

44. Amendments to Standing Orders

STANDING ORDER 213

The Council recommends to the Conference changes to the membership of the Strategy and Resources Committee to take account of changes arising from *Team Focus*, a review of the role of Connexional Treasurer and a review of the constitutional position of the Training Strategy and Resources Executive. (See Agenda, section 37, Appendix 3; section 38, paragraph 1.4.2 and section 42.)

***RESOLUTION

44/1. The Conference amends Standing Order 213 as follows:

213 Strategy and Resources Committee. (1) The Conference shall each year appoint a Strategy and Resources Committee of the council consisting of:

- (i) a chair appointed in accordance with clause (2A) below and seven other persons, each appointed (subject to Standing Order 316) for a period of not more than four years;
- (ii) the *lead* connexional Treasurer;
- (iii) the chair of the Stationing Committee or his or her representative;
- (iv) the chair of the ~~Resourcing Mission~~ *Connexional* Grants Committee or his or her representative;
- (v) the ~~treasurer of the Methodist Missionary Society~~ chair of the Training Strategy and Resources Executive or his or her representative;
- (vi) a district Chair, nominated by the Chairs' Meeting;
- (vii) the Secretary of the Conference and the Connexional Team Secretaries as non-voting members.

STANDING ORDER 311

See Agenda, section 38, paragraph 1.4.2, for the recommendation of the Methodist Council.

***RESOLUTION

44/2. The Conference amends Standing Order 311 and makes the consequential minor changes as follows:

311 Treasurer. (1) The Methodist Council shall nominate and the Conference shall appoint a *lead connexional Treasurer and one or more other connexional Treasurers* ~~treasurer, who shall be known as the 'the connexional Treasurer'~~, who shall *together* have oversight of the funds specified in Standing Orders 361 and 362 and shall ensure that the unified statement of connexional funds required by Standing Order 360(1) is prepared.

(2) *One of the connexional Treasurers shall be the treasurer of the Methodist Missionary Society.*

(3) [*revoked*]

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(4) Subject to Standing Order 316 *each connexional Treasurer* ~~he or she~~ shall be appointed in the first instance for six years and may be appointed for further periods of one or more years thereafter. No person shall hold the office for more than twelve years consecutively except by a resolution of the council carried by a majority of 75% of those present and voting and reported, with a reasoned statement, to the Conference.

Consequential changes:

Replace 'the' with 'a' before 'connexional Treasurer' at SO 136A(1)(ii), 213A(4) and 316(2)(ii);

Insert 'lead' before 'connexional Treasurer' at SO 102(1)(i)(b) and 210(1)(ii).

NEW STANDING ORDER 230

For the background to this Standing Order, see Agenda, section 32.

*****RESOLUTION**

44/3. The Conference adopts a new Standing Order 230 in the following form and makes the consequential minor changes as follows:

230 The Connexional Leaders' Forum

(1) Leaders appointed by the Conference to exercise oversight in particular bodies or spheres of responsibility shall work together collegially in the oversight of the whole Church. The leaders listed in (2) below shall meet together as often as practicable to watch over one another in love in order to support each person in the exercise of his or her particular responsibilities, to engage in prayerful theological reflection, to share insights and develop vision, and to confer about how the vision and policies adopted by the Conference might be implemented in the Church.

(2) The Connexional Leaders' Forum shall consist of:

- (i) the General Secretary;*
- (ii) the Presidency as defined in Standing Order 110(2);*
- (iii) the District Chairs;*
- (iv) the Warden of the Methodist Diaconal Order;*
- (v) the Connexional Team Secretaries as defined in Standing Order 304;*
- (vi) the chair of the Methodist Council;*
- (vii) the chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee;*
- (viii) the chair of the Stationing Committee;*
- (ix) the Youth President.*

(3) Other persons appointed by the Conference to fulfil connexional duties shall be invited to form part of the Forum on particular occasions, as appropriate.

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Consequential changes:

Replace 'Connexional Leadership Team' with 'Connexional Leaders' Forum' in SO 300 (2A) and (2B).

Renumber SO 230 as 230A.

DELETION OF STANDING ORDER 341(2)

SO 341(2) provides for the Principal of Cliff College *ex officio* to be a member of the Connexional Team. This arrangement goes back to Home Mission days, as the HM Division had oversight of the College.

Two factors have changed the situation:

(a) The place and role of Cliff College in the family of Methodist training institutions is now secure, following the decisions of the 2007 Conference. The College will make its contribution to connexional life on the same basis as the other training institutions, while its distinctive 'charisms' will be honoured and used connexionally. Its connexional funding will be on the pattern developed with other institutions.

(b) The new ways in which the reconfigured Team will work in future admit of no 'special cases' or variations. Every staff member will be managed to contribute to the Team's objectives. That is not only undesirable in the case of the Principal of Cliff, it is literally impossible. So the formal relationship of the Cliff College Principal to the Team must change.

The Cliff College Committee have been consulted and agree the removal of the Standing Order; as does the incoming Principal, The Revd Dr Chris Blake.

*****RESOLUTION**

44/4. The Conference revokes Standing Order 341(2) and renumbers Standing Order 341(1) as 341.