

54. Connexional Grants Committee

Basic Information

Contact Name and Details	Dr Ian Harrison, Chair Connexional Grants Committee (CGC) lan.b.harrison@btinternet.com
Status of Paper	Final
Action required	Decision
Draft Resolution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Conference receives the report of the Connexional Grants Committee. 2. The Conference notes the approved grants from the Epworth Fund, and that the Epworth Fund allocations in the future will all be included in the remit of the Connexional Grants Committee. 3. The Conference approves the use of unallocated funds from the Epworth Fund Grants budget for 2008-9 as a contingency fund, so that Officers of the Connexional Grants Committee may make discretionary grants if required during the year 2009/10 and report any such grants to the Methodist Council during 2009-10. 4. The Conference directs that the current arrangements for Property grants and Ministry and Mission grants shall apply for one further connexional year (2009-10) under the newly appointed Connexional Grants Committee. 5. The Conference directs that the World Church rolling annual grants from the connexional year 2010-11 be included in the remit of the Connexional Grants Committee.
Alternative options to consider, if any	None

Summary of Content

Subject and Aims	Report of CGC's work and constitution during the connexional year 2008/9
Main Points	Account of funds expended Confirmation of the membership of CGC and its associated streams
Background Context and Relevant Documents (with function)	Need to report CGC's activities to Conference
Consultations	Relevant members of the Connexional Team and CGC
Risk	None

Connexional Grants Committee

The Connexional Grants Committee (CGC) was established in the autumn of 2008 as the successor to Resourcing Mission Grants Committee and the bodies dealing with World Church analogues. It seeks to bring together the Church's major central grant-giving processes within a single framework, handled by consistent methodologies. It is likely that the Committee's activities will in future be reported on under the general arrangements for reporting on the Methodist Church Fund; this report is therefore transitional in nature.

CGC is responsible for allocating grants in Britain from the Connexional Advance and Priority Fund and the Fund for Home Mission, together with grants from a range of other sources such as the Epworth Fund for Miscellaneous Grants and the Annesley House Fund. It is also responsible for allocation of grants from the Fund for World Mission for Scholarship and Leadership Training, Nationals in Mission Appointments and other general grants.

CGC operates primarily via five specialist "streams" for **Mission in Britain** (MiB) Grants and three for **World Church** grants. We expect to add another shortly for *Methodist Heritage*.

The streams have autonomy for grants of up to £30k; grants of £30-£100k are dealt with by a MiB or World Church Sub-Committee comprising the stream chairs and larger grants by CGC itself, which is a relatively small group. A "Governance Group" keeps a watching brief of CGC's

activities and feeds back to both CGC and Council.

CGC also monitors the use of District and Circuit Advance Funds for grant making through an analysis of statistics from Schedules 16 and 17. Over the last 3 years £5,569,448 has been distributed from CAPF to District Advance Funds, with the proportion of CAPF income distributed to Districts increasing from 25% to 50% in 2007.

During the year 2008 – 2009, CGC awarded grants totalling £1.242m to Ministry and Mission projects in Circuits and Districts as well as an expected £1.4m in grants to partner Churches overseas by the time of the Conference.

Projects in Britain awarded the Mission and Ministry in Britain Grants:

1. North East Somerset and Bath, Southdown Whiteway Church and Community Project
2. Middlesbrough and Eston, Kara project
3. Middlesbrough and Eston, Refugee and Asylum Seeker project
4. Liverpool (City Centre Ministry), Somewhere Else - City Centre Ministry
5. Newcastle upon Tyne District, District Evangelism Enabler
6. Newcastle upon Tyne (Brunswick Central), Student Outreach project
7. Newcastle upon Tyne (Brunswick Central), Youth and Community Worker
8. Derby (From Sept 09), Mission and Ministry - Chinese Community
9. Market Harborough, Circuit Youth Work

10. Plymouth and Exeter District, District Evangelism Enabler
 11. West Devon, Rural Fresh Expressions work
 12. West Devon, Probationer appointment (p/t)
 13. Huddersfield (Pennine), The Mission Café
 14. Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury District, Wolverhampton Faith and Regeneration Network
 15. The Marches, Circuit Support
 16. Whitby, Church, Family & Community Work
 17. North of Scotland Mission, Peterhead Youth Worker
 18. Colchester, Highwoods - Community Outreach Project
 19. Market Harborough Circuit Youth Work
 20. Diaconal Appointment
 21. Liskeard & Looe Circuit Lay Family worker
 22. St Albans & Welwyn - 'Take Flight' Community Project
 23. Buxton Diaconal Appointment -Fairfield Estate
 24. Barton & Brigg - Diaconal Appointment: Mission & Outreach
 25. Plymouth & Exeter District - Rural Community Worker
 26. Lincoln & Grimsby District: Lincolnshire Agricultural Chaplain
 27. Doncaster: Iranian Asylum Seeker Project
 28. North of Scotland Mission : Peterhead Youth Worker
 29. Lesnes Abbey: Greenwish Peninsula Project
 30. Cambridge: Northstowe Pioneer Ministry
 31. North Lancs District: District Evangelism Enabler
 32. Bolton: St Andrews Community Worker
 33. ACET Multicultural Community Development Project, Jersey
 34. Broadwater Farm Ecumenical Church Workers Group.
 35. Saltley Methodist Sewing Group. Birmingham.
 36. West Indian Family Counselling Service. (WIFCOS) Leeds.
 37. Open Doors Project, Hull
 38. Black Theology in Britain
 39. Black Methodist Ministers' Group
 40. Bristol & Gloucs: Parkway Community Project
- Out of the projects in Britain awarded connexional funds at the CGC's meetings, 11 were for children, family or youth work projects. This does not include HE chaplaincies or "fresh expressions" style projects which might have been developed primarily with young people in mind.
- Partners overseas awarded the Mission and Ministry Grants in the World Church:**
1. The Methodist Church Colombia: for a sixth year of the Nationals in Mission Appointment in Medellin.
 2. The Methodist Church, The Gambia: for theological training of Louis Prom at Trinity College, Legon, Ghana.
 3. A grant towards the cost of a training and activity programme in the Methodist Church, Portugal for the support and discipleship development of lay people.
 4. The Family Centre in Iquique, Chile.
 5. A grant to enable the attendance of the Revd David Haslam at the WCC/ LWF Ecumenical Conference on Dalit Liberation.

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6. Nepal Christian Relief Services: to cover accumulated liabilities and solar charging equipment.
7. The Methodist Church The Gambia: for hospitality and Foundation Conference arrangements.
8. The Methodist Church The Gambia for flights for international guests to the Foundation Conference.
9. Conference of European Churches Church and Society Commission: to ensure completion of our commitment to Conference of European Churches Church and Society Commission prior to any negotiations for future support.
10. SPATS: to enable the new General Secretary of SPATS, Rev Rusiate Tuidrakulu to attend an International Consultation, 'Ivory Towers, Muddy Grounds', at SOCMS in March 2009.
11. Earthquake in Italy: a solidarity grant to OPCEMI
12. Université Protestante de l'Afrique de l'Afrique de l'Ouest: to cover the costs of currency depreciation in the MCB 2008/09 Annual Grant
13. Eglise Methodiste du Togo: A mission partner vehicle grant for his work in the Togo Methodist Church.
14. The Methodist Church in Sri Lanka (MCSL): To enable the MCSL to continue to offer emergency relief to those affected and displaced by the current conflict.
15. National Evangelical Primitive Methodist Church of Guatemala: to cover depreciation in value of agreed NMA support for the year 2009.
16. CIEMAL: for General Secretary Salary Support in the period May 2009 – August 2010

The CAPF grants towards property projects have continued to play an important part in the funding of capital property projects. These grants focus on higher value schemes. From a budget for the year of £750k the maximum actual grant awarded was £26,250. Grants from external charitable trusts have continued to form the largest part of church property project funding packages with the public sector being the second largest contributor. Projects have ranged from provision of disabled facilities to major structural alterations. In most cases the CAPF grant is the final piece of funding which enables the project to be approved and a start made.

The largest number of World Church grants are 'rolling annual grants' to our Partners totalling over £1.5m. The "Grant Making Framework" which established CGC was unclear as to whether or not these grants were to be included in CGC's remit. The Strategy and Resources Committee is of the view that they should be and we will be putting processes in place to ensure that they are covered.

The three Streams associated with **Partner Church work overseas** operate in different modes and these Streams are in association with the Methodist Church in Ireland. The **General Grant** stream assists immediate needs and small projects: it has agreed a total of 23 new grants since November, amounting to £162k, with over £300k remaining in this year's budget. Various crises – for example in Italy (earthquake), Sri Lanka (war), Zimbabwe (humanitarian), etc – mean that Partner Churches are continually put under

pressure and the British Church is looked upon for ongoing support.

The **Nationals in Mission Appointments** Stream meets once a year just prior to the Conference and will expect to support about 30 new pieces of work in partner Churches over the next 5 years. Its budget for commitment this year is about £500k for 2009/10 and beyond.

Finally the **Scholarship and Leadership Training** (SALT) Stream has allocated £418k of grants for 13 Partner Church present and future leaders to be trained on one-year courses in UK and Ireland, as well as 11 in training institutions in other countries, and 2 important 'Group Training' programmes in Nigeria and Sierra Leone.

Epworth Fund Applications

The following applications to the Epworth Fund were approved on a discretionary basis by officers authorised by the Conference of 2008 from the contingency fund and are reported for information:

The CGC has allocated £69,000 from the Epworth Fund with details below:

1. 'Together in Mission' Conference – £5,000
2. Methodist Art Collection – £24,000 over three years

3. Share Jesus International Pentecost Festival 2009 – £20,000
4. Urban Theology Research project – £20,000

The Connexional Team Secretaries have allocated £63,050 from the Epworth Fund with details below:

5. Evangelism & Fresh Expression: Archbishops' Council – £6,450
6. Epworth Review – £10,000
7. Theological Research Fellowship (total £46,600): College of Preachers – £5,000; Queen's Foundation Black Theology – £41,600

Dates and Deadlines

The Connexional Grants Committee will meet as follows:

24 November 2009
23 March 2010

The Mission and Ministry in Britain Sub-Committee will meet as follows:

23 November 2009
22 March 2010

The Mission and Ministry in the World Church Sub-Committee will meet as follows:

22 June 2009
November 2009 (date to be decided)

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***RESOLUTIONS

- 54/1.** The Conference received the report of the Connexional Grants Committee.
- 54/2.** The Conference noted the approved grants from the Epworth Fund, and that the Epworth Fund allocations in the future will all be included in the remit of the Connexional Grants Committee.
- 54/3.** The Conference approved the use of unallocated funds from the Epworth Fund Grants budget for 008-9 as a contingency fund, so that Officers of the Connexional Grants Committee may make discretionary grants if required during the year 2009/10 and report any such grants to the Methodist Council during 2009-10.
- 54/4.** The Conference directed that the current arrangements for Property grants and Ministry and Mission grants shall apply for one further connexional year (2009-10) under the newly appointed Connexional Grants Committee.
- 54/5.** The Conference directed that the World Church rolling annual grants from the connexional year 2010-11 be included in the remit of the Connexional Grants Committee.

Connexional Grants Committee

Dr Ian Harrison (Chair)

Mr. Christopher Finbow (Chair, Mission and Ministry in Britain Sub-Committee)

Revd Stephen Poxon (Chair, Mission and Ministry in the World Church Sub-Committee)

Revd Kavula John

Ms Moira Simpson

Revd Richard Thompson

Governance Scrutiny Group

Revd Andrew King (Chair)

Mr Andrew Whitley

Ms Helen Woodall

Mr Andrew Gibbs

Mission and Ministry in Britain Sub-Committee

Mr Christopher Finbow (Chair)

Revd Emmanuel Aggrey-Ogoe

Mr Martyn Holman

Revd Patricia Horton

Revd Sara Cliff

Chaplaincy Stream

Revd Patricia Horton (Chair)
Mr David Goodall
Mr John Robinson

Cross-cultural Stream (formerly Partner Churches work in Britain)

Revd Emmanuel Aggrey-Ogoe (Chair)
Mrs Sandra Lewer
Revd David Haslam

Ministry and Mission Stream (formerly General Grants)

Mr Christopher Finbow (Chair)
Ms Nancy Acquaah
Revd Kevin Hooke

Property Stream

Mr Martyn Holman (Chair)
Revd Malcolm Hickox
Mrs. Helen Miller

Youth Stream

Revd Sara Cliff (Chair)
Mr William Hopkins
Mr Peter Brady

Mission and Ministry in the World Church Sub-Committee

Chair: **MMS Secretary (Revd Stephen Poxon)**
Deputy Chairs: Revd Dr Adrian Burdon
Revd Bill Mullally
Revd Kavula John

General Grants Stream

Revd Kavula John (Chair)
MMS Treasurer (Mr Andrew Gibbs)
Revd Wesley Campbell (Representative from the Methodist Church in Ireland)

Nationals in Mission Appointments Stream

Revd Bill Mullally (Chair) (Representative from the Methodist Church in Ireland)
Mrs Stella Bristow
MMS Treasurer (Mr Andrew Gibbs)
Four Partner Church representatives
Two representatives of the Districts of the Methodist Church in Britain
Up to four Partnership Co-ordinators (non-voting)

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World Church Scholarships Stream (The SALT Advisory Group)

Revd Dr Adrian Burdon (Chair)

Vacancy

Representative from Selly Oak Centre for Mission Studies

Representative from Cliff College (Revd Richard Jackson)

Representative from Irish theological institution (Revd Richard Clutterbuck)

Representative from other British theological institution

Two representatives from partner churches (Rev John Nyota and one vacancy)