

Synod Cymru/The Wales Synod

Contact Name and Details	Doug Swanney, Connexional Secretary cs@methodistchurch.org.uk
Action Required	To note the proposals and the potential need for consultation and to appoint a scrutiny group to consider the responses, should that prove necessary.
Resolutions	60/1. The Council receives the report. 60/2. The Council appoints Ms Janet Baker, the Revd Beverly Hollings and the Revd Peter Sheasby to form a scrutiny group to work, if appropriate, on its behalf in the fulfilment of SO 401(2).

Summary of Content

Subject and Aims	To explore the possible re-shaping of the two Synods in Wales.
Main Points	The outline proposal that the Wales Synod and Synod Cymru come together to form one Synod in Wales. The paper proposes the process to be followed, should the wider consultation with the Synods be supportive, ensuring that, if appropriate, the Council fulfils its responsibilities under Standing Order 401.
Consultations	Chairs of District and key district staff. Wider district and circuit consultations to be initiated, where appropriate.

1. The Wales Synod and Synod Cymru have been exploring a proposal that the two districts in Wales work towards coming together to form one new district. This has the potential of providing greater coherence to the work of Methodism in Wales and providing the ability to respond more creatively to mission opportunities in both languages.
2. The proposed timeline is as follows:
 - Methodist Council – April 2018
Indicate the conversations that are underway, appoint scrutiny group who will, in due course, check that the feedback from the circuits is fairly represented in the report to the April Synods.
 - Synod Cymru – Representative Session – April 2018
Timeline, broad principles of the conversation, opportunity for questions and comments
 - Both Policy Committees June/July 2018
Update on progress to date

- Wales Synod – Representative Session – September 2018
Timeline, broad principles of the conversation, opportunity for questions and comments
 - Both Policy Committees – Autumn 2018
Aim for model outline at the latest and start process of consultation with the Circuits
 - Methodist Council – January 2019
Report on the scrutiny of the feedback from the Circuits
 - Both Policy Committees – February 2019
the two Committees agreeing the proposals for the Synods
 - Methodist Council – April 2019
will vote on the formal proposals, receiving the votes from the Synod while it meets
 - Representative Sessions of Synod – April 2019
the Synods meet on the same day, at a time that enables the Council to receive the votes to inform its recommendation to the Conference
the Synods will vote on the formal proposals
 - Methodist Conference – June/July 2019
will receive the recommendation from the Council and will vote on it
3. At this point in the process, the Council is asked to receive the report, and to appoint a scrutiny group who will ensure that, should a consultation process be required, the feedback from the Circuit Meetings is fairly represented in the report to the Synods in the spring of 2019.

*****RESOLUTIONS**

60/1. The Council receives the report.

60/2. The Council appoints Ms Janet Baker, the Revd Beverly Hollings and the Revd Peter Sheasby to form a scrutiny group to work, if appropriate, on its behalf in the fulfilment of SO 401(2).