



Decisions made by Standing Committee on 5 April 2019 about the Presbytery Restructure

Proposals were brought to Standing Committee from the Non Geographic Presbytery (NGP) Task Group, and from the Restructuring Task Group(RTG).

With regard to the NGP:

It was AGREED that the Synod Standing Committee RESOLVE to:

1. AGREE that the Non Geographic Presbytery, within the bounds of the SA Synod, be named “Generate Presbytery”, as per Regulation 3.4.6 (a)
2. AGREE that the responsibilities of the “Generate Presbytery” be as per Para 26 of the Uniting Church in Australia Constitution and Regulations 1.6.3; 3.1.3; 3.1.4; 3.3.4; 3.5.4; 3.5.5; 3.6.2; 3.7.2; 3.7.3 and 3.8 with the following specific delegations and applications;
 - a) the counselling and disciplining of ministers as per Regulation 3.1.3(a) (i) be delegated to the Synod Safe Church Committee in accordance with Reg. 5.4.1 -5.4.3 and appropriate Presbytery representation be included in the SCC membership.
 - b) Property matters will be dealt with in collaboration with the Synod and by referral of responsibilities detailed in Reg. 4.3.1 to the Synod.
3. AGREE that the Generate Presbytery will have representation on the Synod Property Committee.
4. AGREE that the Generate Presbytery will have authorised access to the Synod data base to enable recording of required information.
5. AGREE that the Generate Presbytery will have representation on the Synod Placements Committee, as determined by Regulation 3.7.4.2(iii).

With regard to the RTG:

It was AGREED that the Synod Standing Committee resolve to:

1. DETERMINE that a meeting of the Presbytery and Synod Standing Committee will be held on Friday, May 3, from 3 to 6 pm to finalise proposals that need to be resolved prior to or at the June meeting of the Presbytery and Synod.
2. DETERMINE that two Presbyteries will be formed at the June 2019 meeting of the Presbytery and Synod, one being the “non-geographic presbytery” agreed to at the November 2018 Annual Meeting of the Presbytery and Synod, the other being constituted by those congregations not allocated to the non-geographic presbytery.

3. NOTE that it is anticipated by the Restructuring Task Group that the second presbytery will be dissolved to enable the formation of two geographic presbyteries at the Annual Meeting of the Synod in November 2019.
4. APPROVE the following names of the two presbyteries that will be formed at the June 2019 Presbytery and Synod meeting:
 - “Generate Presbytery”, being the non-geographic presbytery initiated by the decisions of the November 2018 Presbytery and Synod meeting, and
 - “The Transitional Presbytery of South Australia”.
5. NOTE that the names of the two Presbyteries will be incorporated in the resolution to actually form the two Presbyteries at the June 2019 meeting of the Presbytery and Synod.
6. AFFIRM the assumptions contained in the paper “Synod and Presbytery Funding – Assumptions” as attached to this Report.
7. DETERMINE that whilst congregations may continue to form informal networks for a variety of purposes Mission Networks will no longer continue in their current form or funding model after 29 June, 2019.
8. DETERMINE that paid positions in Mission Networks will cease by the end of November 2019 on the basis that these positions related to a committee of the former Presbytery which will be dissolved in June 2019.
9. DETERMINE that the Synod will take responsibility for the administration (HR processes, etc) of these positions until the conclusion of these positions by the end of November 2019.
10. DIRECT the Mission Networks with paid positions continuing beyond 30 June, 2019, to fund those positions from accumulated Network reserves during the transitional period for the new Presbytery structures (1 July 2019 to 30 November 2019).
11. REQUEST Mission Networks to determine how they will expend any accumulated funds remaining after paid positions have ceased and provisions for leave payments owing to staff have been accounted for using one or more of the following options:
 - a) Funds to be returned to congregations;
 - b) Seed funding for the new Presbyteries;
 - c) Church Planting through the Church Planting processes currently in place within the Presbytery and Synod;
 - d) Other Uniting Church mission projects.