

Report from the Strategy and Resources Committee (SRC)

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Status of Paper	Final
Resolution	3/1. The Council receives the report.

Report to the Council from the Strategy and Resources Committee (SRC)

The SRC met on 30 November 2017 and reports the following matters to the Council:

1. The committee received a report from the Methodist Academies and Schools' Trust detailing the support which is offered to Methodist schools in the maintained sector and agreed that this was work to which more resources needed to be allocated. It requested that the Secretary of the Conference continue to investigate funding for this work with the Methodist Independent Schools Trust, the Southlands Methodist Trust and the Westminster College Oxford Trust. The committee also agreed to the removal of the word 'academies' from the name of MAST following the creation of the Wesley Trust.
2. The committee received the report on factors to be taken into account in planning for the Connexional Central Services Budget. It agreed that the figure of 2.9% should be used as the average salary increase for connexional staff from 1 September 2018 for budgeting purposes and that the draft budget for the three years commencing 1 September 2018 be compiled based on a drawdown of MCF free reserves to their agreed level. (see paper MC/18/8) The committee recommended that the purposes of the Connexional Priority Fund should be reviewed and any changes to the relevant Standing Order should be brought to the Conference.
3. The committee agreed the Consolidated Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2017 and recommended them for acceptance by the Council after being received by the Audit Committee. (see paper MC/18/4)
4. The committee received a paper summarising the recommendations of the report of the Training Review Group and the responses that have been made to them. It also noted that it would be receiving comments from the Ministries Committee and the Faith and Order committee in respect of some of the recommendations in February. The Committee will make a report on this matter to the Council in April.
5. The committee received a paper from the Connexional Secretary outlining forthcoming changes within the Connexional Team which are being made in response to the recommendations of the Training Review and the Council's reaffirmation of *Our Calling*.
6. The committee received a presentation from the Methodist Church House Management Committee about future refurbishment or redevelopment. The committee authorised further conversations with Westminster Council and directed that a detailed paper about the future of MCH should be prepared for presentation to the April Council.
7. The committee received a report from the Connexional Secretary on the first year of the performance related pay scheme for connexional staff, recognising that some issues need review. A further report will be made to the February meeting of the SRC.

8. The committee received an update on the development of Camden Methodist Church in conjunction with MIC Ltd as a Wesley Hotel. It noted the increased costs but recommended that, subject to the satisfactory resolution of some planning issues, the project could proceed. A report will be brought to the Council when all matters have been resolved.
9. The Council having delegated to the SRC the decision regarding to the terms of disposal of Sidwell Street Methodist Church under Model Trust 20, the committee received a report from the Conference Officer for Legal and Constitutional Practice stating that the terms of the agreement for the sale had not yet been agreed. It is hoped that heads of terms will be presented to the SRC at its meeting in February
10. The committee approved a proposal from the Head of Mission and Advocacy that a limited update of the connexional Inter Faith Strategy be undertaken.

*****RESOLUTION**

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