

Minutes of the Meeting of the Mission Council at the High Leigh Conference Centre

13 - 15 May 2013

Monday, May 13th 2013

SESSION 1

The Moderator, the Revd Dr Michael Jagessar, called Mission Council to order. The Revd Melanie Smith, chaplain, led opening worship.

Welcomes

The Moderator welcomed new members and continuing members and also a number of visitors who would be present at points during the business.

Mr Matthew Barkley	FURY Moderator Elect
Mrs Joan Colwell	Mersey Synod
Revd Tim Meadows	Mersey Synod
Mr Simon Peters	FURY
Dr Stephen Tomkins	Reform Editor
Revd Nigel Uden	Chaplain to Mr John Ellis – GA Moderator (Elect)
Miss Rebecca Whiffen	FURY Moderator
Miss Sheena Young	alternate for Connie Bonner

Apologies for Absence

Revd Connie Bonner	Synod of Scotland
Revd Ruth Gee	Methodist Observer
Mrs Sarah Lane Cawte	South Western Synod
Mr Lawrence Moore	Director of Windermere Centre
Revd Jane Rowell	Secretary for World Church Relations
Mr Steve Summers,	CRCW Development Worker
Revd Kevin Watson	Yorkshire Synod

The Revd Richard Mortimer, Deputy General Secretary, gave notices pertaining to the Conference Centre.

He offered particular thanks to Becky Harrington who was deputising for Krystyna Pullen who was ill.

Communications Protocol

The Deputy General Secretary read the Communications Protocol:

“The United Reformed Church thrives when its people feel involved in what is going on, participate robustly in our discernment and decision making, and share a sense of ownership of the directions we travel together. Good communication is vital to this. It is the responsibility of the communications department to keep people up to date with United Reformed Church news via social media (specifically facebook and twitter), the URC website and news releases distributed to appropriate publications.”

The communications team, working in the hall during all open sessions of Mission Council and General Assembly, will follow the debates and discussions and report on the decisions made. Major newsworthy decisions will be communicated by them as soon as possible. Particularly complicated or sensitive issues are not reported without checking the accuracy and wording with one of the Mission Council/Assembly officers. It is essential that all others present refrain from circulating information from, or opinions about, Mission Council/General Assembly on social networking sites, or by any other means which have potential for widespread dissemination, until reports have been communicated by the communications team.

Protocol

Although Mission Council meetings and General Assembly take place in wi-fi enabled rooms and many attending will have access to social media sites during business sessions, their primary responsibility is to attend to the business and participate in the decision making. They must refrain from posting on social media sites during business sessions. This restriction is only in place when Mission Council / General Assembly are in session; those attending are free to join in the online debates during breaks and after the close of business.

Those using social media at any time should note that everything written and shared on social media sites is the responsibility of the author and subject to the same libel laws as any other form of written communication.”

The Moderator re-iterated his welcome, especially to those new to Mission Council, and encouraged their participation in the business. He advised on the smooth running of Mission Council and reminded all presenters of business to avoid acronyms which all may not understand. The “Towards Living Conversations” principles were commended:

- *I will listen carefully before responding, checking out what I am hearing.*
- *I will express myself with courtesy, and respect to every sister/brother who participates in these conversations, especially toward those with whom I disagree.*
- *I will express my disagreements and critical engagement with others without insulting, making fun of or slandering anyone personally.*
- *I will not exaggerate others’ convictions or perspectives, nor make unfounded prejudicial assumptions based on labels, categories, or stereotypes.*
- *I will always work towards extending the benefit of the doubt in the spirit of generosity.*
- *I will allow myself and others to change as a result of our conversations.*
- *We will hold each other accountable for keeping to the above principles, based not on what ideas are expressed but on how they’re expressed.*
- *I will honour my own discomfort at things said or done in our conversations.*

The Revd Roberta Rominger, General Secretary, outlined the business for the meeting noting that much time would be given to thinking and questioning as to where God was leading the United Reformed Church.

The Deputy General Secretary invited members to collect further papers and spoke of a letter in the possession of the Treasurer regarding the pension fund, available for those who wished to read it.

13/01 Minutes

The Moderator presented the Minutes of the joint meeting with the Methodist Council held at the Ramada Hotel Sutton Coldfield 17-19 October 2012.

Two amendments were noted:

On page 1 the Reference to “Churches Together in Britain and Ireland” should read “Churches Together in England”.

In 12/35 the paragraph before the final form of the resolution should read: “Following information that it would probably not be possible to complete the work necessary before producing the report requested in clause 3 before May 2013, it was agreed that this be changed by replacing the words “by May 2013” with “when appropriate”.

The minutes were then accepted as a correct record.

13/02 Matters Arising

12/29 General Assembly Resolution 38 Commission. The Clerk proposed that the Revd Sheila Maxey, former Moderator, be invited to chair Session 3. **Mission Council agreed.**

13/03 General Secretary Review Group

The Clerk presented Paper J1 and moved the Resolution:

Mission Council appoints Shelagh Pollard and George Faris to serve as tellers for the election of committee conveners to serve on the General Secretary Review Group.

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

The Clerk asked members to place their voting papers in the appropriate box by the end of Session 5 on Tuesday. ([Continued in Session 9.](#))

13/04 Faith and Order Committee

The Moderator led prayer and then invited the Convener of the Committee, the Revd Elizabeth Welch, to speak to Papers A and A1. Ms Welch introduced the issues and said that the committee planned to discuss them further when it met in July. Having led prayer Ms Welch asked Mission Council members to form into groups to discuss the five scenarios offered and to share their wisdom and discernment about the leading of the Spirit in the United Reformed Church. Mission Council discussed in groups as requested. ([Continued in Session 2.](#))

SESSION 2

13/04 (Continued from Session 1)

Faith and Order Committee

Group discussion continued. ([Continued in Session 4.](#))

Mrs Val Morrison took the chair.

13/05

Human Resources Advisory Group (HRAG)

The Convener, the Revd Rowena Francis, introduced Paper B. She paid tribute to Ruth Lovelace and Helen Bird, at the Human Resources office in Church House, for their considerable commitment of time given to the work.

Mrs Francis reported that the Safeguarding Officer had been appointed and would begin work on July 1st 2013. She noted that a number of the Mission Team members' terms of service were being extended to August 31st 2015. The posts would be reviewed during 2014 if the proposals contained in Paper B1 were accepted. It was regrettable that this was unsettling for the staff concerned.

If the proposals were adopted, the HRAG would propose that the decision to appoint a Human Resources Manager (see 12/33) should be rescinded. Mrs Francis reported that a temporary, part-time post was being negotiated with Mrs Sandi Hallam-Jones. This would last for a few months until a permanent post was agreed.

Mrs Francis proposed:

Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, extends the appointment of the Revd Craig Bowman as Secretary for Ministries until August 31st 2015.

The resolution was passed by consensus.

Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, extends the appointment of the Revd Jane Rowell as Secretary for World Church Relations until August 31st 2015.

The resolution was passed by consensus.

Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, extends the appointment of the Revd David Tatem as Secretary for Ecumenical Relations until August 31st 2015.

The resolution was passed by consensus.

Mrs Francis reported that given concern over the work-load of the General Secretary following the departure of the Revd Richard Mortimer and in the absence of a senior Human Resources officer, the HRAG was recommending that the Revd David Grosch-Miller be appointed to serve as Interim Assistant General Secretary. She assured Mission Council that careful consideration had been given to the impact of this on Mr Grosch-Miller at the same time as he was Moderator-Elect.

Mrs Francis proposed:

Mission Council agrees to the appointment of the Revd David Grosch-Miller as Interim Assistant General Secretary for a short term period from July 1st 2013, to end at the latest by June 30th 2014.

There was some discussion about the use of the word "interim" in the job title but the majority present believed it should remain.

The resolution was passed by consensus.

Mrs Francis presented Paper B1. She said that through the training and development of line-managers it was hoped that consistency could be achieved throughout Church House. Mrs Francis responded to questions, noting that in a number of areas more work was needed.

Thanks were offered to staff and Committee Conveners for the time they had given to the HRAG in preparation of the paper.

Any suggestions for the new job titles would be welcomed. ([Continued in Session 5.](#))

SESSION 3

This session was chaired by the Revd Sheila Maxey, former Moderator.

13/06

General Assembly Resolution 38 Commission

The Moderator introduced the members of the Resolution 38 Commission who were present for that session only: Mrs Claudette Binns, the Revd David Dadswell and the Revd Dr David Peel. Mission Council was asked to listen humbly and with compassion as the report (Paper C) was presented. Dr Peel briefly introduced the report and thanked the Conveners of the Pastoral Reference and Welfare Committee and the Law and Polity Advisory Group and the Clerk for their support as the final report was assembled. Dr Peel read the report verbatim.

The chaplain, the Revd Melanie Smith, led Mission Council in prayer.

No comments were made or questions asked and Mission Council accepted the report.

The Revd Professor David Thompson proposed and the Revd Elizabeth Welch seconded the resolution:

Mission Council authorises the Commission appointed under Resolution 38 of General Assembly 2012 to investigate the truth of suggestions that pressure might have been brought to bear on persons not to be witnesses at the disciplinary hearing concerned; if it is then satisfied that there are grounds for such suggestions, to discuss them with the persons concerned, and the Chair of the Disciplinary Panel; to decide on any appropriate action and to report the outcome to Mission Council.

In response to a question Professor Thompson confirmed that in the event of a need for further discipline a new disciplinary panel would be appointed.

The resolution was passed by consensus.

The Revd Sheila Maxey thanked the members of the Commission.

The chaplain, the Revd Dr James Coleman, led closing worship.

Tuesday, May 14th 2013

SESSION 4

Opening Prayers were led by the chaplain, the Revd Dr James Coleman.
The Revd Dr Michael Jagessar took the chair.

13/04 (Continued from Session 2) Faith and Order Committee

The Revd Elizabeth Welch gave a brief resume of the threads emerging from the previous day's discussions. She offered four questions to enable further group discussion:

1. What is the purpose of the Church?
2. What are the distinctive characteristics of the Church held in the URC?
3. What aspects of these characteristics would we like to see more work done on?
4. How do we open this conversation up across the whole Church?

[\(Continued later in Session 4.\)](#)

13/07 Medium Term Strategy Group

The General Secretary introduced the members of the Strategy Group: Mr John Ellis, the Revd Dr Romilly Micklem and Mrs Linda Austin, and then spoke to Paper D1.

Mrs Rominger invited discussion on the following questions alongside those offered for continuing discussion initiated by the Faith and Order Committee:

1. Are there any major additions you would wish to make to the summary of the current reality in paragraph 5 of Paper D1?
2. If you were forced to choose only one of the four scenarios as the basis for our future pattern, which one of the four would it be?
3. What are the three most important amendments you would want to make to the scenario you chose in question 2 to improve it?

13/04 and 13/07 Faith and Order Committee and Medium Term Strategy Group

Mission Council moved into groups to discuss the two sets of questions together.
[\(13/04 and 13/07 Continued in Session 9.\)](#)

SESSION 5

Mrs Val Morrison took the chair.

The Revd Richard Mortimer asked for prayers for the Revd Jane Rowell, who was expected to undergo surgery later that day. The Revd Dr James Coleman also included others for whom prayers had been requested.

The following statement was read by the Revd Professor David Thompson in his capacity as chairman of the URC Trust:

“At the meeting of the United Reformed Church Trust on 7 May, we received and formally approved the Trustees Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2012; we also received a preliminary overview of the budget process for 2014 and beyond. Under another item on the agenda, the General Secretary reported her concern that it was not possible to achieve significant further reductions in the infrastructure part of the central budget of the Church without also considering once again more intentional ecumenical co-operation concerning the Church’s offices.

The location of the Church’s offices is not a new question. It was considered very carefully by the Joint Committee before the formation of the Church in 1972. The point has been regularly raised through the years by members of Mission Council, General Assembly and the wider Church. In response to this, a feasibility study on sharing premises with the Methodist Church was undertaken in 2006, and still lies on the table. The Baptist Union moved its offices out of central London altogether some fifteen years ago, but more recently has found itself with surplus space on its hands, and their General Secretary has suggested to Roberta that we might like to join them in Didcot. Other churches and inter-church organizations are facing similar questions at this time.

The United Reformed Church Trust, as the trustee of Church House, has a duty to advise the wider Church on what is possible and what is not; but it is for the Church, through its General Assembly, to decide on the location of its offices. Decisions on such matters are not simple; and, because they are usually irreversible, all their possible implications need to be considered with great care. These range from the practical and pastoral implications for members of Church House staff to the need to ensure that the location of the Church’s offices does justice to the fact that the United Reformed Church is a Church in three nations. Furthermore the location of any offices needs to enhance rather than hinder the Church’s potential for mission: it should never be a self-serving statement about the Church’s presence in a particular place. Finally, it is in no-one’s interest that such matters as this should be considered in complete secrecy – even if this were attainable in a Church of our size.

The Trust has formed no view on any particular location; but it has decided to re-examine the various possibilities as well as the more general implications, so that it would be in a position to advise the Church on the matter at the appropriate time. Specific comments or suggestions from members of Mission Council will be welcome, and should be sent in writing to the Secretary of the Trust, Sandi Hallam-Jones.”

The Moderator explained that the Medium Strategy Group would return on the following day to report on the outcomes of the discussion.

Dr Jagessar drew attention to the Moderators' blog on the website.

13/05 (Continued from Session 2) Human Resources Advisory Group

The Revd Rowena Francis introduced the subject with continued reference to Paper B1. In response to a question concerning some management issues which

had been noted in the report of the Resolution 38 Commission (Paper C) Mrs Francis said that the HRAG would liaise with Dr David Peel in order to ensure that the issues raised would be taken into account. On the matters contained in Paper B1 Mrs Francis acknowledged that there was clearly a need for further work, but considered that that did not prevent Mission Council taking the decisions required to move on at that stage. She also said that if the resolutions were passed there would be wide consultation concerning the job descriptions.

Mrs Francis proposed:

Mission Council resolves to:-

- 1) Establish a General Secretariat Team, convened by the General Secretary, consisting of the General Secretary, Head of Ministries, Head of Mission and Head of Resources with responsibility to:
 - a. Develop, maintain and evaluate good management of Church House,
 - b. Ensure the effective accomplishment of the three Church House roles of
 - i. providing a secretariat for the General Assembly and Mission Council and those who need representatively to 'embody' the Church,
 - ii. the provision of service functions where a demonstrable demand or specific requirement is discerned, and
 - iii. maintaining good communication networks within the Church and between the Church and wider society.
 - c. Ensure the implementation of decisions of General Assembly and Mission Council.
- 2) Establish three strands of work - Ministries, Mission and Resources - that are managed internally and consist of:
 - a. a Ministries of the Church strand with a staff post of Head of Ministries,
 - b. a Mission strand with a staff post of Head of Mission,
 - c. a Resources strand with a staff post of Head of Resources who will also be responsible for the provision of the Human Resource service in Church House and for the Church.
- 3) Instruct HRAG
 - a. to enable and facilitate the implementation of parts 1 and 2.
 - b. to include a revision of the job description of the General Secretary and the development of job descriptions and person specifications for the three 'Head of...' posts.
 - c. to work with the Mission Team to identify the way forward in the further development of the Mission Team with a leader and appropriate internal management processes. This to be within current Mission Team staffing levels and for report at the November 2013 meeting of Mission Council.

Following the addition of the words "titles provisional" in the appropriate places, the resolution was proposed in the following amended form:

Mission Council resolves to:-

- 1) Establish a General Secretariat Team, convened by the General Secretary, consisting of the General Secretary, Head of Ministries, Head**

of Mission and Head of Resources (titles provisional) with responsibility to:

- a. **Develop, maintain and evaluate good management of Church House,**
 - b. **Ensure the effective accomplishment of the three Church House roles of**
 - i. **providing a secretariat for the General Assembly and Mission Council and those who need representatively to 'embody' the Church,**
 - ii. **the provision of service functions where a demonstrable demand or specific requirement is discerned, and**
 - iii. **maintaining good communication networks within the Church and between the Church and wider society.**
 - c. **Ensure the implementation of decisions of General Assembly and Mission Council.**
- 2) Establish three strands of work - Ministries, Mission and Resources - that are managed internally and consist of:**
- a. **a Ministries of the Church strand with a staff post of Head of Ministries (title provisional),**
 - b. **a Mission strand with a staff post of Head of Mission (title provisional),**
 - c. **a Resources strand with a staff post of Head of Resources (title provisional) who will also be responsible for the provision of the Human Resource service in Church House and for the Church.**
- 3) Instruct HRAG**
- a. **to enable and facilitate the implementation of parts 1 and 2.**
 - b. **to include a revision of the job description of the General Secretary and the development of job descriptions and person specifications for the three 'Head of...' posts.**
 - c. **to work with the Mission Team to identify the way forward in the further development of the Mission Team with a leader and appropriate internal management processes. This to be within current Mission Team staffing levels and for report at the November 2013 meeting of Mission Council.**

The resolution was passed by consensus.

Mrs Francis proposed:

Mission Council resolves to rescind its resolution of October 2012 agreeing the appointment of a Human Resources Manager.

In accordance with Standing Order 4e iv) the Clerk reported that she, together with the General Secretary and Moderator, had agreed that given the changed circumstances this resolution was in order.

The resolution was passed by agreement.

A facilitation group with the assistance of the Revd Elizabeth Nash and the Revd Mary Thomas would meet and bring back suggestions for the titles of the posts in question in the resolution. ([Continued in Session 7.](#))

13/08

Listed Buildings Advisory Group

This business was remaindered. ([See Session 7.](#))

13/09

Mission Committee

The Revd Tracey Lewis, Convener, presented Paper F.

She and the committee were concerned by the need for growth “from the roots in our churches”: evangelism, by whatever word. The committee wished to initiate conversations across the church on the subject of evangelism.

The process of consultation had begun and a grant proposal for CWM Mission Support funding would be prepared taking the consultation results into account.

Buzz groups discussed the following questions:

- 1 How would you define “evangelism”?
- 2 Do you agree that evangelism should be a focus for the URC within the 2020 framework?

Definitions were requested in writing to Francis Brienen by 12 June 2013, as were any further comments or suggestions and replies to the Consultation questions contained in Paper F.

Ms Lewis drew attention to the JPIT publication: “The lies we tell ourselves”

SESSION 6

The Revd Dr Michael Jagessar took the chair.

13/10

Youth and Children’s Work Committee

The Revd Robert Weston, Convener, presented Paper G and proposed:

Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, resolves that the Youth and Children’s Work Committee shall be known as the Children and Youth Work Committee, with immediate effect.

The resolution was passed by consensus.

N.B. After the meeting the Committee noted that the correct title should be “Children’s and Youth Work Committee”.

Mr Weston spoke to Paper G1 - Children & Youth Work Development Officers (CYDOs) Employment status. The paper contained the following resolution:

“Mission Council resolves that the employment status of Children and Youth Development Officers be situated at General Assembly level, and asks the Human Resources office to take advice and bring this into being.”

A number of questions were asked for clarification and Mr Weston responded. Mr Andrew Middleton, Legal Adviser, clarified the most recent advice given and the Revd Professor David Thompson explained that a request for voluntary redundancy had brought the issue to the forefront. A number of synods had already withdrawn from the programme.

The Revd Clare Downing and the Revd Mary Thomas proposed an alternative way forward which was worded as a resolution:

“Mission Council:

A. gives thanks for the valuable past and on-going work of the Children and Youth Development Officers, but accepts that this has now ceased to be an Assembly programme;

B. resolves that the employment status of Children and Youth Development Officers be situated at Synod level, and asks the Human Resources office to take advice and bring this into being;

C. strongly urges all Synods to offer up to 25% of the time of their CYDOs or other person(s);

D. instructs the Youth & Children's Work Committee to form a network of all CYDOs and other people with a brief for children's and youth work at Synod level, with at least one person from each Synod invited, in the manner of the Mission Enablers' and Training Officers' networks.”

There was considerable discussion during which the point was made that the employment status, funding and management of the CYDOs should all be held together.

Concern was expressed that synods had not been appropriately consulted on the matter.

It was clear that a majority of members of Mission Council would favour the contracts being at synod level. A facilitation group would meet to try to find wording which would reflect the majority view. ([Continued in Session 9.](#))

Mrs Val Morrison took the chair.

13/11

Education and Learning Committee

Proposals on reshaping Student Finances.

The Revd John Smith, Convener, introduced Papers H - H3. He thanked all those who had contributed to the preparation of the papers now before Mission Council for discussion. He said that the resolutions may be reshaped in the light of feedback from Mission Council discussion.

The Revd Fiona Thomas, Secretary for Education and Learning, spoke of future financial constraints upon the committee and the need to diversify funding in future years. She introduced the draft resolutions which were contained in Paper H and emphasised that any change would be introduced gradually, with the provision of transitional funding.

The Principals of Northern College and Westminster College gave their perspectives on the proposals in the light of their experience of working with EM1 students. They feared that candidates may be put off applying for ministry if means testing was in operation. They believed that if too many students undertook part time study it would impact unfavourably upon their education.

Mission Council discussed the topic in small groups and views and suggestions were shared in the plenary session which followed.

The two College Principals stated their belief that the Boards of Governors could delay any changes for one more year, and the Convener undertook to return with another form of wording for the resolutions at a later date. The discussion could then continue as part of that concerning "The Learning Church: The Next Chapter."

SESSION 7

Mrs Val Morrison took the chair.

13/12

Items from the Clerk

1. Ratification of Resolution 15 of General Assembly 2012

The Clerk presented Paper J, reported that no synod had passed a motion that the matter be not proceeded with and therefore proposed:

Mission Council resolves to ratify Resolution 15 of General Assembly 2012 thus making the following changes to the Structure of the United Reformed Church...: (The complete text is at [Appendix 1.](#))

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

2. Ministerial Disciplinary Process

The clerk referred to Paper J2 and proposed:

Mission Council, acting in the name of General Assembly and on the advice of the MIND Advisory Group, agrees to make the following changes to the Disciplinary Process: (The complete text is at [Appendix 2.](#))

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

3. Improving our General Assembly: Proposal to amend the Standing Orders

In Paper J3 the Assembly Arrangements Committee offered a change in Standing Orders which it was hoped would facilitate business and make better use of time at General Assembly and Mission Council.

Mr John Ellis introduced the proposal to put the resolutions before the Assembly into one of three groups. The Clerk explained the other proposed changes and then proposed:

In order to assist the Assembly to conduct its business in an efficient and effective manner, Mission Council, in accordance with Standing Order 13b., resolves to amend the Standing Orders by accepting the changes in red, green, turquoise and blue type shown in the draft Standing Orders contained within Paper J3, thus creating the Standing Orders which shall be in force for the 2014 meeting of the General Assembly.

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

The Clerk further proposed:

Mission Council agrees that the Standing Orders in use for the November 2013 and March 2014 meetings of Mission Council shall be those from the 2012 Assembly amended by the changes shown in red type in the draft contained within Paper J3.

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

4. Membership of General Assembly

Referring to Paper J4 the Clerk proposed:

Mission Council, acting on behalf of the General Assembly, resolves that there shall be six members in each of the categories of membership of General Assembly 2(6)(g) and 2(6)(l).

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

5. The Composition of the Board of Governors at Westminster College

Referring to Paper J5 the Clerk proposed:

Mission Council, acting on behalf of the General Assembly, resolves to amend clause 2.2.2.1 of the provisions for the Governors of Westminster College to read:

2.2.2.1 There shall be a Board of Governors of the College appointed by the General Assembly, consisting of sixteen members as follows:

- (a) a Convener, chosen for that purpose;**
- (b) a clerk or secretary to the Board, chosen for the purpose;**
- (c) nine other persons, of whom at least two shall have expertise in management, finance and the administration of buildings, two shall have expertise in education, and two shall have ministerial experience;**
- (d) the Principal of the college ex officio;**
- (e) a member of the teaching staff of the College, chosen by them;**
- (f) a student member of the College, chosen by the students;**
- (g) the Chair of the Cheshunt Governors ex officio;**
- (h) an Honorary Treasurer.**

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

The Revd Dr Michael Jagessar took the chair.

13/13

Items from the Treasurer

Mr John Ellis, Treasurer, spoke to Paper K. He proposed:

Mission Council notes the Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2012.

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

Mr Ellis further proposed:

Mission Council gives thanks to God for the progress of the Westminster College Development Appeal and congratulates all those within and beyond the College whose generosity and hard work have made this possible.

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

Mr Ellis spoke to Papers K1 and K2 and proposed:

Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, agrees to amend the Plan for Partnership paragraphs 6.1.3, 6.1.6, 6.1.6.1, 6.3.2.2 and remove references to “basic stipend” as described in Paper K2.

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

Mr Ellis spoke to Paper K3 and proposed:

In accordance with the principles for ethical investment agreed by the General Assembly, Mission Council agrees to add to the Recommended Mandate for Investors a new clause 1(c) as follows:

“(c) Companies who benefit by offering credit at usurious rates of interest to those who do not have access to funds through normal lending channels.”

Mr Ellis replied to questions.

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

Mr Ellis reported upon action taken following a media report about the ethics of Aon Hewitt, pension fund actuaries.

Mr Ellis introduced Paper K4, and explained that changes in pension legislation necessitated some amendments to the Ministers' Pension Fund Rules.

Mr Ellis proposed:

Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, agrees that a Deed of Amendment to the Rules of the Ministers' Pension Fund (in materially the form attached to this paper) should be approved and signed on behalf of the United Reformed Church by the Moderator and Clerk of the Assembly.

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

Mr Ellis further proposed:

Mission Council notes that dependent children additions to members' pensions hitherto paid from the Ministers' Pension Fund will in future be provided from the Retired Ministers Fund.

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

Mr Ellis referred to the “Giving Survey” undertaken in 2012 and outlined some of its initial findings. The poorest in our church had been found to be giving the largest proportion of their income.

The Moderator thanked Mr Ellis and the Finance Committee for all their work.

13/08 (Continued from Session 5)
Listed Buildings Advisory Group

The Revd Richard Mortimer moved the acceptance of Paper P.
Mission Council received the report.

13/05 (Continued from Session 5)
Human Resources Advisory Group

The Facilitation Group offered a new form of nomenclature for the posts referred to in the HRAG resolution passed in Session 5:

Deputy General Secretary Ministries of the Church

Deputy General Secretary Mission

Deputy General Secretary Administration and Resources

The titles were accepted by Mission Council by agreement.

13/14
Sexual Ethics Advisory Group

The Revd Richard Mortimer explained that Paper N was presented to Mission Council for information as the work of the group had been completed.

13/15
Safeguarding

The General Secretary gave an oral update. She reported that to co-ordinate the work previously undertaken by Ministries and the Children and Youth Work Committees in this field, a small reference group had been set up with staff secretaries of both committees, the General Secretary and Deputy General Secretary.

A new Safeguarding Officer had been appointed, to start work in July, as a shared post with the Baptist Union.

Three Safeguarding documents were in preparation: a legal, technical policy document, a Good Practice document for children and young people (expected to be available in June) and a Good Practice document for adults in need of protection which was still under preparation. Co-operation with the Baptist Union was proving fruitful in this area of work.

Mrs Rominger agreed to take the suggestion of including victims of domestic violence in the adult section back to the reference group.

The General Secretary proposed:

Mission Council agrees that the Safeguarding Reference Group, as set up, should continue its work.

The resolution was passed by consensus.

Proposed terms of reference would be presented to the November meeting of Mission Council.

SESSION 8

Mrs Val Morrison took the chair.

13/16

Nominations Committee

The Revd John Durell, Convener, presented Paper L

Mr Durell proposed:

Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, reappoints the Revd Richard Church to serve as Moderator of the North Western Synod to 31 August 2019.

The resolution was passed by majority vote

Mr Durell further proposed:

Mission Council, acting on behalf of General Assembly, appoints committees and representatives of the Church as set out in Section III of Paper L, subject to the amendments contained in Section 3 of the Supplementary Report at Paper L1.

Mr Durell noted that some further amendments would be made to the list. *(The complete and most up to date list available is included at [Appendix 3.](#))*

Concerning the nomination of the Revd Gethin Rhys as Convener-elect of the Ministries Committee, Mr Durell reported that the possibility of a conflict of interest given Mr Rhys' work with the Unite union had been considered, and that it was believed that this would not be an issue given that Mr Rhys would appoint a deputy if necessary.

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

Mr Durell further proposed:

Mission Council appoints Mr Ian Harrison to serve as a member of the United Reformed Church Trust until General Assembly 2014.

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

Referring to Paper L1 Mr Durell said that the Nominations Committee had expressed concern about the gender imbalance within the United Reformed Church Trust. They had asked the synods to nominate women for the vacant position and had been disappointed that the only nominations received had been of men.

The Convener withdrew the resolution relating to the appointment of the Deputy Treasurer which had been included in Paper L1.

The Convener thanked Ms Sarah Dodds for her work as Secretary of the Committee over the previous four years.

The Moderator thanked all those re-appointed for their work in the past and wished them well as they continued in that work.

13/17

Equal Opportunities Committee.

The Revd Elizabeth Nash, Convener, presented the report at Paper E2. She asked synods to inform her if any of their trustees were from the black/ethnic minority groups and/or were young, so that the picture given in the Paper could be updated.

The Convener proposed:

Mission Council agrees:

1) to address the imbalance of membership of the United Reformed Church Trust and United Reformed Church Ministers' Pension Fund Trust and requests nominating Synods, Nominations Committee, and the Trusts

a) to ensure that as vacancies on the Trust occur, more women than men are nominated until there are equal numbers of women and men;

b) to ensure that an appropriate number of members of minority groups (eg. Young People, Black Minority Ethnic People, Disabled People, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People etc.) be included in those nominations

2) to request Synods to take similar steps towards equality in their own trust bodies.

The Clerk read a statement from the Chairman of the United Reformed Church Trust, expressing support for the spirit of the resolution but explaining some of the complexities in the appointment and composition of the Trust body which rendered balance difficult.

The Convener responded to the statement. There was considerable discussion during which views were expressed concerning the inclusion or otherwise of ex officio members when balance was considered. The meaning of "an appropriate number of members" in clause b) caused concern, and it was finally agreed that the wording should be changed.

The amended resolution was proposed:

Mission Council agrees:

1) to address the imbalance of membership of the United Reformed Church Trust and the United Reformed Church Ministers' Pension Fund Trust and requests nominating Synods, Nominations Committee, and the Trusts

a) to ensure that as vacancies on the Trust occur, more women than men are nominated until there are equal numbers of women and men;

b) to ensure that minority groups (eg. Young People, Black Minority Ethnic People, Disabled People, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People etc.) are appropriately included in those nominations

2) to request Synods to take similar steps towards equality in their own trust bodies.

The resolution was passed by agreement.

The Convener introduced Paper E1: Synod of Scotland and URC Policy in relation to the Equality Act 2010.

Ms Nash commended the paper to Mission Council and asked synods to take note of it with regard to The Equality Act 2010.

Mission Council discussed this briefly in small groups then the Convener said that an updated version would be produced in due course.

The Revd Melanie Smith, chaplain, led closing prayers.

Wednesday, 15 May 2013

SESSION 9

Prayers were led by the Chaplains.

The Revd Dr Michael Jagessar and Mrs Val Morrison shared the chairing of the session.

The Deputy General Secretary made a number of announcements.

13/03 (Continued from Session 1)

General Secretary Review Group

The Clerk announced that as the result of the ballot the following Conveners had been elected to serve on the Review Group for the General Secretary.

Revd Tracey Lewis

Revd John Humphreys

Revd Ruth Whitehead

13/18

Mission Council Advisory Group (MCAG)

The General Secretary presented Paper R on behalf of MCAG.

Mrs Rominger announced that the post of Secretary for Church and Society would be taken up by Dr Andrew Bradstock from the beginning of September.

Mrs Rominger gave an update from the joint meeting of Mission Council and Methodist Council, expressing her regret that there was not more enthusiasm from the Methodist Church for closer working with the United Reformed Church. The Methodist/URC Liaison Group would be considering the issues which consistently arose as difficulties in LEPs. The Strategic Oversight Group would consider terms of reference for bilateral faith and order conversations between the two denominations.

Northern Synod

Following representations by Moderators of the northern synods in England and Scotland suggesting that the appointment of a new Northern Synod Moderator be delayed until on-going discussions between the synods about future methods of co-operation and working together were completed the General Secretary proposed:

Mission Council supports the proposed explorations for closer working relationships between the five northern synods (Mersey, North Western, Yorkshire, Northern and Scotland) and agrees that an interim synod moderator be appointed to serve in Northern Synod.

The resolution was passed by consensus.

Mrs Rominger further proposed:

Mission Council authorises the officers of the Assembly to confirm the appointment of the interim synod moderator and to monitor progress in the explorations of the five synods, reporting to Mission Council.

The resolution was passed by consensus.

New Format for Mission Council Papers

MCAG planned to trial the format used for Methodist Council business for the next meeting of Mission Council. Templates would be available for those who were to present business.

13/10 (Continued from Session 6)

Children and Youth Work Committee.

The facilitation group proposed a revised resolution:

Mission Council:

- a) gives thanks for the valuable past and on-going work of the Children and Youth Development Officers;**
- b) resolves that future appointments of Children and Youth Development Officers be as Synod employees, and asks the Human Resources office to take advice on how to transfer existing Assembly contracts to Synod contracts and bring this into being;**
- c) strongly urges all Synods to covenant to Assembly level work up to 25% of the time of their CYDO(s), or other person(s) chosen and employed by the Synod with a brief for Children's & Youth work at Synod level;**
- d) invites the Children and Youth Work Committee to explore ways of working together across all the Synods.**

Mrs Karen Morrison, Head of Children's & Youth Work Development, said that, should the resolution be passed, efforts would be made to ensure that the 25% of CYDOs' time would be balanced across the synods, and that the expenses related to that 25% would be paid by the Assembly, not the synods.

The Legal Adviser, Mr Andrew Middleton, advised Mission Council that in the interests of good employment practice all communications with current CYDOs should be made by Mrs Karen Morrison representing "the employer" and not by any other person.

Mrs Morrison said a statement was ready for publication straight after Mission Council.

The resolution was passed by consensus.

13/19

MIND Advisory Group- Incapacity Procedure

The Clerk apologised that although by means of the resolution contained in Paper J2 (see minute 13/12) references to "the Deputy General Secretary" had been removed from the Disciplinary Process, similar references remained in the

Incapacity Procedure. Some references to Part I and Part II had also been overlooked.

In order to correct these discrepancies the Clerk proposed:

Mission Council, acting in the name of General Assembly, agrees to make the following changes to the Incapacity Procedure:

A.1.1 Add the following definition at Paragraph A.1.1:

“General Assembly Representative” shall mean the person appointed (whether individually or as the holder of a particular office) to act in the name of General Assembly (or Mission Council on its behalf) in carrying out the responsibilities assigned to that person within this Incapacity Procedure.”

A.8 In Paragraph A.8. Replace the words **“Part II”** with the word **“Procedure”**.

B.1.1 In Paragraph replace the words **“Paragraph 1 of Part I”** with the words **“Paragraph LP.1”**.

Certificate of Suitability for Entry into the Procedure

In the Certificate delete the words **“of Part II”**.

Throughout the Procedure, replace the words **“Deputy General Secretary”** with the words **“General Assembly Representative”**.

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

13/20

Appointment of General Assembly Representative

The Clerk proposed:

Mission Council resolves to appoint the Revd David Grosch-Miller to serve as the General Assembly Representative within the Ministerial Disciplinary Process and the Ministerial Incapacity Procedure from June 1st 2013.

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

13/21

Consequences of New Post Titles

The Clerk said that as a result of the new post titles of Deputy General Secretary Ministries of the Church, Deputy General Secretary Mission and Deputy General Secretary Administration and Resources it was necessary to amend the Rules of Procedure and she therefore proposed:

Mission Council resolves to amend the Rule of Procedure 4.2:

Delete the words “or Deputy General Secretary” and the words “or a Deputy General Secretary”.

The Clerk said that since formerly the Deputy General Secretary was an officer of the Assembly, it would be necessary that thought be given as to whether to recommend to the Assembly that any or all of the new Deputy General

Secretary posts should be designated as an officer of the Assembly. A report on this would be made to a future meeting of Mission Council.

For the avoidance of doubt concerning the authority to make the new appointments the Clerk proposed:

Mission Council gives authority to an Assembly Appointment Group to appoint the Deputy General Secretary Ministries of the Church and the Deputy General Secretary Administration and Resources.

The Clerk explained that such authority was not needed for the Mission post because since further work needed to be done on the development of the Mission Team a proposal could be brought to the November meeting of Mission Council.

The resolution was passed by majority vote.

13/04 (Continued from Session 4)
Faith and Order Committee

The Revd Elizabeth Welch, Convener, thanked Mission Council for the helpful comments received as a result of the group discussion sessions. She said that three themes were beginning to emerge.

1. Can we dare to live in the confidence of God's grace?
2. We should celebrate our history revitalised for the present time.
3. We need to look closer at the way our church meetings function and celebrate them.

She said that the Faith and Order Committee would continue its work with special regard to the feedback received and that further comments would be welcome. A summary document would be prepared which would identify what needed to be done and Proposals would be presented to the November meeting of Mission Council.

13/07 (Continued from Session 4)
Medium Term Strategy Group

The General Secretary proposed:

Mission Council welcomes the initial report of the Medium Term Strategy Group (Paper D) and notes the planned work shown in the Appendix of that paper.

The resolution was passed by consensus.

Mrs Rominger responded to concerns expressed concerning the breadth of interests represented in the membership of the Group and assured Mission Council that the Group would consult widely and would seek to ensure that its proposals reflected representative views.

The Revd Dr Romilly Micklem expressed the thanks of the Group for the results of the group work which had been received and responded to some of the comments.

The General Secretary proposed:

Mission Council asks the Medium Term Strategy Group to continue its work on the Synods, developing Scenario B from Paper D1 and taking account of the points raised in group discussions.

There was considerable discussion during which it became clear that members of Mission Council were not convinced that Scenario B had clearly been identified as the appropriate basis for further work. Whilst it was widely felt that Scenario C could be eliminated, it was considered that elements of Scenario A should be pursued. Eventually the resolution was proposed in the following amended form:

Mission Council asks the Medium Term Strategy Group to continue its work on Synods, taking account of the points raised in the group sessions of the May 2013 Mission Council.

The resolution was passed by consensus.

Thanks and Farewells

The Moderator, the Revd Dr Michael Jagessar, thanked all those who had completed their term of service on Mission Council, particularly Mrs Val Morrison, retiring Moderator, and her Chaplain, the Revd Dr James Coleman.

Revd Geoffrey Clarke, North Western Synod
Ms Sarah Dodds, Nominations Committee Secretary
Revd David Grosch-Miller, South Western Synod Moderator
Revd Ann Jackson, Northern Synod
Revd Sue Macbeth, Yorkshire Synod
Mrs Val Phillips, W Midlands Synod
Revd Gordon Smith, Mersey Synod
Revd Mary Thomas, Wessex
Revd Rob Weston, Children and Youth Work Committee Convener

Mr Jagessar paid a special tribute to the Revd Richard Mortimer for his work as Deputy General Secretary. Using many cricketing metaphors he described a good friend and loyal colleague who would be missed. He presented Richard with a gift to mark the end of this piece of service, who responded with thanks.

SESSION 10

Members of Mission Council met for concluding worship, which included the celebration of Holy Communion and the Induction of Mr John Ellis as Moderator of General Assembly (to serve until General Assembly 2016). The Revd Dr Mark Wakelin, President of the Methodist Conference, preached the sermon and the Revd Paul Ellis read the lesson.

Mr John Ellis offered the thanks of the church to Mrs Val Morrison, outgoing Moderator, and her chaplain for their service. A gift was presented to Mrs Morrison.

It was noted that the next meeting of Mission Council would take place from the 22nd to 24th November 2013 at High Leigh Conference Centre.

APPENDIX 1

Mission Council resolves to ratify Resolution 15 of General Assembly 2012 thus making the following changes to the Structure of the United Reformed Church:
(Where sections are replaced, changes from the existing are shown in red type.)

2(4)(A)(xvii)

Amend to read as follows:

where the Synod, acting through its **Moderator (or his/her duly appointed deputy)** in accordance with either the **Disciplinary Process** contained in Section O of the Manual of the United Reformed Church (where the issues relate to perceived disciplinary breach(es)) or the **Incapacity Procedure** contained in Section P of the Manual (where the issues relate to perceived incapacity as defined in the Incapacity Procedure), considers that a minister or Church Related Community Worker is **not** or may not be exercising his/her ministry in accordance with Paragraph 2 of Schedule E or Paragraph 2 of Schedule F, Part II to the Basis of Union, as the case may be, to **take the appropriate one of the following courses namely (i) to refer the case of that minister or Church Related Community Worker into the Disciplinary Process in the manner prescribed by that Process and to act in accordance with the**

provisions thereof as regards the suspension of the minister or Church Related Community Worker concerned pending the resolution of the matter under that Process (reference to be made to Paragraph 7.5 of the Structure to ascertain the point at which a Disciplinary case shall commence) or (ii) to follow the Consultation Procedure prescribed by the Incapacity Procedure which could in its turn lead to the case of the minister or Church Related Community Worker being referred into the Incapacity Procedure and to act in accordance with the provisions thereof as regards the suspension of the minister or Church Related Community Worker concerned pending the resolution of the matter under that Procedure (reference to be made to Paragraph 6.5 of the Structure to ascertain the point at which a case shall commence within the Incapacity Procedure) (the transitional overlap which occurs when a case is referred back from the Disciplinary Process or the Incapacity Procedure leading to the commencement of a case within the other of them shall be a permitted extension of the Function).

2(4)(A)(xviii)

Amend to read as follows:

to ensure that, where an Assembly Commission or an Appeals Commission following a Hearing under the **Disciplinary Process** contained in Section O of the Manual of the United Reformed Church or a Review Commission or an Appeals Review Commission following a Hearing under the **Incapacity Procedure** contained in Section P of the Manual **{words omitted}** appends guidance to its decision to delete the name of the minister or

Church Related Community Worker from the respective Roll, any such *{words omitted}* guidance is brought fully to the attention of those responsible for exercising oversight of the minister or Church Related Community Worker and any others *who might in the future* be identified as being proper and appropriate persons to receive such information;

2(4)(A)(xxi)

Amend to read as follows:

to consider the resignation of ministers or Church Related Community Workers not currently the subject of any case within *the Disciplinary Process contained in Section O* and in consultation with the moderator of the Synod to decide upon appropriate action *{words omitted}*;

2(4)(B) Remove this paragraph altogether.

2(4)(C) This paragraph now becomes 2(4)(B) and is amended to read as follows:

2(4)(B) No appeal shall lie against the decision by a Synod to initiate the *Disciplinary Process contained in Section O or the Incapacity Procedure contained in Section P* in respect of any minister or Church Related Community Worker under Function (xvii).

Area Functions

2(5)(A)(viii)

Amend to read as follows:

to consider the resignation of ministers or Church Related Community Workers not currently the subject of any case within the *Disciplinary Process* contained in Section O and in

consultation with the moderator of the Synod to decide upon appropriate action (see also Paragraphs 2(4)(A)(xxi) and 2(6)(A)(xviii));

2(5)(A)(xviii)

Amend to read as follows:

to ensure that, where an Assembly Commission or an Appeals Commission following a Hearing under the *Disciplinary Process* contained in Section O of the Manual of the United Reformed Church or a Review Commission or an Appeals Review Commission following a Hearing under the Incapacity Procedure *contained in Section P of the Manual*

appends *{words omitted}* guidance to its decision to delete the name of the minister or Church Related Community Worker from the respective Roll, any such *{words omitted}* guidance is brought fully to the attention of those responsible for exercising oversight of the minister or Church Related Community Worker and any others *who might in the future* be identified as being proper and appropriate persons to receive such information;

2(5)(B) Remove this paragraph altogether.

General Assembly Functions

2(6)(A)(xi) *[Changes to this paragraph were approved under Resolution 9 of General Assembly 2010 and require ratification by General Assembly 2012.]*

2(6)(A)(xviii)

Amend to read as follows:

to decide upon questions regarding the inclusion on the Roll of Ministers and the Roll of Church Related Community Workers of the United Reformed Church which have been previously considered and transmitted with recommendations by synods (but excluding any matter which is dealt with in accordance with the Disciplinary Process referred to in *Paragraph 7 of the Structure*). *{words omitted}*

2(6)(A)(xxiii)

Amend to read as follows:

in the absence of any reference into *either the Disciplinary Process contained in Section O of the Manual of the United Reformed Church (where the issues relate to perceived disciplinary breach(es)) or the Incapacity Procedure contained in Section P of the Manual (where the issues relate to perceived incapacity as defined in the Incapacity Procedure)* by the appropriate Synod (the case of any minister who is the *General Secretary, the Deputy General Secretary or a Moderator of Synod* being necessarily dealt with under this provision) and where the General Assembly (or Mission Council on its behalf) (acting through *the Deputy General Secretary or his/her duly appointed deputy*) considers that a minister or Church Related Community Worker is *not* or may not be exercising his/her ministry in accordance with Paragraph 2 of Schedule E or Paragraph 2 of Schedule F, Part II to

the Basis of Union, as the case may be, to *take the appropriate one of the following courses namely (i) to refer the case of that minister or Church Related Community Worker into the Disciplinary Process in the manner prescribed by that Process and to act in accordance with the provisions thereof as regards the suspension of the minister or Church Related*

Community Worker concerned pending the resolution of the matter under that Process (reference to be made to Paragraph 7.5 of the Structure to ascertain the point at which a Disciplinary case shall commence) or (ii) to follow the Consultation Procedure prescribed by the Incapacity Procedure which could in its turn lead to the case of the minister or Church Related Community Worker being referred into the Incapacity Procedure and to act in accordance with the provisions thereof as regards the suspension of the minister or Church Related Community Worker concerned pending the resolution of the matter under that Procedure (reference to be made to Paragraph 6.5 of the Structure to ascertain the point at which a case shall commence within the Incapacity Procedure) (the transitional overlap which occurs when a case is referred back from the Disciplinary Process or the Incapacity Procedure leading to the commencement of a case within the other of them shall be a permitted extension of the Function);

2(6)(A)(xxvi)

Amend to read as follows:

without detracting from the general delegatory powers held by Mission Council, to give specific authority to Mission Council acting in the name of General Assembly to make with immediate effect such changes to any part of the Ministerial Disciplinary Process contained in Section O of the Manual or the Ministerial Incapacity Procedure contained in Section P as are recommended to Mission Council by the MIND Advisory Group (or such other Group or Committee as may in the future perform the functions of that Group), all such changes to be reported to the next meeting of the General Assembly.

2(6)(A)(xxvii) The existing Function (xxvi) becomes (xxvii)

2(6)(B) Remove this paragraph.

5. APPEALS

5(1) Remove this Paragraph.

5(2) This Paragraph to become Paragraph 5 and the opening words to read:

5. “The procedure for dealing with references and appeals falling outside Paragraph 6 (Incapacity Procedure) and Paragraph 7 (Disciplinary Process) is as follows:-”

The remaining 4 unnumbered paragraphs under the existing 5(2) are unchanged.

6 INCAPACITY PROCEDURE

6.1 After the words “...consider that s/he is...” insert the word “not” and after the words “(in the case of CRCWs” insert a closing bracket.

6.2 Add the following words at the end of this paragraph:

“..., and once so initiated that case shall be resolved in accordance with the Incapacity Procedure and not under Paragraph 5 above.”

6.3, 6.4 These paragraphs are unchanged.

6.5 Add a new paragraph 6.5 as follows:

6.5 A case shall commence within the Incapacity Procedure when the Synod Moderator or the Deputy General Secretary shall send or deliver to the Secretary of the Review Commission* a Certificate of Entry* and a Commencement Notice* (the expressions marked * being defined in the Incapacity Procedure).

7. Insert new Section 7 as follows:

7. DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

7.1 The Provisions of this Paragraph 7 shall apply to cases proceeding under the Disciplinary Process (Section O of the Manual of the United Reformed Church) where the person responsible for initiating it in respect of a particular minister or Church Related Community Worker considers that s/he is not or may not be exercising the ministry of word and sacrament or the ministry of church related community work as the case may be in accordance (in the case of ministers) with Paragraph 2 of Schedule E of the Basis of Union and (in the case of CRCWs) with Paragraph 2 of Schedule F, Part II thereto and perceives the issue as a disciplinary one not falling within Paragraph 6 above.

7.2 No right of appeal shall lie against any decision taken in accordance with Paragraph 7.1 above to initiate the Disciplinary Process in respect of any minister or CRCW, and once so initiated that case shall be resolved in accordance with the Disciplinary Process and not under Paragraph 5 above.

7.3 The decision reached in any particular case (whether or not on appeal) under the Disciplinary Process shall be made in the name of the General Assembly and shall be final and binding.

7.4 As soon as any minister or CRCW becomes the subject of a case under the Disciplinary Process, none of the Councils of the Church shall exercise any of its functions in respect of that minister or CRCW in such a manner as to affect, compromise or interfere with the due process of that case provided that the provision of such pastoral care as shall be deemed appropriate shall not be regarded as a breach of this paragraph.

7.5.1 In any case in which the Caution Stage (as defined in the Disciplinary Process) is invoked, that case shall begin with the calling in of the Synod Appointees as described in the Disciplinary Process..

7.5.2 In any case in which the Caution Stage is not invoked, that case shall begin with the calling in of the Mandated Group as described in the Disciplinary Process

APPENDIX 2

Mission Council, acting in the name of General Assembly and on the advice of the MIND Advisory Group, agrees to make the following changes to the Disciplinary Process:

A.5 Add the following definitions at Paragraph A.5:
“General Assembly Appointees” shall mean the persons appointed under Paragraph AA.2.1.2 to examine a disciplinary case within the Caution Stage and, if considered appropriate, to impose Cautions upon the minister.”

“General Assembly Representative” shall mean the person appointed (whether individually or as the holder of a particular office) to act in the name of General Assembly (or Mission Council on its behalf) in carrying out the responsibilities assigned to that person within this Disciplinary Process.”

*In the event, for whatever reason, of there not being a Deputy General Secretary, then Mission Council will need to appoint someone to assume the DGS’s position within the Disciplinary Process. That person will be defined within the Process as “**the General Assembly Representative**” and will include the DGS while still in post. This paper makes the necessary changes to the paragraphs referring to the DGS.*

At the end of the definition of "**Independent Safeguarding Authority**" at Paragraph A.5, add the words "**....and its intended successor body the Disclosure and Barring Service or any other body which in the future may assume the functions of either of these bodies**".

Section 87 of the Freedom of Information Act 2012 states that there is to be a body called the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). Section 88 (1) states that the Secretary of State may by order transfer the functions of the ISA to the DBS and

A.5^,

A.8*, *Section 88(4) states that he/she may by order provide for the dissolution of the ISA.*
AA.1.4,
AA.2.1.2 In the definition of **“Synod Appointees”** at
, AA.2.2, Paragraph A.5, after the words **“persons**
B.3.2*, **appointed”** insert the words **“under Paragraph**
B.3.3, **AA.2.1.1”**.
B.3.4, In all of these paragraphs replace the words
B.3.5, **“Deputy General Secretary”** with the words
E.4.2, **“General Assembly Representative”**. ^In
E.5.3, *Paragraph A.5 the expression occurs in the*
F.6.1, *definition of “Gross Misconduct. *In Paragraphs A.8*
G.1.2.2, *and B.3.2 the expression occurs twice. The DGS is*
G.10.2 *also referred to in Paragraphs F.2.3, G.13.4 and*
AA.2.1 *G.14.5 - but see later as to those paragraphs.*
.1,
AA.2.1.2

Add the following words at the beginning of Paragraphs AA.2.1.1 and AA.2.1.2 of the Process to bring those paragraphs into line with B.3.1 and B.3.2:-

AA.2.1.1 **"In disciplinary cases arising under Paragraph 2(4)(A)(xvii) of the Structure (Synods) in respect of any Minister in membership or under the authority of the Synod in question,"**

AA.2.1.2 **"In disciplinary cases arising under Paragraph 2(6)(A)(xxiii) of the Structure General Assembly (or Mission Council on its behalf)...."**
 Also at the end of Paragraph AA.2.1.2 replace the words **“Synod Appointees in that case”** with the words **“General Assembly Appointees in that case. As their functions will be the same as those of the Synod Appointees in a case arising under Paragraph AA.2.1.1, the expression “Synod Appointees” shall in a case arising under this Paragraph be taken to include General Assembly Appointees.”**
The persons appointed under this paragraph are not appointed by Synod but by General Assembly. Hence the need to change the wording as above.

- AA.2.4** Replace the words "**both the Synod Appointees and the minister**" with the words "**the Synod Appointees**".
- AA.2.6** Replace the words "**It should also be noted that...**" at the beginning of the second sentence with the word "**Also....**".
- AA.9.3** Insert the word "**a**" before "**Mandated Group**".
- AA.12** Insert the following additional paragraphs at the end of Section AA:-
- "AA.12.1** **Where the Synod Appointees become aware that (i) the minister is the subject of a criminal charge for an alleged offence falling into any of the categories set out in Paragraph E.7.2 or (ii) information has been laid before the Police which may result in a criminal charge being brought against him/her, in either such event the Synod Appointees shall adjourn their own enquiry and consult the Synod Moderator or other person who initiated the Caution Stage who may, on the basis of such information, conclude the Caution Stage in accordance with Paragraph AA.1.3 and call in a Mandated Group whereupon the case would be governed by the later Sections of this Process. In the event that the Caution Stage is not so concluded, the Synod Appointees' enquiry will remain adjourned pending the verdict of the criminal courts (whether or not on appeal) on the charges brought against the minister or the withdrawal of the charge (in relation to alternative (i) above) or the notification that no charge is to be brought (in relation to alternative (ii) above).**
- AA.12.2** **In cases where Paragraph AA.12.1 applies but where Paragraph AA.1.3 is not invoked, the Synod Appointees may themselves monitor the criminal proceedings, but shall otherwise for the period specified in Paragraph AA.12.1 suspend their own enquiry."**
- B.3.1,**
B.3.2 Insert the word "**disciplinary**" before "**cases**" at the beginning of these paragraphs.

- B.3.2** On the second line alter ")))" to "))."
- B.7.1** Replace the existing paragraph in its entirety with the following:-
"In every case involving an allegation of Gross Misconduct and in other cases where the Synod Moderator or the General Assembly Representative as the case may be considers that he/she has strong and urgent reasons for so doing, he/she shall suspend the minister with immediate effect either orally or in writing and shall forthwith call in the Mandated Group in accordance with Paragraph B.3.1 or Paragraph B.3.2, whichever applies. Suspension imposed orally shall be immediately confirmed in writing to the minister."
- F.2.3** Remove the words **"the Deputy General Secretary,"**
Should the Assembly Commission or the Appeals Commission decide to delete the name of a minister from the Roll, it may append guidance to that decision. Paragraphs F.2.3, G.13.4 and G.14.5 all deal with the passing on of that guidance to persons on a "need to know" basis. In the light of his/her wide-ranging responsibilities the DGS is currently included in the list of such persons. However the role of the "General Assembly Representative" will simply be to carry out the specific functions set out in the Process. Once the case in which s/he has been concerned is concluded, his/her involvement comes to an end and s/he will have no future monitoring responsibilities. Consequently s/he should not be included in the list of persons in these paragraphs.
- F.6.1**
- G.13.4**
- G.14.5** Replace the reference in the text to **"Paragraph B.9.3"** with a reference to **"Paragraph B.3.2"**. Remove the words **"the Deputy General Secretary,"**
After the words **"the Press Officer"** remove the comma and insert the word **"and"**. Also remove the words **"and the Deputy General Secretary"**.

In the following cases, the main paragraph numbers occupy a separate line: **A.4, A.6, A.7, B.1, B.2, B.5, B.6, B.9, C.2, C.3, C.4, C.5, C.7, D.2, E.1, E.2, E.3, E.5, E.6, E.7, E.9, E.10, E.12, E.13, E.14, E.16, F.1, F.5, F.6, F.7, G.1, G.3, G.4, G.5, G.7, G.10, G16 and H.2**. This uses up space unnecessarily. Those numbers can be removed so that the numbering of the relevant paragraph would begin with the first sub-number, e.g. A.4.1, A.6.1 etc.

APPENDIX 3

NOMINATIONS

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Notes:

1. The moderators, the moderators elect, the immediate past moderators and the general secretary are members ex officio of every standing committee.
2. Symbols have been used as follows:
 - ** 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 2014;
 - / 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 three FURY members, including the FURY moderator.

(Synods appoint and decide terms for their representatives)

Northern Synod	Revd Ann Jackson, Mr Robert Jones, Mr Danny Pigeon
North Western Synod	Revd Geoffrey Clarke, Miss Judith Haughton, Revd Sarah Moore
Mersey Synod	Mrs Joan Colwell, Mrs Rita Griffiths, Revd Tim Meadows
Yorkshire Synod	Mr Chris Reed, Mrs Jenny Poulter, Revd Sue Macbeth
East Midlands Synod	Mr Duncan Smith, Revd Jenny Mills, Mrs Jill Turner
West Midlands Synod	Revd Jacky Embrey, Mrs Margaret Marshall, Mrs Val Phillips
Eastern Synod	Revd Dr Catherine Ball, Mrs Linda Harrison, Mr Clifford Patten
South Western Synod	Mr George Faris, Revd Dougie Burnett, Mrs Sarah Lane Cawte
Wessex Synod	Mr Peter Pay, Revd Michael Hopkins, 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, Mrs Ruth Henriksen, Revd Gethin Rhys

National Synod of Scotland Revd Connie Bonner, Revd Stephen Brown, Ms Morag McLintock

[In attendance: Minute Secretary: Mrs Irene Wren [2015]

Consensus Adviser: Revd Pauline Barnes [2014]

together with staff secretaries, moderators' chaplains and others as appropriate]

1.1 Mission Council Advisory Group

Convener: Moderators of General Assembly

Secretary: Deputy General Secretary

Revd Derrick Sena Dzandu-Hedidor [2014] Revd Elizabeth Nash [2015]

Revd Nicola Furley-Smith [2016]

Moderators elect of General Assembly

Immediate past Moderators of General Assembly

[ex officio: General Secretary Honorary Treasurer]

1.2 Human Resources Advisory Group

Convener: Mr Keith Webster **

Secretary: General Secretary

Mr Alistair Forsyth** Mr Mike Gould**

Mr Peter Pay† Revd Wendy White**

Head of Human Resources

1.3 Law and Polity Advisory Group

Convener: Revd Prof David Thompson [2014]

Secretary: Dr Augur Pearce [2016]

Mr David Eldridge [2014]

Ms Morag McLintock [2016]

Mr Duncan Smith [2016] (Synod Clerk)

Mrs Kath Fowler (PLATO)

[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 (apart from the Synod of Scotland)

1.5 MIND (Ministerial Incapacity and Discipline) Advisory Group

Convener: Revd Peter Poulter [2016]

Secretary: Revd Hugh Graham [2014]

Convener of the Assembly Commission: Mrs Kathleen Cross

Secretary of the Assembly Commission: Mrs Gwen Jennings

Convener of the Review Commission of the Incapacity Procedure: Mr Donald Swift

Secretary of the Review Commission of the Incapacity Procedure: Revd Ray Adams

Consultant for Ministers and CRCWs: Revd David Skitt

Consultant for Mandated Groups: Revd Alison Davis

Training Coordinator: Mr Keith Webster Coopted: Mr Hartley Oldham

General Secretary Clerk to Assembly Secretary for Ministries

Legal Adviser

1.6 Resource Sharing Task Group

Convener: Revd Paul Whittle** [2017]

Secretary: Mr John Rea

Treasurer: Revd Dick Gray

Miss Margaret Atkinson Mr Mike Gould

Mr Andrew Perkins

[ex officio: Honorary Treasurer]

1.7 Human Sexuality Task Group

Convener: Revd Elizabeth Caswell

Dr Jacob Addo**

Ms Karen Campbell**

Revd John Hardaker**

Mrs Val Morrison**

Revd Neil Riches**

Revd Justine Wyatt**

1.8 Medium Term Strategy Group
General Secretary Honorary Treasurer
Ms Linda Austin** Revd Dr Romilly Micklem**

2 MISSION DEPARTMENT

2.1 Mission Committee

Convener: Revd Tracey Lewis [2016]
Secretary: Secretary for Mission
Mrs Pat Poinen (1) [2015] Vacancy (2)
Revd Andrew Willett (3) [2014] Mrs Tessa Henry-Robinson (4) [2015]
Revd David Dean (5) [2015] Revd Louise Franklin (6) [2014]
Revd Sam White (7) [2015] Revd Janet Sutton Webb (8) [2016]
Revd Peter Hurter (9) [2014] Revd Naison Hove**(10) [2017]
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]
Mrs Judith North (5) [2016]

2.1.2 Commitment for Life Reference Group

Convener: Mr John Griffith [2016]

2.1.3 Methodist/United Reformed Church Interfaith Reference Group (Members normally serve for six years - in parallel with Methodist terms)

Co-Convener: Revd Clare Downing [2019]
Revd Bill Burgess (3) [2015] Revd Tim Clarke (10) [2015]
Vacancy

2.1.4 Joint Public Issues Team Strategy and Policy Group

Ms Marie Trubic (Spokesperson on Public Issues for the United Reformed Church)
(Other members appointed by the Methodist Church and the Baptist Union of Great Britain.)

2.1.5 Rural Strategy Group (United Reformed Church/Methodist)

Revd Roy Lowes Revd Louise Franklin Revd Peter Ball

3 MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH DEPARTMENT

3.1 Ministries Committee

Convener: Revd Ruth Whitehead [2014]
Convener elect: #Revd Gethin Rhys** [2018]
Secretary: Secretary for Ministries
Revd John Cox (7) [2014] Mr Andy Buxton (12) [2014]
Revd Heather Pencavel (8) [2015] Revd Clive Sutcliffe (7) [2016]
Revd Dr James Coleman** (4) [2017] Mrs Jane Woods-Scawen**(6) [2017]
Mrs Judith Johnson (Leadership in Worship Advocate) [2015]
Revd Peter Meek** (Synod Moderator) [2017]
Convener, Assessment Board

3.1.1 Ministries - Accreditation Sub-committee

Convener: Revd Fran Ruthven [2017]
Secretary: Secretary for Ministries
Revd Richard Church (Synod Moderator) [2015]
Vacancy [2014] Revd Helga Cornell (6) [2015]

Revd Bridget Banks** (11) [2017] Revd Naison Hove** (10) [2017]

3.1.2 Ministries - CRCW Programme Sub-committee

Convener: Revd Jacky Embrey [2016]

Secretaries: CRCW Development Workers

Ms Marie Trubic (CRCW) [2014]

Revd Carolyn Smyth (13) [2016]

Revd Keith Morrison (5) [2016]

Revd Dr John Campbell (10) [2016]

Mr John Grundy** (3) [2017]

Mr Graham Ghaleb (Coopted CRCW)

Revd Paul Whittle (CRCW Development Workers' Line Manager)

3.1.3 Ministries - Maintenance of Ministry Sub-committee

Convener: Revd Pamela Ward [2017]

Mr Andrew Martlew (3) [2014]

Revd Alison Hall (3) [2014]

Revd Richard Turnbull (5) [2015]

Mr Peter Rippon (5) [2016]

Mrs Eilidh Young (13) [2016]

[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 Anne Bedford (3) [2015]

Revd John Humphreys† (Synod Moderator)

[2014]

Mr Peter West (7) [2015]

Mr Malcolm Lindo** (10) [2016]

[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 Andy Bottomley, at Church House.)

3.1.5 Assessment Board

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

Convener: Dr Graham Campling [2014]

Convener elect: # Dr Ewan Harley** [2019]

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)

Retiring 2017 Ms Alex Bediako (10), Mr Bill Gould (3), Revd Peter Henderson (8),
Revd Shahbaz Javed (10)

Retiring 2018: Revd Ruth Allen** (5), Revd Kim Plumpton** (11), Revd Mary Thomas** (9)

3.2 Education and Learning Committee

Convener: Revd John Smith [2015]

Secretary: Secretary for Education and Learning

Mr Celvon Binns (6) [2014]

Mrs Lindsey Cole (5) [2014]

Ms Sue Matthews (6) [2014]

Mrs Liz Bird (5) [2014]

Mr Mal Breeze (12) [2016]

Revd Dr Irene John (13) [2016]

Revd Dr Jack Dyce** (Resource Centre) [2017]

Revd David Salisbury** (Synod Development Officer) [2017]

Vacancy

3.2.1 Windermere Management Committee

Convener: Revd Howard Sharp [2014]

Convener elect: #Revd Mitchell Bunting** [2018]

Minute Secretary: Mrs Jenny Poulter† (4) [2016]

Mr Graham Law (6) [2015] Dr Peter Clarke (1) [2015] Mr Peter Farrand (2) [2015]
Revd Jan Adamson** (13) [2017]
Mrs Joan Stocker (representative of Carver Memorial United Reformed Church)† [2017]
Secretary for Education and Learning

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

Convener: Revd Dr Robert Pope
Minute Secretary: Revd Elizabeth Gray-King (EM2/3 Officer)
Vacancy (EM3 minister) Revd Sue Fender (EM2 minister)
Ms Pat Oliver (CRCW) Revd Stephen Collinson (Training and Development Officer)
Vacancy (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: Vacancy
Minute Secretary: Secretary for Education and Learning
Convener, Education and Learning Committee
Vacancy
[ex officio: Honorary Treasurer In attendance: Chief Finance Officer]

3.3 Children and Youth Work Committee

Convener : Revd Tim Meachin [2017]
Secretary: Head of Children's and Youth Work Development
Miss Tamara Oatest† (5) [2014] Revd Shirley Knibbst (4) [2014]
Revd Tim Lowe (6) [2015] Revd Sue McKenzie (10) [2015]
Ms Alison Hadley (5) [2015] Mr Mick Smerdon (13) [2016]
Ms Helen Wheelhouse (4) [2016] Mrs Lorraine Downer-Mattis** (10) [2017]
Ms Eleanor McIntyre** (11) [2017] Mr Philip Reeve** (3) [2017]
Revd Richard Eastman** (5) [2017] Vacancy
FURY moderator FURY moderator elect

3.3.1 Pilots Management Sub-committee

Convener: Mrs Soo Webster [2015]
Member: Mrs Tricia Legge [2014]
(Other members of the Sub-committee are appointed by the Children and Youth Work Committee.)

4 RESOURCES DEPARTMENT AND OTHERS

4.1 Assembly Arrangements Committee

Convener: Dr David Robinson [2014]
Convener elect: Revd Michael Hopkins [2020]
Secretary: Facilities Manager
Assembly Moderators Moderators elect General Secretary Clerk to General
Assembly
Convener, Local Arrangements Committee

4.2 Communications and Editorial Committee

Convener: Revd John Humphreys [2015]
Secretary: Director of Communications
Revd Heather Whyte (8) [2015] Revd Ian Fosten (7) [2015]
Revd George Mwaura (7) [2016] Mrs Andrea Varnavides (4) [2016]
Revd Peter Cooper** (10) [2017] Revd Dr Kevin Snyman** (12) [2017]
Mr Peter Knowles** (10) [2017] Mr Andy Jeens** (3) [2017]
Vacancy

4.3 Equal Opportunities Committee

4.7 Pastoral Reference and Welfare Committee

Convener: Revd Sheila Maxey [2015]

Secretary: Revd Howard Sharp

Mrs Irene Wren (5) [2105]

Revd Clare Downing** (Synod Moderator) [2015]

Mrs Gabrielle Pagan (7) [2016]

Mr Douglas Hay** (13) [2017]

[ex officio: Honorary Treasurer

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.)

Convener: Miss Kathleen Cross [2014]

Convener elect: #Revd David Skitt** [2019]

Deputy Convener: Dr Jim Merrilees [2014]

Secretary: Mrs Gwen Jennings [2017]

Members:

Retiring 2014 Revd Hazel Allen (8), Mr Mick Barnes (7), Revd James Brown (6),

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 (2), 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), 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), Revd Wendy White (2)

Retiring 2017 Revd Nick Adlem (8) Miss Judith Haughton (2), Revd Colin Ofor (1),

Revd Carolyn Smyth (13), Mr Donald Swift (3), Mr Douglas Hay (13),

Revd Craig Muir (6), Mr Alistair Forsyth (4), Mr David Rice (13),

Revd John Bremner (13), Revd Jane Campbell (5), Mr Keith Webster (10),

Revd Ian Kirby (8)

Retiring 2018 Revd Pauline Calderwood† (4), Revd Bill Bowmant† (11), Dr Peter Campbell

Smith† (11), Mr Roger Tuckert† (9), Mrs Wendy Dunnett** (9), Revd

Dr John M

Parry** (10), Revd Alan McGougan** (13), Mrs Mary Slater**

(6)

4.9 Standing Panel for the Incapacity Procedure

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

Secretary: Revd Ray Adams [2017]

Revd Roy Lowes** (Synod Moderator) [2018]

Revd John Marsh (Past Moderator of General Assembly) [2017]

Mr David Nash (Legal experience)** [2018] Dr Ewen Harley (GP)** [2018]

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: Revd Prof David Thompson

Secretary: Ms Sandi Hallam-Jones

Deputy Secretary: Mr Andy Bottomley

Members:

Synods Group 1

Synods

Group 2

Members: Mr Brian Hosier [2015] Revd Dick Gray [2016]
 Revd Julian Macro [2016] Mr Andrew Perkin† [2017]
 [ex officio: Honorary Treasurer Convener, Pensions Executive
 Chair of United Reformed Church Trust or another Director
 Chair of United Reformed Church Ministers' Pension Trust or another Director
 Treasurer, Westminster College
 In attendance: Chief Finance Officer]

REPRESENTATIVES TO MEETINGS OF SISTER CHURCHES

- | | | |
|------|--|--|
| 5.1 | Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Revd Melanie Smith | Revd Dr Michael Jagessar |
| 5.2 | General Synod of Church of England | Revd Graham Maskery† [2016] |
| 5.3 | Methodist Conference
Relations | Secretary for Ecumenical
Relations |
| 5.4 | Congregational Federation | Secretary for Ecumenical Relations |
| 5.5 | General Assembly of Church of Scotland
[note 7] | Revd Dr Michael Jagessar [2014]
Revd Melanie Smith [2014] |
| | Revd Robin Hine | |
| 5.6 | United Free Church of Scotland [note 7] | Revd John Humphreys |
| 5.7 | Scottish Assembly of the Congregational
Federation [note 7] | Revd Gordon Smith |
| 5.8 | Scottish Episcopal Church [note 7] | Revd Mitchell Bunting |
| 5.9 | Methodist Church in Scotland [note 7] | Revd Mitchell Bunting |
| 5.10 | Baptist Union of Scotland [note 7] | Revd John Humphreys |
| 5.11 | Presbyterian Church of Wales [note 7] | Assembly Moderator |
| 5.12 | Union of Welsh Independents [note 7] | Ecumenical Officer (appointed by URC
General Secretary) |
| 5.13 | Covenanted Baptists | Ecumenical Officer |
| 5.14 | Church in Wales Governing Board [note 7] | Ecumenical Officer |
| 5.15 | Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church | To be decided |

6 REPRESENTATIVES ON ECUMENICAL CHURCH BODIES

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

- 6.1 Council for World Mission (CWM)
 Revd David Coleman, Mrs Zandie Orr, Mr Philip Timson, Secretary for World Church Relations
- 6.1.1 CWM European Region Meeting
 Revd David Coleman, Mrs Zandie Orr, Mr Philip Timson, 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 Professor 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
Ms Marie Trubic, 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 Morrison, vacancy

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)

6.8.1 CTE - Enabling Group
Secretary for Ecumenical Relations

6.8.2 CTE - Coordinating Group for Local Unity
Revd Kevin Watson, 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

6.9 Action of Churches Together in Scotland (ACTS) Members’ Meeting [see note 7]
Revd John Humphreys, Revd Mitchell Bunting/Mrs Kathleen Ziffo

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 Gethin Rhys

6.12 Commission of Covenanted Churches [see note 7]
Synod Moderator, Ecumenical Officer, Mrs Ann Shillaker

6.13 Joint Liturgical Group
Revd Hugh Graham

6.14 Free Church Education Committee
Mr Graham Handscomb, Mrs Gillian Kingston

6.15 European Churches’ Environmental Network
Revd David Coaker

6.16 Churches’ Refugee Network
Mr Geoff Duncan, Revd Fleur Houston

6.17 Churches’ Committee on Funerals and Crematoria
Revd Sally Thomas, Revd Kate Hackett [2014]

6.18 Churches’ Agency for Safeguarding
Safeguarding Officer

6.19 Churches’ Forum for Safeguarding
Safeguarding Officer

6.20 Churches’ Network for Non-Violence
Head of Children’s and Youth Work Development

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

7.1 United Reformed Church/Methodist Strategic Oversight Group
General Secretary Deputy General Secretary Honorary Treasurer
Member of Assembly Moderators’ Group

7.2 Methodist/United Reformed Church Liaison Committee
Co-Convenor: Revd Kevin Watson (Synod Moderator)
Miss Emma Pugh, 3 vacancies, Revd Peter Rand (co-opted)
Secretary for Ecumenical Relations

7.3 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.

7.4 United Reformed Church/Church of England Study Group
Revd Nicola Furley-Smith (co-convener), Revd Tim Meadows, Revd Julian Templeton, Revd Elizabeth Welch,
Secretary for Ecumenical Relations

7.5 EMU Partnership Scottish Episcopal Church, the Methodist Church in Scotland and the United Reformed Church Synod of Scotland)
Revd John Humphreys, Mr John Collings, Revd Zam Walker, Revd Mitchell Bunting (ex officio)

8 UNITED REFORMED CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BODIES OF THEOLOGICAL COLLEGES, ETC

8.1 Northern College
Miss Margaret Atkinson [2015] Revd Dr Robert Pope [2015]
Revd David Jenkins †[2017] Mr Steve Wood† [2017]
Mrs Sheila Davies** [2017]
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]
Convener elect: Vacancy
Clerk: Revd Cecil White [2016] Honorary College Treasurer: Mr Anthony Williams [2016]
Members:
Revd Craig Muir [2015] Revd Nigel Appleton [2015] Canon Brian Long [2016]
Revd Kristin Ofstad [2016] Dr Jean Stevenson † [2018]
Revd Canon Andrew Norman [2018] (Cambridge Theological Federation)
Secretary for Education and Learning
(together with other Governors appointed by other bodies)

8.2.1 Cheshunt Foundation
Revd Craig Muir [2014] Mr Guy Morfett† [2016]

8.2.2 Cambridge Theological Federation
Convener, Westminster College Governors

9 GOVERNORS OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS WITH WHICH THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH 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
Revd Val Towler [2014] Revd Derek Lindfield [2014] Revd Richard Wells [2014]
Mrs Hilary Miles† [2016] Revd Kevin Swaine** [2016]

9.5 Silcoates School

Revd Steven Knapton [2014] Mrs Sue Lee [2015] Mrs Tessa Henry-
Robinson [2015]
Dr Moira Gallagher† [2017] Revd Dr Janet Leest† [2017] Vacancy

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

9.7 Bishops Stortford College
Mr Anthony Trigg [2015]

10 MISCELLANEOUS

The United Reformed Church is represented on a variety of other national organisations and committees as follows:

10.1 Arthur Rank Centre
Revd Elizabeth Caswell [2014]

10.2 Churches Legislation Advisory Service
Mrs Sheila Duncan/General Secretary/Deputy General Secretary

10.3 Congregational Fund Board
Mr Anthony Bayley [2014] Revd Geoffrey Roper [2014] Revd Eric Allen
[2015]
Revd Kate Hackett [2015] Mrs Jackie Hawst† [2017]

10.4 Congregational Memorial Hall Trust
Mrs Margaret Thompson [2014] Mr Hartley Oldham [2015]
Mr Graham Stacy [2015] Dr John Thompson [2016]
Dr Brian Woodhall [2016] Revd Derek Wales †[2017]

10.5 Discipleship and Witness Board of Trustees
Mrs Patricia Hubbard [from before 1999]

10.5.1 Publications Development Group
Vacancy

10.6 English Heritage's Places of Worship Forum
Mr Peter West (Convener of the Listed Buildings Advisory Group)

10.7 Lord Wharton's Charity
Revd Derek Lindfield** [2017]

10.8 Methodist Faith and Order Committee
Dr Augur Pearce** [2017]

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 Prof David Thompson [2014] Revd Fleur Houston [2014]
Dr David Robinson [2015] Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpet† [2018]

10.13 United Reformed Church Guide and Scout Fellowship
Revd David Marshall-Jones

10.14 Westhill Endowment Fund
Mr Howard Bridge, Vacancy, Mrs Julie Grove (co-opted)