



## Proposal 5

### Presbytery Restructure Review Report

That the Synod of SA resolves to:

1. **CONGRATULATE** the Presbyteries for their commitment to the restructure and for the significant achievements made in establishing and working as Presbyteries amid the constraints of the COVID-19 pandemic and the many challenges faced.
2. **AFFIRM** the current structures of three Presbyteries and the cooperative working relationships established:
  - a) across Presbyteries and between congregations across Presbyteries
  - b) between Presbyteries and the Synod through Joint Leadership meetings, and meetings with Treasurers and Financial officers of the Synod
  - c) with the South Australian Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress and their congregations
3. **AFFIRM** the effectiveness of the current funding model in meeting the transition to the Presbytery structures and that the funding model be continued and reviewed in 2024.
4. **RECOGNISING** the mandated roles of each council of the Church:  
**REQUEST** the Synod Standing Committee to appoint a task group with membership from across the breadth of the Synod to review the operations and function of the Synod, in the light of the changed circumstances brought about by the restructure into Presbyteries.
5. **CONTINUE** the dialogue about delegations from Presbyteries to the Synod be continued, such that essential functions of the Church are performed by the Council of the Church best equipped to handle them and that recognition be given to those delegations already occurring between the Synod and individual Presbyteries where this is effective and necessary.
6. **REQUEST** the Joint Presbytery and Synod Leader's meeting give consideration to exploring the make up and recruitment for the committees of the Synod, and Presbyteries..
7. **REQUEST** the Mission and Leadership Development Board:
  - a) give consideration to new educational offerings that would equip people for leadership in governance and other committee work of Presbyteries and the Synod.

- b) consider ways in which the whole Synod membership might be equipped with greater knowledge of the Uniting Church and its missional purpose as a reformed evangelical church.

8. **THANK** and **DISCHARGE** the members of the Presbytery Restructure Review Task Group.

Presbytery Restructure Review Working Group:

Rev Sue Ellis  
Anton van Bavel  
Michael McLaren  
Rev Christine Manning  
Rev Sue Page

## Rationale

See Report S1.4