

Legal and Property Support for Managing Trustees (LPSMT) Update on implementation of recommendations

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Summary of Content

Subject and Aims	To provide the Council with an update on work undertaken to implement the recommendations of the Legal and Property Support for Managing Trustees (LPSMT) working party since April 2018.
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1. In April 2018, the Council received a report from the LPSMT working party, which, in response to Memorials 26-29 to the 2016 Conference, had considered ways in which the provision of legal and property support for managing trustees could be improved.
2. The Council and the Board of TMCP accepted the recommendations of the working party and the Council therefore directed the Strategy and Resources Committee and invited the Executive of the Board of TMCP to oversee their implementation as soon as possible, noting the urgency of this piece of work (see Section U of the Council's report to the 2018 Conference for further details).
3. Following conversations between the Secretary of the Conference and the Chair of the Board of TMCP, a small group was appointed to oversee the detailed work of implementing the recommendations. The membership of the group is as follows: Mr John Bell (Chair), Mr Graham Danbury, Mr Rob Harrison and the Revd Nichola Jones. This group has met three times – in September and December 2018 and March 2019 – and is working closely with colleagues from TMCP and the Connexional Team.
4. Significant progress has already been made to implement some of the recommendations, including:
 - the appointment of a new Director of Strategic Property Development;
 - further progress towards a revised Connexional Team structure with a single, clear point of contact for initial enquiries regarding property support;
 - the appointment of a panel of surveyors in addition to the panel of solicitors already in place;
 - plans to introduce a 'direct dial' system at TMCP.

The Implementation Group added a 15th recommendation to the effect that the 14 recommendations of the working party must be implemented as a package and launched to the whole Church to ensure that new ways of working are understood and will be implemented.

5. However, although significant preparatory work has been undertaken, the Implementation Group wishes to make the Council aware that it has not been possible to finalise a service level agreement (with associated key performance indicators) clarifying the role and responsibilities of TMCP within the timeframe originally envisaged (ie the first six months of the 2018-19 connexional year). Further updates will be brought to subsequent meetings of the Council and the Implementation Group has emphasised that this work must proceed as a matter of urgency. The Implementation Group will meet next on Monday 29 April.
6. The Implementation Group wishes to express its gratitude to colleagues in TMCP and the Connexional Team for their work on this process in addition to their significant existing workloads.

*****RESOLUTION**

34/1. The Council notes the update from the Legal and Property Support for Managing Trustees Implementation Group.