

Connexional Grants Governance Scrutiny Group**Basic Information**

Contact Name and Details	Richard Musto, Connexional Grants Officer (Transitional), mustor@methodistchurch.org.uk (020) 7467 5178.
Status of Paper	Final
Action Required	Decision
Draft Resolution	Methodist Council approves the Terms of Reference of the Connexional Grants Governance Scrutiny Group.
Alternative Options to Consider, if Any	None

Summary of Content

Subject and Aims	Subject- Terms of Reference of the Governance Scrutiny Group (GSG). Aims- To clarify the capacity and responsibilities of the GSG.
Main Points	- GSG to report inadequacies in Connexional Grants process to the Methodist Council. - GSG to report to the Council any instances of a Connexional Grant supporting work which does not meet the purposes of the fund from which money is given.
Background Context and Relevant Documents (with function)	- The Team Focus Report to Conference in 2007 proposed changes to the system used to consider Connexional Grants. Paragraph 4:18 proposed two separate governance groups be set up; one for World Mission and one for Home Mission. - The Grants Implementation Group submitted the Grant Making Framework Report (MC/08/43) to the Methodist Council, clarifying that one Governance Group would be established and suggesting areas of responsibility. - Report 53 of the 2009 Conference Agenda was adopted and contained an appendix (A) which outlined the intended Terms of Reference of the GSG. - SRC agreed to recommend these terms of reference to Council in their September 2010 meeting.
Consultations	GSG

Summary of Impact

Standing Orders	No Standing Order currently sets out the remit of the Governance Scrutiny Group. SO 213B outlines the responsibility of the Connexional Grants Committee
Risk	Lack of clear guidance on the remit of the GSG could lead to confusion. A GSG which lacks sufficient authority may not be able to safeguard appropriate use of Connexional Grants.

CONNEXIONAL GRANTS GOVERNANCE SCRUTINY GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Governance Scrutiny Group (GSG) relating to the work of the Connexional Grants Committee (CGC) is responsible to the Methodist Council for ensuring that effective systems have been designed and implemented to ensure that the Funds distributed by the CGC are applied in accordance with the terms of their restrictions and the requirements of the Methodist Church. In undertaking this role, the Group will liaise closely with CGC and its two Sub-Committees (namely the Mission and Ministry in Britain Sub-Committee and the Mission and Ministry in the World Church Sub-Committee), the Methodist Council Audit Committee and the External Auditor.

To undertake this role, the following functions will be addressed by the Group:-

1. To review the strategic framework of the management of funds for grant-giving purposes in the Methodist Church with particular reference to:-
 - i) Generating income
 - ii) Reserves policies
 - iii) Risk assessment
2. To report to Council any inadequacies in the systems which ensure that all assets in the World Mission Fund, the Mission in Britain Fund, the Fund for Property, the Connexional Priority Fund, the Epworth Fund (and other relevant funds) and the income arising on them are applied strictly in accordance with the terms of their restrictions.
3. To review implementation of the systems with CGC, its Sub-Committees and Grant Stream groups concerned.
4. To review draft budgets and to be satisfied that proposals for spending the various funds are in accordance with their terms of restrictions, consistent with the reserves policies and are affordable.
5. To ensure that there are adequate monitoring systems in place for all the above-mentioned Connexional Funds and for grants made by Districts from the Connexional Priority Fund. To review the monitoring of information that is available to Connexional Team members and to review exception reports related to projects that have not progressed according to plan.
6. To review systems for evaluating projects (including requirements placed on Districts) and to advise on how project evaluation should be developed. To review project evaluations and to ensure that the lessons learned are being transmitted to the CGC and Grant Stream groups.
7. To monitor the fund-raising and advocacy work undertaken by the Connexional Team for the World Mission Fund, the Mission in Britain Fund and other relevant funds; to ensure consistency between how these funds are being advocated and applied and to alert Council if the advocacy of any particular fund is deemed

inadequate. To monitor the budgeting for, and the recording of, voluntary income generated for these Funds.

8. To identify, in conjunction with the Connexional Team, the management information needs of CGC and the Council and to review an Annual Report and Financial Statements for Council for these funds as required. To review the annual "popular" report for those funds deemed to require one.

Membership

Members will be appointed by the Council.

The Governance Scrutiny Group will consist of one Officer of the Methodist Missionary Society and three other people.

Interaction with the Connexional Grants Committee and the Connexional Team

The Chairs of the Connexional Grants Committee, Mission and Ministry in the UK Sub-committee and the Mission and Ministry in the World Church Sub-committee may be invited to attend meetings at the discretion of the Chair of the Governance Scrutiny Group. Connexional Officers may also be invited at the discretion of the Chair of the Governance Scrutiny Group.

Resolutions

Methodist Council approves the Terms of Reference of the Connexional Grants Governance Scrutiny Group as set out in this paper.