

## Report from the Strategy and Resources Committee (SRC)

<b>Contact Name and Details</b>	Prof Peter D Howdle p.d.howdle@leeds.ac.uk
<b>Status of Paper</b>	Final
<b>Action Required</b>	None
<b>Resolution</b>	3/1. The Council receives the report.

1. The SRC met on 24 November 2016 and the following matters are reported to the Council:
  - 1.1 The SRC noted that the regulatory and enhancement works at Methodist Church House (MCH) had been completed satisfactorily. The MCH Management Committee and members of the Connexional Team were thanked for all the time and effort which had been expended on this project.
  - 1.2 A protocol was agreed for the appointment of lay or ordained persons to posts in the Team. In future jobs will only be open to lay people unless the role requires the gifts and skills of an ordained minister.
  - 1.3 The SRC was satisfied with the Consolidated Accounts to August 2016 but was made aware that there were ongoing discussions with the Auditors about how the deficit in the MMPS should be reported. This may necessitate the accounts being presented to the Council later than January 2017.
  - 1.4 The SRC discussed various issues in relation to developing the budget for 2017-18:
    - It agreed to recommend a 2.5% increase in the overall pay budget for Connexional lay employees , noting that this replaces the previous increases which included annual increments, where eligible, and cost of living increases.
    - It requested further information about supervision costs for ministers and also for the employment of District Safeguarding Officers to enable informed decisions to be taken about the necessary budgetary provision.
  - 1.5 The SRC received a report from the Methodist Academies and Schools Trust (MAST) on the progress in establishing an academy trust to support Methodist local authority schools in becoming academies. The chair of MAST was in negotiation with the Department for Education and Methodist Independent Schools Trust (MIST) about obtaining the funding required in order to establish such a trust, which was in the region of £300,000. He was hopeful of securing a significant part of this. The SRC requested a further update for its next meeting. The Council needs to be aware of this development and the potential costs to the Church.
  - 1.6 The SRC received a paper from the Secretary of the Conference on how the vocations of both lay and ordained persons could be developed. There was a very positive response to this initiative and the SRC requested that more detailed work be done so that realistic costings could be considered at its next meeting. This initiative is being presented to the Council at its January meeting.

- 1.7 The SRC received a report from the senior members of the Connexional Team. There were no major issues of concern for the SRC to address.
- 1.8 A report was received from Methodist International Centre Ltd about various projects it was considering, particularly the redevelopment of Camden Methodist Church. A decision was awaited from the Local Authority Planning Committee on the latter.
- 1.9 The committee expressed its pleasure on the imminent installation of the Secretary of the Conference as an honorary canon of St Paul's Cathedral.

**\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

**3/1. The Council receives the report.**