Jesus Christ

Resolved by agreement

b It also recommends that, building on this service, further work should be undertaken on the range of topics for continuing study identified in 143 (d) above, namely, the reconciliation of memories, the structures of Church government, the forms of lay and ordained ministry, relations between Church and state, the relationship between Baptism and Church membership, the development of doctrine and practice in the Church and how this is related to the constancy and originality of God, the nature of discernment in our two churches and the exploration of the spiritualities of the Anglican and Reformed traditions.

A number of questions and positive comments were made to which the Study Group members responded.

Resolved by agreement.

The Deputy General Secretary paid tribute to Dr Martin Davie (Cof E) for his hard work in producing the report.

The Moderator stated that the report should be taken and used widely in local churches.

11/13 Paper E: Communications & Editorial: REFORM

Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe introduced the report. She outlined the changes which had happened to Reform magazine over the past few years, effected by a new editor who had sought to bring a Reformed perspective to world events and to reach a wider audience.

The editor of Reform, Ms Kay Parris, addressed the Mission Council. She indicated the need to reduce dependency on a subsidy for its production and also the need to generate new subscriptions to ensure the future of the magazine. She believed the content is part of the URC's voice in the Reformed tradition. The magazine had become a resource for Bible study leaders. It invited contributions from people from other denominations and offered the ethos of the URC to its readers.

Mr John Ellis, treasurer, gave the perspective of the Finance Committee, suggesting that ongoing subsidy would be necessary, but pointing out that all other committees were working with frozen budgets in the coming year. Buzz groups were invited to share comments about Reform and its content without, at this point, dwelling on the financial implications.

Three possible scenarios emerged from discussion:

- No increase subsidy
- A subsidy at a prescribed level
- A subsidy which increased year by year

SESSION 6

Moderator Mrs Val Morrison in the chair.

A resolution was brought back with reference to Reform and proposed by Mr Ellis.

Mission Council, recognizing the achievements and potential of Reform, requests that a subsidy of £90,000 should be made available in the 2012 central budget but that, after adjustment for inflation, the annual subsidy should not exceed this level for at least the following two budget years.

Resolved by agreement.

Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe took the chair.

She reminded members of the time permitted for speeches.

11/14 PAPER H: The United Reformed Church and the Equality Act 2010.

Revd John Waller, on behalf of the Human Sexuality Task group, reminded Mission Council of the consultation due to take place in Cambridge 14-16 September. He then introduced Paper H regarding the Equality Act 2010 and its provisions regarding the registration of Civil Partnerships in acts of worship.

After general discussion and questions, he presented the task group's recommendations.

Mission Council decided:

a) to accept in principle the argument set out in section 3 of Paper H, that given the different convictions held within the URC and the previous Mission Council advice on the blessing of Civil Partnerships that this was a matter for local church decision, Assembly 2012 should be advised to pass an enabling resolution allowing each local church to reach its own decision on whether or not to seek approval for Civil Partnerships to be registered within its buildings.

Resolved by consensus

b) Mission Council resolves that General Assembly should be the body which should make the enabling decision.

Resolved by consensus

c) Mission Council asks the Human Sexuality Task Group to prepare materials to help guide synods with their discussions in the period Autumn 2011 to Spring 2012.

Resolved by Consensus.

The General Secretary proposed that:

The Law and Polity Group should be asked to respond to the Government's consultation paper on behalf of the URC.

Resolved by consensus

11/10 Further discussion centred on the 'Ad Campaign'.

Mrs Thomas presented the resolution prepared by the facilitation group.

The aim of this resolution is:

to acknowledge and build on the work done so far on the Zero Intolerance Campaign

to encourage Mission Council members and others to enthuse local churches to engage with training in order to develop ownership of and trust in the campaign.

To ask a group to assess the content, implementation and impact of the campaign to enable as many churches as possible to be involved with it.

The group will:

Comprise a representative of Mission Committee, two representatives of Mission Council, one FURY representative and two synod moderators not involved in the Steering Group.

work closely with the Steering Group, involving members in discussion about proposed ways forward; ask Synods for feedback, where possible, and from at least some of its local churches bring its proposals first to the October 2011 Mission Committee then to November 2011's Mission Council for approval.

Lengthy discussion ensued. No decision was reached. The difficulty centred on the section 4 of the group remit.

SESSION 7

11/ 15 FINANCE

Mr John Ellis reported on behalf of the Finance Committee.

The Windermere alterations are complete and came in under budget.

The Accounts.

Mr Ellis offered thanks to Andrew Grimwade and the finance team for their on-going hard work in the oversight of finances and production of the accounts. Mr Ellis explained that this year the accounts are those of the Trustees under whose umbrella the Church's money is cared for .

The Accounts indicate a surplus on the year's activities.

There appears to be a trend of less income coming into the M&M fund.

Mr Ellis proposed:

Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, receives the Trustee's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2010.

The Accounts were received by consensus.

The Moderator thanked all those for the work which lay behind the production of the accounts. .

11/16 PAPER L: Ministries Committee, Assessment Board.

Revd Ruth Whitehead, Convenor of Ministries Committee presented Paper L Assessment Board.

She proposed:

Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, adopts the process for medical and psychological screening of candidates for the ministry as set out below, with immediate effect. (Appendix 2)

Resolved by consensus.

11/17 Paper L1: Equal Opportunities

Training for Interim Moderators to work with local churches in vacancy.

On behalf of Equal Opportunities Committee the Revd Elizabeth Nash offered the paper as a resource for the church.

Mission Council commends this document to Ministries Committee for inclusion in the Movement of Ministers Document.

Resolved by consensus.

11/18 PAPER L4: Maintenance of the Ministry Sub-Committee Pensions Executive.

Mr Ellis introduced the paper and proposed the resolution.

The pension scheme continues in deficit and some plans must be made to safeguard the interests of the fund members and yet remain as fair as possible to all. The main changes (see appendix 3) refer to ill health retirement benefits. No change is proposed to the pension age although changes in the retirement age may make a difference in future.

Mission Council supports the recommendations set out in the document *The United Reformed Church Ministers' Pension Fund, Proposals for Change* and asks the Pensions Executive and Maintenance of the Ministry Sub-Committee to arrange a consultation with the members of the Fund, and a discussion within the councils of the church, in order that the General Assembly can make a decision on the matter in 2012.

Resolved by consensus.

The Moderator offered thanks for this major piece of work on behalf of the Church.

11/19 PAPER J: Model Governing Documents for a United Area Association.

The Deputy General Secretary presented Paper J on behalf of Revd David Tatem. He proposed the resolution.

Mission Council notes with approval the model governing documents for a United Area Association (Methodist/United Reformed Church) as a preliminary draft and instructs the National Ecumenical Officers to do further work, consulting ecumenically as appropriate, before bringing a final version to Mission Council or General Assembly.

Resolved by consensus.

The Deputy General Secretary was asked to convey the comments and questions expressed to the Secretary for Ecumenical Relations.

11/20 PAPER K Assembly Arrangements Committee - Book of Reports and the Record of Assembly.

Dr David Robinson presented the report suggesting that a decision be made at the next Mission Council when more accurate costings are available. In the meantime **discussions should be had in synods about the cost of sending out the reports as against the provision of the material on a CD Rom.**

Resolved by consensus.

11/21 PAPER M. Listed Buildings Advisory Group.

The Deputy General Secretary paid tribute to the many years of work that Mr Hartley Oldham had given to the committee. He then moved the changes as in Paper M.

Mission Council is invited to:

- 1) Note the retirement on 23 November 2010 of Hartley Oldham from the position of convener of the Listed Buildings Advisory Committee after sixteen years outstanding service to the Group.**
- 2) Confirm the nomination of Peter West for appointment as Convener with effect from 23 November 2010 (this will be dealt with in the Nominations Committee Report)**
- 3) Confirm the changes to the United Reformed Church Procedure for the control of works to buildings detailed at 2 above.**
- 4) Confirm Terms of Reference for the Listed Buildings Advisory Group as set out at Annex A. (Appendix 4)**

Resolved by consensus.

11/08 PAPER A: Resourcing Synods.

Some further discussion took place to which the treasurer replied. He proposed the resolutions:

Mission Council affirms the commitment of the United Reformed Church to be a Church in three nations, working through two national Synods and eleven English synods.

Withdrawn as unnecessary.

Mission Council agrees that from 2012 the Assembly budget should include provision for a 50% ecumenical officer post to be held by a Minister of Word and Sacraments in each of the national Synods, with a corresponding reduction in the number of stipendiary ministers available for local deployment in the Church as a whole.

Resolved by agreement.

Mission Council welcomes the proposal that documents should be proof read to ensure the context and implications for all Synods are incorporated, as far as this is reasonable.

Resolved by consensus.

The Moderator ruled that Council would complete the remaining resolutions later.

SESSION 8

11/22 PAPER N: Consensus Procedure Review.

Revd Pauline Barnes presented Paper N. She reflected upon progress made towards adopting Consensus Decision Making across the councils of the church. She introduced the booklet prepared by Revd Elizabeth Nash and herself as a review of the process. Some changes of wording were suggested to enable the smoother passage of business. She suggested that any further comments should be addressed to the Assembly Arrangements Committee.

Some general comments were made referring to timing of presentations and the logistics of the meeting rooms which best enable consensus decision making to work well.

11/10 The Ad Campaign. The Steering Group's response

The Moderator invited the General Secretary to speak on behalf of the Steering Group.

The General Secretary offered a summary of what the steering group had heard from Mission Council and what they needed Mission Council to hear.

These things had been heard:

- that there was a groundswell of support for radical welcome as a worthy and exciting expression of the way of Jesus for our time, which had been reflected not only in the campaign but in several other items on the agenda;
- that the steering group needed to do better in communicating the theology and meaning of radical welcome to the church;
- that the training in radical welcome offered through the campaign would benefit every church, regardless of whether it chose to affiliate with the campaign;
- that there were concerns about the campaign as it had been unveiled, but that criticism had been offered in a spirit of, "We want it to be the best it can be";
- that there was a small number of people who rejected the campaign altogether;
- that Mission Council took seriously its responsibilities as steward of the CWM grant and protector of the church from division and therefore wanted to feel confident in the campaign, this being the reason behind proposals offered including requests for changes to the campaign;
- that concern around the campaign was not with the headlines but the body copy, with its assertion that only campaign-affiliated churches were Jesus-shaped and that gay people should be welcome on the basis of, "Love – no conditions apply";
- that there had been serious concern over the statement "[The campaign] and the sexuality issue" with its perceived exclusion of some churches from the campaign;
- that the possibility that radical welcome should entail sending visitors to a different church should be revisited;
- that work was needed elsewhere in the church on the question of eligibility for church membership;
- and that there were fears about finding enough volunteers to serve as companions to churches in training.

The steering group needed these things to be heard:

- that the number of responding churches had grown from 80 to 173;
- that the body copy could be changed
- but that there would be no compromise on the principle of radical welcome;
- that the campaign needed to communicate to its audience or it was not worth doing;
- that it was outward facing and that this might involve using wording that caused certain offence within the church;
- that they were voluntarily withdrawing not only the statement, "[The campaign] and the sexuality issue", but the website on which it had been posted;
- that instead a simply list of Frequently Asked Questions would be made available;
- that the steering group had not invented the sexuality issue and that it was urgent that it be addressed properly under the guidance of the Human Sexuality Task Group.

She then endorsed the resolution as previously offered with an amendment to paragraph 4, the wording of which was supplied by Elizabeth Lawson. If the resolution were passed, the recruitment of church companions and local church preparations would continue. She promised that the statement, "[The campaign] and the sexuality issue",

would be withdrawn and that the website on which it appeared would be taken down. She said that in future the steering group would consult the Human Sexuality Task Group on any matters where there could be concern that the campaign was contravening the 2007 Commitment on Human Sexuality. As an indication of the depth of commitment to the proposed process, she said that if consensus could not be reached between the Review Group and the steering group by 31st August, the steering group would stand down and the future of the campaign would be remitted to the Mission Committee.

Mission Council recognises both the enthusiasm and the concern raised by the URC ad campaign and agrees to form an independent Review Group that will both allow progress on the campaign to continue, whilst at the same time creating opportunities for further reflection and consultation on, and possible changes to, its content, implementation and impact.

The Review Group will:

a) Comprise a representative of Mission Committee, two representatives of Mission Council, one FURY representative and two Synod moderators, not involved in the Campaign Steering Group;

b) Work closely with the Steering Group, involving members in discussion about proposed ways forward;

c) Ask Synods for feedback where possible, including feedback from local churches;

d) If, by 31st August 2011, the review and steering group have reached a consensus they may proceed to organise the campaign along the lines agreed by them, and shall arrange for the circulation of a summary of their conclusions to members of Mission Council. If there is no consensus, the groups shall notify the deputy general secretary of that, and the matter will go back to the Mission Committee to consider with a view to formulating proposals for the matter to be further considered by Mission Council in November 2011.

Resolved by agreement. Miss Victoria Paulding formally registered her dissent.

It was further agreed that the Mission Committee would report to every meeting of Mission Council for the duration of the campaign.

Resolved by consensus.

The Moderator thanked all who had worked so constructively to reach the agreement made.

11/23 Vacancy on MCAG

The Clerk announced a vacancy on MCAG due to the completion of Revd David Grosch-Miller's service. He asked for nominations for David's successor to be made as quickly as possible

11/24 Members of the Review Group to work alongside the Steering Group.

The Clerk asked for nominations for two people to serve on this group on behalf of Mission Council.

Dr Coleman led evening prayers.

Thursday May 19th

SESSION 9

Ms Poolman led opening prayers.

11/24 PAPERS G and G1: Nominations

Revd John Durell presented the report (see appendix 5) and proposed the resolutions:

1) Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, appoints committee members and representatives of the Church as set out in the Nominations Committee report, subject to additions and corrections contained in the supplementary report.

Resolved by consensus

2) Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, records its appreciation for all the work done by those who serve as committee members and representatives.

Resolved by consensus

3) Mission Council, on behalf of General Assembly, reappoints Revd Neil Thorogood to serve as Director of Pastoral Studies at Westminster College, Cambridge, from July 2012 until 2019.

Resolved by consensus

4) Mission Council, on behalf of General Assembly, reappoints the Revd Martin Hazell to serve as Director of Communications from 1 January 2012 to 15 August 2017.

Resolved by consensus

11/25 PAPER ADD Eastern Synod Resolution

Revd Paul Whittle, moderator of Eastern Synod proposed the resolution:

Mission Council asks that decisions being made at Assembly level be made with greater openness and clarity; and in consultation with Synods and local churches as well as attention to agreed budgets.

Resolved by consensus

Considerable discussion indicated that 'communication' or lack of it continues to bear upon synods and churches. In part finance is an issue, computer literacy at some levels is another and churches feeling disconnected is another. Those at Mission Council should do their part is disseminating information.

11/ 08 PAPER A: Resourcing Synods.

Mr Ellis proposed the final sections of the resolution

Mission Council agrees that in principle the unavoidable core costs of each Synod should be underpinned by a willingness to consider support from the Church's Assembly budget, financed through the M&M Fund.

Resolved by consensus

Mission Council requests the Finance Committee to bring to a future meeting of the Council proposals for how such a system of underpinning Synod finances might work in practice in the National Synods.

Resolved by consensus

The Clerk announced that no election was necessary for the position on MCAG. Revd Nicola Furley-Smith was unopposed.

He further announced that the embargo on communications was lifted as notices of Mission Council decisions had been posted by the Communications team.

11/09 PAPER B1: Impact on Funding Cuts on asylum seekers and young people.

Mr Peter Pay returned with a reworded resolution.

Mission Council resolves:

- i) to ask JPIT to speak out at the highest level against the injustice of cuts to agencies providing support and legal advice services to people seeking sanctuary in the UK;**
- ii) to ask the Communications Department to launch an on-line petition campaign to support this initiative;**
- iii) to encourage local churches to continue to extend hospitality and welcome people seeking sanctuary in the UK as a deliberate and strategic focus of their pastoral care in areas local to them and in the UK, in a time of economic austerity;**
- iv) to encourage Synods to identify strategic partnerships with other agencies to expand the model of multi-agency drop-in centres for asylum seekers and refugees and for the URC to explore funding streams to support these centres.**

Resolved by consensus

11/26 Emergency Resolution on CWM Secretary

The General Secretary proposed the resolution:

Mission Council of the United Reformed Church meeting at High Leigh Conference Centre in Hoddesdon on 19 May 2011:

1. notes with great concern that due to the prevarications and bureaucratic inefficiencies of the UKBA over the past eight months the necessary visa has still not been issued to the Revd Dr Collin Cowan, the newly appointed General Secretary of the Council for World Mission, to allow him to start work in CWM's central office in London;

2. expresses indignation at the obstructive manner in which the UKBA handled the application for a Certificate of Sponsorship for Dr Cowan which has impacted negatively on the work and mission of the Council for World Mission and its partner churches and organisations;

3. urges the UKBA and the Home secretary to urgently expedite the issuing of the necessary visa to enable the Revd Dr Collin Cowan and his family to move to the UK to assume his position as General Secretary in CWM's London office and for this resolution to be communicated to the relevant officials in the UKBA and the ecumenical partners of the United Reformed Church.

Disquiet was expressed at the unsatisfactory handling of Dr Cowan's application.
Resolved by consensus

11/27 Paper B Nestle – General Assembly decision

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

The composition of the Review group to work with the Campaign Steering Group was announced:
Revd Dr Andrew Prasad, Revd Clare Downing (Moderators); Mrs Sarah Lane-Cawte and Ms Elizabeth Lawson QC (Mission Council); Mr David Harvey (FURY) and Revd Tracey Lewis (Mission Committee).

Thanks and Farewells.

The Moderator thanked all who had participated in making Mission Council function so well. She thanked those for whom this was their final meeting at Mission Council and those whose service was already completed:
Mr David Harvey FURY; Revd Maggie Hindley, TN; Ms Jane Hoddinott, FURY Rep; Revd Gillian Poucher, EM; Revd John Sanderson, Scot; Revd David Lawrence, TN; Mrs Iris Williams, Wales; Revd Roz Harrison, SW; Miss Irene Hudson, Scot; Revd Terry Oakley, EM; Revd Stephen Newell, SW; Mrs Margaret Telfer, Wessex; Professor Malcolm Johnson, E&L.

Mission Council having completed its business, joined together to share in Holy Communion led by the Moderators Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe and Mrs Val Morrison, assisted by their Chaplains, Revd Rachel Poolman and Revd Dr James Coleman.

Mission Council meets next from November 25 – 27 at the Hayes, Swanwick.

APPENDIX 1 PLAN FOR PARTNERSHIP

General Assembly 2010 approved the following as the principles governing the ministerial working week:

there should be more clarity in defining working hours;

the working week, translated into hours in a four week period, is recommended to be not less than 160 hours and not more than 192;

a note on the working week should be included in the Plan for Partnership and the rationale for the working week, set out as supporting text for this resolution, should be available on request from the Ministries office.

The Maintenance of the Ministry Sub-Committee meeting 18 June 2009 agreed that, as the Overseas Recruitment Programme ended some years ago, the second paragraph of Appendix C - Removal Costs be deleted.

Mission Council is asked to consider two further clarifying amendments as follows:

revise the wording of existing para.7.2 and set out the holiday provision for part-time ministers;

Appendix B - Housing Allowance Guidelines Note to include the reference for ministers serving in Scotland that both Council Tax and Water Rates should be paid directly by the local church.

The proposed amendments are set out below. Insertions are shown (*italics*) and deletions are shown [bold].

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

(7. MINISTERIAL WORKING WEEK

The 2010 General Assembly resolved that there should be more clarity in defining working hours and recommended that the ministerial working week, translated into hours in a four week period, should be not less than 160 hours and not more than 192 hours.)

Re-number paragraphs 7 - 10 to read 8 - 11

appendix C - REMOVAL COSTS

The receiving local church is responsible for paying the costs of removal (see para 6.3.3). Where the removal is within the United Kingdom reimbursement of up to 50% of the cost incurred (subject to a maximum reimbursement of £1,500) is available from the Ministry and Mission Fund and application should be made via the MoM Office. Where a minister/CRCW is called from abroad reimbursement from that Fund to the local church will be based on the removal costs from the port of entry.

[For ministers/CRCWs called to the URC under the Overseas Recruitment programme in conjunction with the Ministries Committee, 75% of the cost of removal of themselves, their families, and their baggage from abroad to the pastorate in the UK, up to a maximum of £2,000, will be reimbursed from the Ministry and Mission Fund. A similar reimbursement will be made for their return on termination provided that the period of service has continued for more than three years.]

3. 8. HOLIDAY ENTITLEMENT

8.1 Ministers/CRCWs are entitled to 5 weeks holiday in each calendar year and one further Sunday away from the pastorate. When a minister/CRCW only serves for part of a year the holiday provision should be pro rata. One week of holiday may be carried forward to the following year. Holiday entitlement is not affected by sick leave, parental leave, Jury Service, in-service training courses or sabbatical leave. Such periods of leave/absence may result in more than one week's holiday being carried forward into the following year.

8.2 If a minister/CRCW resigns(/retires) from a pastorate or post [immediately following any such period of leave/absence,] stipend should be paid for any outstanding holiday entitlement untaken at the date of resignation(/retirement), which may include outstanding holiday entitlement from the previous year, always provided that Synod concurs with the arrangements. (*For part-time ministers untaken holiday will be calculated based on the proportion of stipend paid*).

appendix b - GUIDELINES FOR HOUSING ALLOWANCES

2. Allowance specifically 'in lieu of manse accommodation'

When calculating housing allowances the following should be taken into consideration:

rates (where payable), Council Tax

water/sewage charges

interior and exterior re-decorations (estimated yearly average)

repairs (estimated yearly average)
property insurance.

Note: The reference above to Council Tax (*and Water Rates*) does not apply in Scotland where (*they are*) [Council Tax is] the responsibility of the local church even if the minister/CRCW owns the property
Resolved by majority vote.

APPENDIX 2 ASSESSMENT BOARD

Phase of training and/or calling
Pre-Training & Training
Stage 1 – Candidate Application Candidate makes an application to be accepted for training.
Stage 2 – Candidating Process Candidate goes through the Candidating Process. Includes interviews by local church and synod, along with the completion of some reflective work and, for candidates for the Ministry of Word and Sacraments, leading worship.
Stage 3 – Assembly Assessment Conference Candidate attends an Assembly Assessment Conference which includes interviews with assessors (who ultimately make the decision to accept or not), an Education & Learning panel (who decide on length and nature of training), and a Personal Development Officer, which includes a group exercise and a one-to-one interview, (whose role is to provide support/information for the assessors but has no decision-making function.)
Stage 4 – Offer & Pre-training Screening The Candidate is accepted and provided with a written offer of training subject to medical and psychological screening. The Secretary for Ministries will provide InterHealth with an outline of the expected training programme for this candidate (including expected duration, schedule of study, i.e. at home, evenings, full time, residential, etc). The Candidate completes a Pre-Training Health Screening Form which is returned to InterHealth. Further consultation between the Candidate and InterHealth will occur in following up pre-existing health conditions. For Pre-Training Health Screening, a fitness for training certificate, with any recommendations for reasonable adjustment, will be provided. The Candidate is requested to book and undertake a Psychological Clearance Appointment at InterHealth. For Psychological Clearance purposes, a report will be provided to the Secretary for Ministries giving an opinion on the individual's psychological wellbeing at the date of the appointment, and advising on any areas of risk affecting the individual's ability to fulfil their training. In the case of any uncertainty the Assessment Board would need to evaluate the report and make a decision.
Stage 5 – Training confirmation & commencement The Secretary for Ministries confirms the offer to the candidate of the training post. The candidate commences their training. Subject to the United Reformed Church Assessment Board approval, in their last year they seek a call to ministry from a church/pastorate.
Upon ordination or acceptance of a call
Stage 6 – Acceptance of a call A trainee has sought a call from a church and has been successful in identifying a role for their future ministry. The trainee is provided with a written offer of a ministry position subject to satisfactory medical clearance.
Stage 7 – Pre-Ministry Screening / Pre-Employment screening A full medical with InterHealth is required. A report on fitness for ministry as well as any reasonable adjustments for the role are provided.

APPENDIX 3 MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY SUB-COMMITTEE PENSIONS EXECUTIVE.

Summary of recommendations

The retention of the current scheme.

No change should be made to all stipendiary ministers/CRCw's of the URC regardless of age to the accrual rate.

A pension age of 68 be adopted for the accrual of benefits in the future.

A modification to the rules covering eligibility for an ill-health retirement pension in respect of new members.

A reduction in the amount of ill-health pension subject to an underpin for existing members.

No change in the calculation of death benefits.

No action to be taken in respect of deferred pensions. In consequence the new legislative minimum will apply.

No change to be made to members' contribution rate.

The Fund admission policy be revised so that membership is available

APPENDIX 4 LISTED BUILDINGS ADVISORY GROUP

Terms of reference Listed Buildings Advisory Group

The group is accountable to Mission Council.

Role

To advise Mission Council and Synods on operational matters relating to the Ecclesiastical Exemption, with particular reference to The Ecclesiastical Exemption (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (England) Order 2010 or any subsequent re-enactment or variation thereof.

To enable representatives from all Synods in England and Wales to meet together to co-ordinate a common approach to the application of the Ecclesiastical Exemption.

To provide a platform for dissemination and discussion of information provided by English Heritage and other heritage bodies related to historic places of worship.

To advise Mission Council, Synods and churches generally on matters relating to historic church buildings.

To represent the United Reformed Church in discussions and negotiations with government and public bodies and other exempt denominations, including appointments to Heritage Groups and Forums.

Officers

Convener. The Convener will be appointed by the Mission Council on the recommendation of the Listed Buildings Advisory Group. Appointments will normally be for a term of three years; two successive terms being normally the maximum that may be served.

Secretary. The Secretary will be appointed by the Listed Buildings Advisory Group from within its membership. Appointments will normally be for a term of three years; two successive terms being normally the maximum that may be served.

Membership

Membership of the Group is open to the following persons:

The Chairman/Convener and/or Secretary of the Listed Building Advisory Committee and Committee members from each Synod

The Synod Property Officer and/or Trust Officer from each Synod

Any Consultant (Legal or Technical) appointed by the Group

A representative appointed by Mission Council and/or the General Secretary of the United Reformed Church. It is anticipated that at least one representative of each Synod will attend each meeting.

Quorum

The quorum of the meeting will be representatives of 5 Synods.

Frequency of Meetings

The Group will normally meet twice a year, which might include a guest speaker. Between meetings information will be sent to members of any developments, information, issues of concern or papers requiring consultation via electronic communication.

APPENDIX 5 NOMINATIONS

I. INTRODUCTION

The Nominations Committee has continued to try to make vacancies widely known as early as possible. Details of those to be filled at Assembly 2012 were circulated in March 2011 and should now be available throughout the church. Suggestions of suitable nominees have been invited from synods, FURY, central staff and committees.

The replies received from those approached by the Committee have continued to be monitored, in total and broken down into the four categories – male ordained, female ordained, male lay and female lay. The overall figures for 2010 showed no change from those for 2009 and the balances between the various categories only shifted slightly during 2009/2010. However, the percentage of those declining invitations – apart from male lay – dropped. The percentage of BAME membership is increasing slowly. Recruiting younger members was still a problem with a clear shortage of people under 36. The figures obtained from annual comparisons will form part of a five-year monitoring report for 2008-2012.

As a result of discussions with the Communications and Editorial Committee on the publication of the Nominations Committee report, particularly in those years when it is approved by Mission Council rather than General Assembly, arrangements are being made for it to appear on the main website as a separate item, with an appropriate link. This should make it more widely accessible.

In an effort to increase transparency, work has continued to identify members of advisory and task groups and representatives to other bodies.

II. ASSEMBLY STAFF APPOINTMENTS

1. NOMINATING GROUPS

- 1.1 The Nominating Group, convened by the Revd Cecil White and authorized by Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, to act on its behalf, appointed the **Revd Nicola Furley-Smith** to serve as **Moderator of the Southern Synod** for a period of seven years from 1 March 2011 to 28 February 2018.
- 1.2 The Nominating Group, convened by the Revd John Oldershaw and authorized by Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, to act on its behalf, appointed the **Revd Peter Meek** to serve as **Moderator of the East Midlands Synod** for a period of seven years from 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2018.

2. REVIEW GROUPS

- 2.1 The Review Group for the post of **Director of Communications** is being convened by the Revd Nanette Lewis-Head.

III. ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Notes:

1. The moderators, the moderators elect, the immediate past moderator and the general secretary are members *ex officio* of every standing committee.
2. Symbols have been used as follows:
 - * denotes those appointed since the 2010 General Assembly report;
 - ** denotes those whom Mission Council is invited to appoint for the first time;
 - † denotes those who have been invited to extend their periods of service;

- # denotes a convener elect who will become convener in 2012;
 / the name after the slash is the alternate for the one before it.
3. The number in round brackets following the name indicates the member's synod:
 (1) Northern, (2) North Western, (3) Mersey, (4) Yorkshire, (5) East Midlands, (6) West Midlands, (7) Eastern, (8) South Western, (9) Wessex, (10) Thames North, (11) Southern, (12) Wales, (13) Scotland. This numbering is not shown where it is not relevant.
 4. When a member of a committee is there as a representative of another body or a particular category this is indicated in round brackets following the name.
 5. Committee membership is normally for a period of four years, though this may sometimes exceptionally be renewable. Committee conveners serve an additional preliminary year as convener elect. In sections 1–4 of the report appointments with a different term are noted.
 6. The date in square brackets following the name indicates the date of retirement, assuming a full term.
 7. In accordance with the decision of General Assembly 2000 some nominations are made directly by the National Synods of Wales and Scotland.
 8. In years when General Assembly meets, new committee members normally take up their roles at the conclusion of Assembly. In years when General Assembly does not meet, they normally begin on 1st July.

1 MISSION COUNCIL

Mission Council acts on behalf of General Assembly. It consists of the officers of Assembly, the synod moderators and three representatives from each synod together with the conveners of Assembly committees, the chair of the United Reformed Church Trust and two FURY members, including the FURY moderator.

(Synods appoint and decide terms for their representatives)

Northern Synod	Mrs Rhona Dunn, Revd Ann Jackson, Mr Robert Jones
North Western Synod	Revd Geoffrey Clarke, Rev Alistair Smeaton, Revd Sally Thomas
Mersey Synod	Mr Arthur Swift, Miss Emma Pugh, Revd A. Gordon Smith
Yorkshire Synod	Mr Chris Reed, Revd Kay Alberg, Mrs Jenny Poulter
East Midlands Synod	Mr Duncan Smith, Mrs Jill Turner, Revd Gillian Poucher
West Midlands Synod	Mr Bill Robson, Mrs Adella Pritchard, Mrs Val Phillips
Eastern Synod	Revd Dr Catherine Ball, Mrs Linda Harrison, Mr Clifford Patten
South Western Synod	Revd Roz Harrison, Revd Stephen Newell, Mrs Sarah Lane Cawte
Wessex Synod	Mr Peter Pay, Mrs Margaret Telfer, Revd Mary Thomas
Thames North Synod	Mr Simon Fairnington, Ms Elizabeth Lawson, Revd Edward Sanniez
Southern Synod	Revd Derrick Sena Dzandu-Hedidor, Revd John Gordon, Mr Alistair Wilson
National Synod of Wales	Revd Shelagh Pollard, Vacancy, Vacancy
National Synod of Scotland	Miss Irene Hudson, Mrs Barbara Bruce, Vacancy

[*In attendance*: Minute Secretary: Mrs Irene Wren [2012]
 Consensus Adviser: Revd Pauline Barnes [2014]
 together with staff secretaries, moderators' chaplains and others as appropriate]

1.1 Mission Council Advisory Group

Convener: Moderator of General Assembly
 Secretary: Deputy General Secretary
 Revd David Grosch-Miller [2011] Revd Derrick Sena Dzandu-Hedidor [2014]
 Revd Elizabeth Nash [2014] Moderators elect of General Assembly
 [*ex officio*: General Secretary Honorary Treasurer]

1.2 Staffing Advisory Group

Convener: Revd Rowena Francis
 Secretary: General Secretary
 Revd Ann Jack Mr Peter Pay Mr Keith Webster
 Head of Human Resources

1.3 Law and Polity Advisory Group

Convener: Revd Prof David Thompson [2012]

Dr Augur Pearce [2012] Mr David Eldridge [2012] Ms Morag McLintock [2012]
Mr Duncan Smith** (Synod Clerk) [2015]
[*ex officio*: Clerk to General Assembly Legal Adviser]

1.4 Listed Buildings Advisory Group

Convener: Mr Peter West * [2015]
Secretary: Mr David Figures
Correspondent for each synod

1.5 Ethical Investment Advisory Group

Convener: Revd Raymond Singh
Secretary: Secretary for Church and Society
Mr Mark Chaloner Mr Simon Loveitt Mr Richard Nunn (Investment Committee)
Mr Simon Peters Chief Finance Officer Deputy General Secretary
[*ex officio*: Honorary Treasurer]

1.6 Sexual Ethics Advisory Group

Convener: Revd David A L Jenkins [2014]
Revd Rowena Francis (Synod Moderator)
Revd Elizabeth Gray-King (Education and Learning) Revd David Skitt
[*ex officio*: Deputy General Secretary Coordinator Pastoral Response Team]

1.7 MIND (Ministerial Incapacity and Discipline) Advisory Group

Convener: Revd Julian Macro [2012]
Convener elect: #Revd Peter Poulter** [2016]
Secretary: Revd Hugh Graham [2014]
General Secretary Clerk to Assembly Secretary for Ministries
Convener of the Assembly Commission: Mrs Kathleen Cross
Secretary of the Assembly Commission: Mrs Wilma Frew
Convener of the Review Commission of the Incapacity Procedure: Mr Donald Swift
Secretary of the Review Commission of the Incapacity Procedure: Revd Heather Kent
Legal Adviser Consultant for Mandated Groups: Revd Alison Davis
Consultant for Ministers and CRCWs: Revd David Skitt
Training Coordinator: Mr Hartley Oldham

1.8 Resource Sharing Task Group

Convener: Revd David Grosch-Miller
Secretary: Mr John Rea
Treasurer: Revd Dick Gray
Miss Margaret Atkinson Mr Richard Turnbull Mrs Rachel Wakeman
[*ex officio*: Honorary Treasurer]

1.9 Human Sexuality Task Group (2008)

Convener: Revd John Waller
Secretary: Revd Lucy Brierley
Revd Dr John Bradbury Revd Richard Church Ms Doreen Daley
Sr M Cecily Boulding OP Revd Claire Gouldthorp Mrs Val Morrison

1.10 London Synod Task Group

Convener: Revd Bill Mahood
Secretary: Mrs Sheila Brain
Revd Nicola Furley-Smith (11) Revd Raymond Singh (11)
Revd David Varco (10) Mr Keith Webster (10)

2 MISSION DEPARTMENT

2.1 Mission Committee

Convener: Revd Ed Cox [2012]

Convener elect: #Revd Tracey Lewis** [2016]

Deputy Convener: Mr Peter Pay [2012]

Mrs Pat Poinen** (1) [2015]	Revd Michael Walsh (2) [2012]
Revd Andrew Willett (3) [2014]	Revd Bob Jones** (4) [2015]
Vacancy (5) [2015]	Revd Louise Franklin (6) [2014]
Revd Sam White** (7) [2015]	Revd Tracey Lewis (8) [2012]
Revd Peter Hurter (9) [2014]	Revd John Macauley† (10) [2015]
Mr Martin Hayward** (11) [2015]	Revd Nick Stanyon* (12) [2014]
Revd Lindsey Sanderson† (13) [2015]	

2.1.1 International Exchange Reference Group

Convener: Mr Chris Wright [2015]

Secretary: Secretary for World Church Relations

Members: Revd Dr Andrew Prasad (Synod Moderator) [2014]

Miss Angela Quinn (13) [2014]

2.1.2 Commitment for Life Reference Group

Convener: Mrs Helen Lidgett [2012]

Convener elect: Vacancy

2.1.3 Methodist/URC Interfaith Reference Group

(Members normally serve for six years - in parallel with Methodist terms)

Co-Convener: Revd Peter Brain [2013]

Revd Clare Downing (9) [2013] Mr David Jonathan (10) [2014]

Revd Bill Burgess (3) [2015] Revd Tim Clarke (10) [2015]

2.1.4 Joint Public Issues Team Strategy and Policy Group

Mr Simon Loveitt (Spokesperson on Public Issues for the URC)

(Other members appointed by the Methodist Church and the Baptist Union of Great Britain.)

2.1.5 Rural Strategy Group (URC/Methodist)

Revd Elizabeth Caswell (Co-Chair) Revd Peter Ball Revd David Herbert

2.1.6 Vision4Life Steering Group

Revd Dr John Hall (Co-Chair)	Revd Roberta Rominger (Co-Chair)	
Ms Francis Brien (Secretary)	Revd Dr Janet Lees (Co-ordinator)	
Mr John Brown	Revd Dr Susan Durber	Revd Brian Harley
Revd Dr Michael Jagessar	Mr Lawrence Moore	Revd John Proctor
Revd Paul Snell	Mr Steve Summers	Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe
Revd Michael Walsh	Revd Sally Willett	

2.1.7 Marketing Campaign Steering Group

Revd Roberta Rominger (Co-Chair)	Mr Lawrence Moore (Co-Chair)	
Ms Lucy Berry (10)	Ms Denese Chikwendu	Ms Francis Brien
Revd Martin Hazell	Mr Graham Law (6)	Revd Peter Noble (12)
Miss Victoria Paulding (7)	Mr Simon Peters (13)	Revd Michael Walsh (2)

3 MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH DEPARTMENT

3.1 Ministries Committee

Convener: Revd Ruth Whitehead [2014]

Secretary: Secretary for Ministries

Revd Yolande Burns (2) [2012] Ms Brenda Jesse (8) [2013]

Revd David Skitt (11) [2013] Revd John Cox (7) [2014]

Mr Andy Buxton (12) [2014] Revd Heather Pencavel** (8) [2015]
Mrs Judith Johnson (Assembly Lay Preaching Advocate) [2015]
Convener, Assessment Board

3.1.1 Ministries - Accreditation Sub-committee

Convener: Revd Geoffrey Townsend [2013]
Secretary: Secretary for Ministries
Revd Malcolm Fife (5) [2013] Revd Richard Church** (Synod Moderator) [2015]
Mrs Tessa Henry-Robinson (7) [2013] Mr Jim Murison (4) [2014]
Revd Helga Cornell** (6) [2015]

3.1.2 Ministries - CRCW Programme Sub-committee

Convener: Revd Paul Whittle [2012] Convener elect: #Revd Jacky Embrey** [2016]
Secretaries: CRCW Development Workers
Ms Janine Atkinson (CRCW) [2012] Revd Susan Macbeth (4) [2012]
Ms Christine Smalligan (10) [2012] Prof John Mellor (9) [2013]
Ms Marie Trubic* (CRCW) [2014]

3.1.3 Ministries - Maintenance of Ministry Sub-committee

Convener: Revd Dr Anthony Haws [2013]
Miss Margaret Atkinson (4) [2012] Revd Catey Morrison (1) [2012]
Mr Andrew Martlew (3) [2014] Revd Alison Hall (3) [2014]
Revd Richard Turnbull** (5) [2015]
[*ex officio*: Honorary Treasurer Convener, Pensions Executive]

3.1.4 Ministries - Retired Ministers' Housing Sub-committee

(Members will normally serve for four years but appointments may be extended for a further two years.)

Convener: Revd David Bedford [2015]
Secretary: Secretary, Retired Ministers' Housing Society Ltd
Revd Nanette Lewis-Head (12) [2012] Revd Anne Bedford (3) [2015]
Revd John Humphreys (Synod Moderator) [2013] Mr Peter West** (7) [2015]
[*ex officio*: Honorary Treasurer]

*(Properties are managed by a Company viz: **Retired Ministers' Housing Society Ltd**. Details of the Members of the board etc may be obtained from the secretary, Mr Tony Bayley, at Church House.)*

3.1.5 Assessment Board

(Members normally serve for five years as training is required.)

Convener: Dr Graham Campling [2014]
Retiring 2012 Mr James Horton (4), Mrs Margaret Jenkins (2), Revd Janet Maxwell (1), Revd William Young (6)
Retiring 2013 Mrs Irene Wren (5), Revd Lis Mullen (2), Revd Gary McGowan (3), Revd Val Towler (1)
Retiring 2014 Mr Mark Hayes (7), Mr Robin Pencavel (8), Revd Jamie Kissack (4), Revd Paul Floe (12)
Retiring 2015 Mrs Judith Garthwaite (4), Mr Rod Morrison (4), Ms Mercy Nimako (11),
Mrs Maureen Campbell (10)
Retiring 2016 Mrs Adella Pritchard** (6), Revd Franziska Herring** (6), Revd Sue Kirkbride** (13)

3.2 Education and Learning Committee

Convener: Revd John Smith [2015]
Secretary: Secretary for Education and Learning
Revd Jennifer Snashall (11) [2012] Revd Dr James Coleman (4) [2012]
Mrs Fiona Weighton-Smith (4) [2012] Revd Dr Susan Durber (Resource Centre) [2013]
Revd Dr David Whiting (1) [2013] Mr Celvon Binns (6) [2014]
Mrs Lindsey Cole (5) [2014] Ms Sue Matthews (6) [2014]
Mrs Liz Bird** (7) [2015]

3.2.1 Windermere Management Committee

Convener: Revd Howard Sharp [2013]
Minute Secretary: Mrs Jenny Poulter (4) [2013]

Mr Graham Law (6) [2013] Dr Peter Clarke+ (1) [2015] Mr Peter Farrand** (2) [2015]
Mrs Joan Stocker (representative of Carver URC) [2013]
Secretary for Education and Learning
(The number of members may change in the light of future experience.)

3.2.2 Education for Ministry Phase 2 and 3 (EM2/3) Sub-committee

Convener: Dr Ian Morrison
Minute Secretary: Revd Elizabeth Gray-King (EM2/3 Officer)
Revd David Poulton (EM3 minister) Revd Zam Walker (EM2 minister)
Ms Pat Oliver (CRCW) Revd Stephen Collinson (Training and Development Officer)
Ms Sandra Wellington (Training and Development Officer)
Vacancy (Resource Centre) Secretary for Education and Learning
[*ex officio*: Convener, Education and Learning Committee Secretary for Ministries]

3.2.3 Education and Learning Finance Sub-committee

Convener: Mr Mike Downing
Minute Secretary: Secretary for Education and Learning
Convener, Education and Learning Committee
Mr Graham Law
[*ex officio*: Honorary Treasurer *In attendance*: Chief Finance Officer]

3.3 Youth and Children's Work Committee

Convener: Revd Robert Weston [2013]
Secretary: Children's Work Development Officer
Mrs Memona Shahbaz (10) [2012] Revd Stuart Radcliffe (2) [2012]
Mr Phillip Timson (5) [2013] Revd Shirley Knibbs (4) [2013]
Revd Meg Robb (1) [2013] Miss Tamara Oates (5) [2013]
Ms Angela Such (10) [2014] Revd Tim Lowe** (6) [2015]
Revd Sue McKenzie** (10) [2015] Ms Alison Hadley** (5) [2015]
FURY moderator FURY moderator elect

3.3.1 Pilots Management Sub-committee

Convener: Mrs Soo Webster [2015]
Member: Mrs Tric Legge* (5) [2014]
(Other members of the sub-committee are appointed by the Youth and Children's Work Committee. The Congregational Federation also has two representatives.)

4 ADMINISTRATION AND RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

4.1 Assembly Arrangements Committee

Convener: Dr David Robinson [2014]
Secretary: Facilities Manager
Moderators Moderators elect General Secretary Clerk to General Assembly
Convener, Local Arrangements Committee

4.2 Communications and Editorial Committee

Convener: Revd Richard Bittleston [2015]
Secretary: Director of Communications
Ms Lucy Berry (10) [2012] Mr Justin Brierley (11) [2012]
Mr Stanley Hazell (8) [2012] Revd Peter Lyth (3) [2013]
Mr Peter Ranscombe (13) [2013] Mr Orin Stephens (10) [2013]
Mrs Helen Jones (6) [2013] Revd Heather Whyte** (8) [2015]
Vacancy [2015]

4.3 Equal Opportunities Committee

Convener: Revd Elizabeth Nash [2014]

Secretary: Mr Andrew Jack (10) [2013]
Ms Mary Jeremiah (12) [2012] Revd Barbara Exley (11) [2012]
Mrs Gwynneth Tilley (7) [2013] Mrs Tina Ashitey (10) [2013]
Revd Tom Arthur (12) [2013] Mr Tunde Biyi (7) [2014]

4.4 Faith and Order Reference Group

(Members normally serve for six years.)

Convener: Revd Dr Robert Pope [2012]

Convener elect: #Revd Elizabeth Welch** [2018]

Secretary: Deputy General Secretary

Revd Dr John Bradbury [2012]

Revd Dr Susan Durber [2012]

Revd Fleur Houston [2012]

Revd Dr Michael Jagessar [2014]

Revd Dr Sarah Hall [2014]

Revd Dr Neil Messer [2014]

4.5 Finance Committee

Convener: Honorary Treasurer

Chief Finance Officer

Revd David Walton (13) [2012]

Mr Angus Massie (10) [2012]

Dr Harry Potter OBE (3) [2013]

Mr Richard Dewar (9) [2013]

Revd David Aplin (10) [2013]

Revd Edward Sanniez (10) [2014]

Ms Mary Martin** (6) [2015]

Mr Andrew Mackenzie** (7) [2015]

Chair of the Trustees

4.5.1 Stewardship Sub-committee

Convener: Mrs Faith Paulding [2013]

Mr Keith Berry (10) [2012]

Revd Dick Gray (8) [2013]

Revd Leslie Morrison (13) [2014]

Vacancy [2015]

(The members of this sub-committee are appointed by the Finance Committee.)

4.6 Nominations Committee

(Synods appoint and decide terms for their representative.)

Convener: Revd John Durell [2014]

Secretary: Miss Sarah Dodds [2013]

Synod Representatives:

Revd Val Towler (1)

Revd Chris Weddle (2)

Revd John Oldershaw (3)

Mr Chris Reed (4)

Mr Duncan Smith (5)

Mrs Margaret Marshall (6)

Mr Mick Barnes (7)

Revd Roz Harrison (8)

Mr Peter Pay (9)

Mr Simon Fairnington (10)

Revd Derrick Sena Dzandu-Hedidor (11)

Dr Jean Silvan-Evans (12)

Miss Myra Rose (13)

General Secretary.

4.6.1 Panel for General Assembly appointments

(Members normally serve for five years as training is required.)

Retiring 2012 Revd Raymond Singh (11), Revd Lesley Charlton (11),

Mrs Sally Abbott (10), Mr Simon Rowntree (6), Dr Jean Silvan Evans (12),

Mr Alun Jones (4)

Retiring 2013 Revd John Durell (1), Revd Roz Harrison (8), Revd John Oldershaw (3),

Revd Deborah McVey (7), Revd Robert Street (9), Mrs Susan Wilkinson (2),

Mrs Carol Dixon (1), Revd John Young (13)

Retiring 2015 Revd Terry Hinks (9), Mr Chris Maple (3), Mr Duncan Smith (5),

Ms Helen Stenson (13)

Retiring 2016 Mrs Joan Turner** (7), Mr Peter Pay** (9), Revd Pauline Barnes** (5),

Revd Alison Termie** (4), Ms Angela Quinn** (13), Mr Phil Knott** (2)

4.7 Pastoral Reference and Welfare Committee

Convener: Revd Sheila Maxey [2015]

Secretary: Deputy General Secretary

Revd Birgit Ewald (7) [2012]
Mrs Irene Wren** (5) [2105]
[ex officio: Honorary Treasurer

Dr Paul Ashitey (10) [2013]
Revd Howard Sharp** (Synod Moderator) [2015]
General Secretary Secretary for Welfare]

4.8 Disciplinary Process - Commission Panel

(Members serve for five years as regular training is required. They may be invited to continue serving beyond this as experience is especially valuable on this panel. Members may not serve beyond the age of 70 for legal reasons.)

Convener: Miss Kathleen Cross [2014]

Deputy Convener: Dr Jim Merrilees* [2014]

Secretary: Mrs Wilma Frew [2012] Secretary elect: Mrs Jane Woods-Scawen** [2017]

Members:

Retiring 2012 Revd Nicholas Adlem (8), Revd Kay Cattell (5),
Revd Kenneth Chippindale (6), Revd Alison Davis (7),
Revd John Du Bois (11), Miss Judith Haughton (2), Ms Elizabeth Lawson QC (10),
Revd Julian Macro (9), Dr Jim Merrilees (13), Revd Colin Offor (1),
Mr Nicholas Pye (3), Revd Raymond Singh (11), Revd Carolyn Smyth (13),
Revd Prof David Thompson (7), Vacancy, Vacancy

Retiring 2013 Revd Pauline Calderwood (4), Revd Bill Bowman (11),
Dr Peter Campbell Smith (11), Mr Roger Tucker (9)

Retiring 2014 Revd Hazel Allen (8), Mr Mick Barnes (7), Revd James Brown (6),
Revd Mary Burgess (8), Miss Kathleen Cross (2), Mrs Mary Cummings (6),
Mr Peter Etwell (1), Revd Christine Fowler (8), Mrs Barbara Groom (8),
Mr Andrew Harvey (8), Revd Naison Hove (10), Mr Peter Jolly (9),
Mrs Barbara Lancaster (2), Mrs Barbara Madge (8), Revd Nicholas Mark (5),
Mrs Pat Poinen (1), Revd Shelagh Pollard (12), Mrs Lynne Upsdell (12),
Ms Elizabeth Whitten (7)

Retiring 2015 Revd Meryl Court (10), Mrs Pat Crozier (3), Dr Fiona Liddell (12),
Mr Colin Macbean (9), Mrs Pamela Sharp (3), Mr Patrick Smyth (13)

Retiring 2016 Mr Geoffrey Milnes† (5), Revd David Pattie† (8), Mr Neil Robinson† (4),
Revd Yvonne Stone† (6)

4.9 Standing Panel for the Incapacity Procedure

(This panel is normally convened by the member with legal experience.)

Secretary: Revd Heather Kent [2012]

Secretary elect: #Revd Ray Adams** [2017]

Revd Bill Mahood (Past Moderator of General Assembly) [2012]

Revd Rowena Francis (Synod Moderator) [2013]

Mr Donald Swift (Legal experience) [2013] Dr Gillian Patterson (GP) [2013]

Commission Officer for the Incapacity Procedure: Dr David Westwood* [2016]

4.10 Criminal Records Bureau (Churches' Agency for Safeguarding) Advisory Group

Revd Paul Whittle** (Synod Moderator) Ms Liz Crocker (Child Care Specialist)

Mrs Wilma Frew (Magistrate)

Youth Work Development Officer

Children's Work Development Officer

Deputy General Secretary

4.11 United Reformed Church Trust

(Members normally serve for six years. The directors of the Trust appoint new directors from those appointed as members. The members of the Trust elect the chair from among their own number and appoint a secretary and deputy secretary.)

Chair: Mr Alan Small

Secretary: Ms Sandi Hallam-Jones

Deputy Secretary: Mr Tony Bayley

Members:

Group 1

Group 2

5 REPRESENTATIVES TO MEETINGS OF SISTER CHURCHES

5.1	Presbyterian Church in Ireland	Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe [2012] Revd Rachel Poolman [2012]
5.2	General Synod of Church of England	Revd Graham Maskery [2013]
5.3	Methodist Conference	Secretary for Ecumenical Relations
5.4	Congregational Federation	Secretary for Ecumenical Relations
5.5	General Assembly of Church of Scotland [note 7]	Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe [2012] Revd Rachel Poolman [2012] Revd Mitchell Bunting [2012]
5.6	United Free Church of Scotland [note 7]	Revd John Humphreys
5.7	Scottish Assembly of the Congregational Federation [note 7]	Revd John Humphreys
5.8	Scottish Episcopal Church [note 7]	Revd Mitchell Bunting
5.9	Methodist Church in Scotland [note 7]	Revd J Ross McLaren
5.10	Baptist Union of Scotland [note 7]	Revd John Humphreys
5.11	Presbyterian Church of Wales [note 7]	Revd Peter Noble/Vacancy
5.12	Union of Welsh Independents [note 7]	Revd Peter Noble/Vacancy
5.13	Church in Wales Governing Board [note 7]	Revd Peter Noble/Vacancy
5.14	Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church	To be decided

6 REPRESENTATIVES ON ECUMENICAL CHURCH BODIES

The following have been nominated as URC representatives at the major gatherings of the Ecumenical Bodies listed.

6.1 Council for World Mission (CWM) From Assembly 2008-2011

Revd Dr John Parry, Ms Patricia Akoli, Revd John Sanderson, Secretary for World Church Relations

6.1.1 CWM European Region Meeting 2008-2011

Revd Dr John Parry, Ms Patricia Akoli, Revd John Sanderson, Secretary for World Church Relations, Secretary for Mission

6.2 World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC) General Council

Revd Dr Sarah Hall, Ms Emma Pugh, Revd Dr David Pickering, Secretary for World Church Relations, General Secretary

6.3 World Council of Churches (WCC) Central Committee

Represented indirectly

6.4 WCC Faith and Order Commission

Represented indirectly

6.5 Conference of European Churches Assembly

Secretary for Ecumenical Relations

6.6 The Disciples Ecumenical Consultative Council

Revd Rowena Francis, Rev Prof David Thompson, Secretary for World Church Relations

6.7 Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) Church Leaders' Meeting

General Secretary

6.7.1 CTBI Senior Representatives' Forum

General Secretary, Secretary for Ecumenical Relations

6.7.2 CTBI Environmental Issues Network

Revd David Coaker, Revd Dr David Pickering

6.7.3 CTBI Church and Public Issues Network

Mr Simon Loveitt, Secretary for Church and Society

6.7.4 CTBI Churches' Criminal Justice Forum

Mrs Wilma Frew

6.7.5 CTBI Stewardship Network

Mrs Faith Paulding

6.7.6 CTBI Churches' International Students' Network

Ms Eleri Evans [2014]

6.7.7 CTBI Consultative Group on Ministry amongst Children (CGMC)

Mrs Karen Bulley, Ms Jo Williams

6.7.8 CTBI Inter-Religious Network

Secretary for Ecumenical Relations

6.7.9 CTBI Racial Justice Network

Secretary for Racial Justice and Multicultural Ministry

6.7.10 CTBI Churches' Network for Mission

Secretary for Mission

6.7.11 CTBI China Forum

Revd Dr Walter Houston

6.8 Churches Together in England (CTE) - from Forum 2009-2012

Mrs Val Morrison, Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe, Revd Bernie Collins, Revd Ian Smith, Revd Stephen Wilkins, General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary, Secretary for Ministries, Secretary for Mission, Secretary for Racial Justice and Multicultural Ministry, Secretary for Ecumenical Relations

6.8.1 CTE - Enabling Group

Secretary for Ecumenical Relations

6.8.2 CTE - Coordinating Group for Local Unity

Revd Terry Oakley, Secretary for Ecumenical Relations

6.8.3 CTE - Churches Together for Healing

Revd Deborah McVey, Revd Vivien Henderson [2014]

6.8.4 CTE – Churches' Joint Education Policy Committee

Mr Graham Handscomb

6.8.5 CTE Churches' Theology and Unity Group

Secretary for Ecumenical Relations

6.8.6 CTE – Group for Evangelisation

Secretary for Mission

6.8.7 CTE – Spirituality Coordinating Group

Revd Sue Henderson

6.8.8 CTE – Churches’ Rural Group

Revd David Herbert

6.8.9 CTE – Minority Ethnic Affairs Group

Revd John Danso, Secretary for Racial Justice and Multicultural Ministry

6.8.10 CTE Youth Work Matters Group

Secretary for Youth Work

6.9 Action of Churches Together in Scotland (ACTS) Members Meeting [see note 7]

Revd John Humphreys, Revd Mitchell Bunting/Revd Sue Kirkbride

6.10 National Sponsoring Body for Scotland [see note 7]

Revd John Humphreys, Revd Mitchell Bunting

6.11 Churches Together in Wales (CYTUN) [see note 7]

Revd Peter Noble/Vacancy

6.12 Commission of Covenanted Churches [see note 7]

Revd Peter Noble/ Vacancy

6.13 Joint Liturgical Group

Secretary for Mission

6.14 Free Church Education Committee

Mr Graham Handscomb, Mrs Gillian Kingston

6.15 Faiths and Beliefs in Further Education

Revd Clare Davison [2012]

6.16 European Churches’ Environmental Network

Revd David Coaker

6.17 Churches’ Refugee Network

Mr Geoff Duncan, Revd Fleur Houston

6.18 Churches’ Committee on Funerals and Crematoria

Revd Sally Thomas, Revd Kate Hackett [2014]

6.19 Churches’ Agency for Safeguarding

Secretary for Youth Work

6.20 Churches’ Forum for Safeguarding

Secretary for Youth Work

6.21 Churches’ Network for Non-Violence

Secretary for Youth Work

6.22 Fresh Expressions

(Still under discussion)

7 REPRESENTATIVES ON FORMAL BI-LATERAL AND MULTI-LATERAL COMMITTEES

7.1 Methodist/United Reformed Church Liaison Committee

Co-Convener: Revd Terry Oakley (Synod Moderator)
Revd Kay Alberg, Miss Emma Pugh, Vacancy, Vacancy, Revd Peter Rand (co-opted)
Secretary for Ecumenical Relations

7.2 Roman Catholic – United Reformed Church Bilateral Dialogue in England and Wales

Revd Prof David Thompson, Revd Dr John Bradbury, Revd Dr Sarah Hall, Mrs Ann Shillaker, Mr Malcolm Townsend
Staff Secretary responsible to be decided.

7.3 Church of England – United Reformed Church Bilateral Dialogue ("God's Reign and our Unity")

Revd Elizabeth Welch, Revd Dr David Peel
Deputy General Secretary

7.4 Partnership Conversations of the Scottish Episcopal Church, the Methodist Church and the National Synod of the United Reformed Church

Revd John Humphreys, Revd Mary Buchanan, Revd John Young

8 URC REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BODIES OF THEOLOGICAL COLLEGES, ETC

8.1 Northern College

Revd David Jenkins [2013] Mr Steve Wood [2013]
Miss Margaret Atkinson† [2015] Revd Dr Robert Pope† [2015]
Mr Mark Williams** [2015]
Secretary for Education and Learning

8.1.1 Luther King House Educational Trust

Secretary for Education and Learning

8.2 Westminster College: Board of Governors

Convener: Professor Sir Anthony Bottoms [2014]
Clerk: Revd Cecil White [2012] Honorary College Treasurer: Mr Anthony Williams [2016]
Members: Dr Jean Stevenson [2013] Revd Craig Muir [2015]
Revd Nigel Appleton [2015] Mr Brian Long MBE [2016]
Revd Kristin Ofstad [2016]
Secretary for Education and Learning
(together with other Governors appointed by other bodies)

8.2.1 Cheshunt Foundation

Mr Guy Morfett [2013] Revd Craig Muir† [2014]

8.2.2 Cambridge Theological Federation

Convener, Westminster College Governors

8.3 The Queen's Foundation

Revd Roy Lowes Mr Simon Rowntree
[In attendance: Secretary for Education and Learning]

9 GOVERNORS OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS WITH WHICH THE URC IS ASSOCIATED

9.1 Caterham School Revd Nicola Furley-Smith** [2015]

9.2 Eltham College Revd Terry Sparks† [2015]

9.3 Walthamstow Hall Mrs Isabel Heald† [2015]

9.4 Milton Mount Foundation

Ms Hilary Miles [2013] Revd David Cuckson [2013] Vacancy [2014]
Vacancy [2014] Vacancy [2014]

9.5 Silcoates School

Dr Peter Clarke [2013] Dr Moira Gallagher [2013] Revd Dr Janet Lees [2013]
Revd Steven Knapton [2014] Vacancy [2015] Vacancy [2015]

9.6 Taunton School

Revd David Grosch-Miller (Moderator, South Western Synod)

9.7 Bishops Stortford College

Mr Anthony Trigg† [2015]

10 MISCELLANEOUS

The URC is represented on a variety of other national organisations and committees as follows:

10.1 Arthur Rank Centre

Revd Elizabeth Caswell* [2013]

10.2 Churches Legislation Advisory Service

Mrs Sheila Duncan/General Secretary/Deputy General Secretary

10.3 Congregational Fund Board

Revd Margaret Taylor [2012] Revd Eric Allen [2012] Mrs Jackie Haws [2013]
Mr Anthony Bayley† [2014] Revd Geoffrey Roper† [2014]

10.4 Congregational Memorial Hall Trust

Dr John Thompson [2012] Dr Brian Woodhall [2012]
Revd Derek Wales [2013] Mrs Margaret Thompson [2014]
Mr Hartley Oldham [2015] Mr Graham Stacy [2015]

10.5 Discipleship and Witness Board of Trustees

Mrs Patricia Hubbard [from before 1999]

10.5.1 Publications Development Group

Ms Jo Williams [from 2008]

10.6 English Heritage's Places of Worship Forum

Convener of the Listed Buildings Advisory Group

10.7 Lord Wharton's Charity

Dr John Thompson [2013]

10.8 Methodist Faith and Order Committee

Revd Anne Sardeson [2014]

10.9 Retired Ministers' and Widows' Fund

Mr Ken Meekison [from before 1999] Mrs Jill Strong [from 1999]
Revd Julian Macro [from 2004]

10.10 Samuel Robinson's Charities

Mr Tony Alderman [from 2004]

10.11 Scout Association – URC Faith Adviser

Revd David Marshall-Jones

10.12 United Reformed Church History Society Council

Revd Michael Hopkins [2012] Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe [2013] Revd Prof David Thompson [2014]
Revd Fleur Houston [2014] Dr David Robinson† [2015]

10.13 United Reformed Church Guide and Scout Active Support Unit

Revd David Marshall-Jones

10.14 Westhill Endowment Fund

Mr Howard Bridge, Revd Dr Stephen Orchard, Revd Elizabeth Welch (co-opted)