

Report from the Strategy and Resources Committee (SRC) – April 2016

Contact Name and Details	Prof Peter D Howdle p.d.howdle@leeds.ac.uk
Status of Paper	Final
Action Required	None
Draft Resolutions	35/1. The Council receives the report.

Summary of Content

Subject and Aims	A summary of SRC decisions and actions.
Main Points	n/a
Background Context and Relevant Documents	n/a
Consultations	MIST/MAST, Education Officer.

The SRC met from 17-18 February 2016. The following are matters for report to the Council:

1. The SRC considered the work of MAST and its relationship with MIST. It noted that the Chair of the SRC and the Secretary of the Conference, supported by the relevant team members, were to meet with MAST and MIST representatives to discuss further their work as it has developed since the 2012 report of the Education Commission adopted by the Conference. In particular they were to explore the on-going work in relation to the state funded Methodist schools.

Note: the meeting with MIST and MAST representatives took place on 19 February 2016. The Chair of the SRC and the Secretary of the Conference are satisfied that MAST and the Director of Education are seeking to support our state funded schools and to provide professional support as the schools make decisions about the future. Appropriate funding is in place. This support is congruent with the recommendations of the Education Commission. It was also noted that MAST and MIST are developing some areas of collaborative work and will report on progress to the 2017 Conference.

2. The payroll services provided by the Connexional Team are being updated. In particular a revised payroll bureau for lay employees of local churches, circuits and districts is being established. When fully functioning it will be self-funding and will be able to deal with NI payments when multiple employers are involved. This latter point is also responding to Notice of Motion 2015/210 which the Council referred to the SRC (MC minute 16.1.12).
3. The SRC welcomed the development at Camden Town Methodist Church (MC/16/10). It will oversee the arrangements as requested by the Council. Currently the project is being considered by the local authority planning committee.
4. The SRC encouraged plans for the development of the ONE Programme with a focus on a one year internship programme for young people over 18.
5. The SRC endorsed the proposal that the Church of Scotland should have full and permanent membership of the Joint Public Issues Team (MC/16/52).

6. The SRC received the results of this year's staff satisfaction survey which showed that the staff remain very satisfied with working as part of the Connexional Team. Some queries arising out of the survey are being dealt with by the Connexional Secretary.
7. The SRC was informed that the tenders were being negotiated for the work at 24 Somerset Road, Birmingham. This may be more expensive than originally budgeted. The terms of the subsequent lease to The Queen's Foundation are being developed (MC/16/25).
8. Work is now progressing again on the current refurbishment at Methodist Church House.
9. Work is progressing on a number of areas of the Pay and Grading Review. The SRC agreed that details of the new pay ranges would be brought to the Council (MC/16/48).
10. The SRC recommended to the Council revised terms of reference for the Finance Sub-Committee (FSC) of the SRC (MC/16/59).
11. The SRC considered the draft budget as recommended by the FSC. It made a number of recommendations to the Council, including options and a recommendation for calculating the Methodist Church Fund assessment for the three years commencing 2017-18 (MC/16/38).

*****RESOLUTION**

35/1. The Council receives the report.