

COUNCIL FOR MISSION IN IRELAND

Convener: Very Rev Dr FRANK SELLAR

Secretary: Rev DAVID BRUCE

INTRODUCTION AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Council for Mission in Ireland provides operational management and support to the Home Mission, Irish Mission, Deaconesses and centrally managed mission projects of the Church, including the International Meeting Point, South Belfast Friendship House and Nightlight. It supports the provision of a chaplaincy service in universities and colleges, the healthcare system, the prison service and the armed forces. In addition, the Council seeks to assist the denomination in sharpening its missional focus by developing a strategy for mission across Ireland, and by providing advisory comment to the Linkage Commission and other agencies of the church enabling them to allocate their resources to best effect. Under the revised structures which in 2015 gave birth to the councils, the CMI seeks to partner with colleagues in the Councils for Congregational life and Witness, and in particular, the Council for Global Mission with which it forms the Mission Department.
2. The main focus of the Council's report to the Assembly in 2018 is:
 - (a) **The progress of the Home Mission Review.** This was sent down to 10 presbyteries for comment and, in parallel, a Task Group was formed with the Linkage Commission to examine the technical details of the changes proposed.
 - (b) **The proposal to sell the premises at 10-12 Elmwood Avenue, Belfast (Café Grace).** An amendment to a Council resolution was accepted at the General Assembly in 2017, requiring the Council to examine the possibility of continuing to operate the Chaplaincy centre at no cost to the Church, and to consult with other bodies engaged in student ministry. A Task Group was formed and its report and recommendations are included.
 - (c) **A review of the work of chaplaincy, starting with universities and colleges** (following a review report to the Council in 2015 restricted to Belfast) and extending to other areas of chaplaincy work. These discussions about the purpose, place and priorities of chaplaincy work will form a significant part of the Council's work in the incoming year. The Council's response to a consultation document from the Northern Health and Social Care Trust on generic chaplaincy in healthcare settings highlights some of the

complex issues before the Church in seeking to protect and preserve a presence in public institutions.

- (d) **The Belfast Conference.** The Strategy for Mission Committee has been encouraged by the first phase of work of the Belfast Conference which has heard significant reports from each of the Presbyteries, analysed much of the historic and contemporary statistical data, thought and prayed over an emerging vision for the City and has commenced putting systems in place to assess and support new work. Neil Harrison (Mission Development Officer), having been appointed in January, is helping to facilitate this work.
3. The Council places on record its appreciation for the work of all the staff in the Mission Department, which includes those responsible for Mission in Ireland and Global Mission.

HOME MISSION, IRISH MISSION AND DEACONESS COMMITTEE

Home Mission

Directory of Home and Urban Mission Charges. Linked Congregations (in brackets) are not in the Home Mission. Ministers marked * are called by CMI. (April 2018)

MINISTER	CHARGE
Rev Colin Anderson	(Frankford, Castleblayney), Corvalley and Ervey
Rev Rodney Beacom*	Lisbellaw, Lisnaskea, Maguiresbridge and Newtownbutler
Rev Damien Burke*	Drogheda
Rev Andy Carroll*	Donabate
Rev David Clarke*	Sligo with Boyle (Stated supply)
Rev David Conkey*	Enniscorthy and Wexford
Vacant* (Call issued to Mr Richie Cronin)	Trinity Cork and Aghada
Rev Molly Deatherage*	Ballina, Killala, Ballymote
Rev Nathan Duddy*	Arklow
Rev Al Dunlop *	Howth and Malahide

MINISTER	CHARGE
Rev Daryl Edwards*	Drum, Cootehill and Kilmount
Rev Helen Freeburn*	Galway (Alternating Scheme)
Rev Stewart Glendinning*	Moville, Greenbank, Carndonagh and Malin
Rev William Hayes*	Tullamore and Mountmellick
Rev Knox Jones	(Waterside) and Fahan
Rev Chris Kennedy	Bray (Stated supply)
Rev Vicki Lynch (MCI)	Christ Church, Limerick (Alternating Scheme)
Rev Dr Keith McCrory*	Maynooth
Rev Gary McDowell*	Greystones
Vacant	(Aughnacloy) and Ballymagrane
Rev Jean Mackarel*	Drumkeeran, Killeshandra, Cavan and Bellasis
Rev Colin McKibben	(Convoy, Carnone, Donoughmore) and Alt
Rev Katherine P Meyer*	Sandymount (Alternating Scheme)
Rev Alan Moore	(Cavanaleck) and Aughtentine
Rev Susan Moore	(Kerrykeel, Milford) and Rathmullan
Rev William Montgomery*	Fermoy and Cahir
Rev Mark Proctor*	Naas (pt) with chaplaincy at Tallaght Hospital
Rev Stephen Rea*	Carlow and Athy
Rev David Reid	(Ardstraw) and Douglas
Rev Daniel Reyes Martin*	Kilkenny
Rev Stephen Richmond*	Donegal and Stranorlar
Rev Rodney Thompson	(Badoney, Corrick) and Glenelly
Rev Andrew Watson*	Carrigart and Dunfanaghy (pt)
Vacant	First Bailieborough, Corraneary, (Trinity Bailieborough)

MINISTER	CHARGE
Vacant	Clones, Stonebridge, Ballyhobridge and Newbliss (pt)
Vacant	Corboy and Mullingar
Vacant	Dundalk
Vacant	Inch
Vacant	Irvinestown, Pettigo and Tempo
Vacant	Kells (Under review)
Vacant	(First Monaghan) and Smithborough
URBAN MISSION MINISTERS	
Rev Rodney Cameron*	St Columba's, Lisburn
Rev Mervyn Gibson*	Westbourne
Rev William Harkness*	Great Victoria Street (pt) with additional missional duties
Rev Robert Love*	Taughmonagh
Rev Danny Rankin*	Strand, Belfast
Rev Lachlan Webster*	Craigavon

4. **Boyle:** a resolution concerning the amalgamation of Boyle with Sligo is being brought to the General Assembly by the Linkage Commission (page 227, resolution 5).

IRISH MISSION WORKER AND DEACONESS PANEL

Directory of Irish Mission Workers, and the location of their service (April 2018)

NAME	LOCATION
David Boyd	Adelaide Road, Dublin
Tom Dowling	Kilkenny
Keith Preston	International Meeting Point, Belfast
Philip Whelton	Arklow
William Workman	Athy

Directory of Deaconesses, and the location of their service (April 2018)

NAME	LOCATION
Sonya Anderson	Shore Street, Donaghadee
Eileen Black	First Magherafelt
Rachel Cubitt	Whiteabbey
Eleanor Drysdale	Wellington, Ballymena
Joanne Dunlop	Chaplaincy Team – Antrim and Craigavon Hospitals
Sharon Heron	International Meeting Point and Windsor, Belfast
Roberta Irvine	Greystone Road, Antrim
Phyllis Linton	West Church, Ballymena
Heather McCracken	Chaplaincy Team – Royal Victoria and Belfast City Hospitals
Amy Magee	Without charge
Tracey Nicholl	St James', Ballymoney
Julie Peake	Without charge
Michelle Purdy	Ballyclare
Hazel Reid	First Broughshane

NAME	LOCATION
Margaret Robertson	Elmwood, Lisburn
Rosemary Spiers	Greenwell Street, Newtownards
Evelyn Whyte	1st Lisburn

5. Heidi England (Probationer Deaconess) is currently serving in the Ulster Hospital as Assistant to the Chaplain and, in a similar capacity, with Rev Graham Stockdale (Chaplain, HMP Maghaberry).
6. Three student Deaconesses are completing their first year of training at Union Theological College; Paula Burrows, Louise Davidson and Sylvia Santos Bryce.
7. The Council marked the retirement of the following Deaconesses during the year, and with warm appreciation for their service, commends them to the prayers of the Church. Lynda McFaul, First Carrickfergus, retired 30th June 2017; Sadie McCullough, Whiteabbey, retired 30th June 2017; Jenny Clegg, Ballycrochan, retired 3rd September 2017; Christine Kyle, Ulster Hospital, retired 7th January 2018; Doreen Draffin, Whitehouse/NI Hospice, retired 31st March 2018.

HOME MISSION REVIEW PANEL

8. A report with recommendations from the Panel (which includes comment on the responses sent in by Presbyteries) and the work of the Implementation Task Group is included in Appendix 1. A resolution regarding the future work of the Home Mission Review is appended.

ROY PATTON, Convener

NIGHTLIGHT MANAGEMENT PANEL

9. The work of Nightlight continues, with the valued leadership of Linzie Cobain and Brian Simons (Evangelists).
10. A recent visit to Edinburgh by Linzie Cobain and a small group of volunteers proved valuable as they explored ministry to homeless people, as part of night-time ministry. A wider review of the work of Nightlight is planned for later in the year. The recent involvement of the Minister of Great Victoria Street in support of staff and volunteers in Nightlight is appreciated by the Panel.

DANNY RANKIN, Convener

INTERNATIONAL MEETING POINT MANAGEMENT PANEL

11. This project is strategically positioned to minister to the changing face of Northern Ireland as more people come to the province from all around the world. At its base in 133a Lisburn Road, Belfast, the project hosts large numbers every day and provides food, a place to socialise, English classes, support, a listening ear and witness for Jesus Christ. In addition to this, special events such as a Christmas Dinner, a family trip to Carnfunnock Park and student teachers offering an after school club, are other ways of helping and building relationships with those who visit the project.
12. The work receives wide support throughout the church with many PW groups visiting to provide lunches and congregations giving donations after Harvest Services to be distributed to families.
13. The project continues to grow and this raises challenges about the nature and development of the work in the coming years. In addition, the practical, maintenance and financial aspects of the day-to-day running of the Project are overseen by the Management Panel, which works in partnership with South Belfast Presbytery.
14. The Project team is headed by Keith Preston (Irish Mission Worker) and includes Henry Coulter (Assistant Leader), Sharon Heron (Deaconess) and Jeanette Preston (Domestic Assistant).

PETER LYLE, Convener

SOUTH BELFAST FRIENDSHIP HOUSE MANAGEMENT PANEL

15. The formation of a Management Panel for South Belfast Friendship House coincides with its formal transfer to CMI in January 2018. The Panel includes representation from PW. Financial responsibility for the project has passed from PW to CMI, and this will be reflected in the annual accounts of the CMI from 2018 onwards. The PW maintains a substantial input financially and will continue to make an annual donation to CMI for the work.
16. There are two contracted staff positions in SBFH, with a third position of Project Leader, currently vacant. Notice of the Project Leader vacancy has been circulated to serving Deaconesses. No appointment has been made as yet. If a Deaconess appointment is not made, the post will be advertised on a contractual basis.
17. The Panel records its thanks to Mrs. Elizabeth Matthews (Deaconess, retired) who has served in a temporary part-time capacity in leadership of SBFH through most of 2017. Elizabeth completed her term of service at the end of March 2018.

18. Rev William Harkness was installed as minister in Great Victoria Street Church in December, with additional missional duties in the Sandy Row area. The outreach work of the House has much potential. The links with the local men's hostel and the after-schools work are areas in which further development and restructuring could be of great benefit. On-going links with both Derryvolgie and Belfast Bible College students have been helpful. The House staff, Eunice Moore and Natalie McDowell are to be commended in their work day to day.
19. Friendship House is seen as having a strategic role in the on-going mission in the locality and is commended to the wider Church for prayerful and practical support.

MARK SPRATT, Convener

IAN CARTON, Convener

HEALTHCARE, PRISONS AND FORCES CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE

Healthcare Chaplaincy

PCI Healthcare Chaplains. (April 2018)

NAME	LOCATION
Rev Lindsay Blair	Altnagelvin Hospital
Rev David Clarke	Sligo University Hospital
Rev Richie Cronin (pending)	Cork University Hospital
Rev David Cupples	South West Acute Hospital, Enniskillen
Rev Tony Davidson	St Luke's; Mullinure and Longstone
Susan Dawson	Coordinating Chaplain, Dublin Hospitals
Rev Molly Deatherage	Mayo General Hospital
Rev Ken Doherty	Mater Hospital, Belfast
Joanne Dunlop (Deaconess Assistant to the Chaplain)	Antrim Area Hospital Craigavon
Rev Helen Freeburn	University Hospital, Galway
Rev John Gilkinson	Antrim Area Hospital, Causeway Hospital (temporary)
Rev David Hagan	Cavan General Hospital

NAME	LOCATION
Rev Norman Harrison (full time)	Royal Group of Hospitals
Rev Keith Hibbert	Altnagelvin Hospital
Rev Brian Hughes (full time)	Belfast City Hospital
Rev Jim Lamont	Letterkenny General Hospital
Rev Vicki Lynch (MCI)	University Hospital, Limerick
Heather McCracken (Deaconess Assistant to the Chaplain)	Royal Group of Hospitals Belfast City Hospital
Rev Keith McIntyre	Daisy Hill Hospital
Rev Stephen McNie	Monaghan General Hospital
Rev Stanley Millen	Dundalk District Hospital (interim)
Rev Jane Nelson	Tyrone County Hospital
Rev Dr Ivan Neish	Whiteabbey Hospital
Rev Leslie Patterson	Lagan Valley Hospital
Rev Owen Patterson	Downe Hospital
Rev Mark Proctor	Tallaght Hospital (Adelaide and Meath)
Rev Mark Russell	Altnagelvin Hospital
Rev Ivan Thompson	Bluestone Psychiatric Unit
Rev Alan Thompson	South Tyrone Hospital
Rev Michael Anderson	Musgrave Park Hospital, Belfast
Vacant	Ulster Hospital, Dundonald

20. This directory does not include smaller institutions, specialist or private hospitals and hospices, most of which will have their own arrangements in place with local ministers.
21. It should be noted that in most Health and Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland, Chaplains are employees of the Trust.
22. With some exceptions, in most major hospitals in the Irish Republic, PCI chaplaincies are honorary appointments, typically fulfilled by the local minister.

23. Lagan Valley and Downe Hospitals.
 - (a) Steps are being taken by the South Eastern Trust to fill the vacant position.
24. Ulster Hospital, Dundonald.
 - (a) Steps are being taken by the South Eastern Trust to fill the vacant position.
 - (b) Christine Kyle, Deaconess, retired from her role as Assistant to the Chaplain in January. The Council has recorded its thanks to her for her long service to the Church and especially as Assistant to the Chaplain in the Ulster Hospital over many years, and commends her to the prayers of the Church.
25. Antrim Area Hospital.
 - (a) Joanne Dunlop, Deaconess Assistant to the Chaplain is on maternity leave. The Rev John Gilkinson, Chaplain in Antrim and the Causeway, is providing cover.
26. Generic Chaplaincy and the Northern Trust.
 - (a) The Northern Health and Social Trust issued a Consultation document on 19th January 2018 entitled, 'Generic Model of Chaplaincy and Re-alignment of Session and Ministry.' In response to this, and to meet the deadlines of the consultation process, the CMI and the General Council agreed that a submission be made as to the position of the denomination on this matter. The submission document is included as Appendix 2 to this Report, with an appended resolution.
27. Belfast Trust 'bank' chaplains.
 - (a) Following advertisement and interviews by the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust for additional volunteer chaplains for their 'bank', Rev Marlene Taylor has been appointed.

Prisons Chaplaincy

PCI Prisons' Chaplains (April 2018)

NAME	LOCATION
Rev Graham Stockdale (ft)	HMP Maghaberry (Coordinating Chaplain)
Rev Colin Megaw	Woodland's Juvenile Justice Centre
Rev Alan Boal	Mountjoy, Dublin
Vacant	Hydebank Wood College (pt)
Vacant	HMP Magilligan

28. Funding Agreement.

- (a) The funding agreement in place between the NIPS and the Church is due for renewal in April each year. At the time of writing, notice of renewal is awaited while budgets are set for government departments in the absence of a Stormont Executive. It seems likely there will be a further reduction in the amount allocated from the department.
- (b) The Rev Rodney Cameron resigned as Presbyterian Chaplain to the Prison Service in January 2018 on accepting a call to parish ministry. Mr Cameron gave sterling service both as a Chaplain and as the Co-coordinating Chaplain, and the Council noted this.
- (c) The post of Presbyterian Chaplain to Maghaberry Prison and as Co-ordinating Chaplain was advertised, and the Rev Graham Stockdale was appointed. He commenced duties on 9th April 2018.

FORCES' CHAPLAINCY PANEL

Commissioned Chaplains within the Armed Forces (April 2018)

NAME	LOCATION
Rev Mark Donald	Army Reserve (part time)
Rev Simon Hamilton	Royal Naval Reserve (part time)
Rev Mark Henderson	Army
Rev Ivan Linton	Army
Rev Graeme McConville	Army
Rev Norman McDowell	Army
Rev Scott Moore	Army Reserve (part time)
Rev Heather Rendell	Army
Rev Dr Paul Swinn	Army
Rev Brent van der Linde	Royal Navy
Rev Dr Philip Wilson	Royal Air Force

Part-Time Chaplains to Youth Organisations sponsored by the Armed Forces

NAME	LOCATION
Rev Kenneth Crowe	Army Cadet Force (commissioned)
Rev Dr Paul Bailie	Army Cadet Force (commissioned)
Rev Joseph Andrews	Air Training Corps
Rev Richard Graham	Air Training Corps
Rev Ivan Neish	Air Training Corps
Rev Jane Nelson	Air Training Corps
Rev Prof. Patton Taylor	Air Training Corps

Part-time Officiating Chaplains to the Military

NAME	LOCATION
Rev Derek Weir	OCM
Rev Prof. Patton Taylor	OCM

29. Pastoral Care of personnel in ROI Forces. The Convener has invited ministers in the Republic to volunteer as named ministers for provision of pastoral care to Presbyterians in the Irish armed forces. To date, two ministers have responded positively and discussions with the Chief Chaplain are ongoing.
30. Moderatorial Visits. The Moderator visited Thiepval Barracks on Monday, 27th November 2017 along with the Convener and the Secretary. There are plans for the Moderator to visit Chaplains based in England in April, including 1 Royal Irish at Terne Hill, near Birmingham, who (with Rev Ivan Linton as their Chaplain) have recently returned from a gruelling tour in Afghanistan and who are currently the Battalion on short-term notice for and emergency deployment.
31. Reception The Committee Convener and the Secretary attended a reception on Monday, 12th February in Tyrone House, Belfast, for a visit by the Rt Rev Tim Thornton, Anglican Bishop to the Armed Forces. Rev Alex Bennet, Deputy Assistant Chaplain General for Northern Ireland, was also present.
32. Trip to Somme Arrangements have been made for a group trip to Ypres and the Somme battle sites from 16th to 22nd April 2018, in particular to visit the graves of serving PCI chaplains who died during the Great War.

33. Forces Chaplains and attendance at Presbytery.
- (a) The question of Chaplains in the Armed Forces as members of Presbytery, but for practical reasons being unable to attend meetings, was referred to the Moderator's Advisory Committee, in respect of their status as Charity Trustees.
 - (b) An overture proposing an amendment to the Code will be put to the Assembly on this matter – (see page 153).
34. Personnel.
- (a) The Rev Simon Hamilton has passed the Admiralty Interview Board and is now training as a Royal Navy Reserve Chaplain.
 - (b) Mr Brent van der Linde, having received and accepted a call from the General Council, was duly ordained and installed as a Chaplain to the Royal Navy at a service in Stormont Church on 28th January 2018. He took up his duties with the Royal Navy in early February and is currently serving at the Royal Marines Training Centre near Exmouth, as he awaits full RN officer training in the late spring.
 - (c) The Rev Scott Moore has been commissioned as an Army Reserve Chaplain.
 - (d) Rev Dr Paul Bailie is now serving as Chaplain with the Army Cadet Force.
 - (e) The Rev Colin Jones has resigned as an Army Chaplain (full time) and is now the minister of Regent St congregation, Newtownards.
 - (f) The Forces Chaplaincy Interview Panel has supported two applications for full-time chaplaincy with the RAF.
 - (g) PCI has five Presbyterian Chaplains to the Air Training Corps and there are vacancies in Bangor, Holywood, Larne, Portadown, and Ballynahinch.
35. Prayer Breakfasts were held as follows: 25th November, Garvagh; 27th January, Ballyclare; 24th February, Bushvale; and 24th March 2018, Ballygilbert.
36. The brief video on Chaplaincy that was produced for Remembrance Sunday was well received and widely used. It will continue to be available (in a slightly adapted format) for use on other appropriate occasions during the coming year.

PATTON TAYLOR, Convener
DONALD PATTON, Convener

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE

Universities and Colleges Chaplains (April 2018)

NAME	LOCATION
Rev David Gray	Queen's University, Stranmillis and Union Theological Colleges
Rev Cheryl Meban	Ulster University, Jordanstown and Belfast Campuses
Rev John Coulter	Ulster University, Coleraine Campus (part time)
Rev Graeme Orr	Ulster University, Magee Campus (part time)
Rev Julian Hamilton (MCI)	Trinity College, Dublin (part time)
Rev Andrew Watson	Letterkenny Institute of Technology (part time)
Rev Richie Cronin	University College, Cork (part time, pending installation)
Rev Helen Freeburn	University College, Galway (part time)
Rev Vicki Lynch (MCI)	University College, Limerick (part time)
Rev Dr Keith McCrory	National University of Ireland, Maynooth (part time)

Profile, Purpose and Provision of chaplaincy in Universities and Colleges across Ireland.

37. The CMI agreed to the appointment of a Task Group to explore the profile, purpose and provision of Universities and Colleges Chaplaincy.
 - (a) The Committee's growing perception that chaplaincy needs to be more than the pastoral care of Presbyterian students has been brought into sharp focus by two recent surveys. One was a 'well-being' survey completed by the School of Social Sciences in Ulster University and conducted across the 2015-6 intake of students. It found that over half of the 739 respondents said they had suffered from at least one mental health disorder. A second survey was conducted by Barna in partnership with 'Christ in Youth', and looked at the faith worries and perceptions of Christianity among Irish youth. Their research showed that one in four is currently going through a crisis of faith; few feel confident about their knowledge of theology, most feel an increasing conflict between progressive values and Christian morality and 55% of the 86%

who declared themselves as Christian said they do not know any adult who talks to them about faith.

- (b) While understanding the necessarily broad definitions of faith in this sample, the survey conclusions are revealing and disturbing for those involved in the spiritual care, nurture and growth of an emerging generation of young Irish adults.
- (c) The task group has met on three occasions; the first was to draw up a *modus operandi* and the second to draft the survey questions to be used with a sample of chaplains, students, staff and members of congregations. An on-line survey on the PCI Young Adults website has yielded about 47 responses, mostly from Belfast, but including a small number from the Republic of Ireland – a significant outcome in itself. An initial analysis of the responses to the on-line survey and of the on-line responses to the semi-structured interviews has identified a number of key findings, which might be best summed up in the need to resource chaplaincy better and to develop the role beyond the pastoral.
 - (i) Local congregations see the chaplain as having a pastoral role yet chaplains receive little, if any, information on new students from local congregations.
 - (ii) Students also suggest that the support from their local congregation during university is negligible.
 - (iii) Just over half of the students who responded thought the chaplain had a very important role; a further 40% thought the chaplain had a moderately important role.
 - (iv) Students perceive the chaplain's role to be primarily (but not exclusively) pastoral but yet many of the Presbyterian students have little contact with the chaplain.
 - (v) Students and staff both comment that the chaplain needs to be more accessible and more visible.
 - (vi) Given that many students are on campus only when they have classes and that many chaplains can only allocate 4-6 hours on the same day each week, there are large numbers of students who never see a chaplain.
 - (vii) Local congregations in the vicinity of the universities and colleges are generally poorly informed about the work of chaplains.
 - (viii) Staff often emphasise the value of the more formal side of the chaplain's role.
 - (ix) Ordination opens doors but it is a doubtful pre-requisite to effective chaplaincy work on campus.

Greater Belfast

- 38. The Universities and Colleges' Chaplaincy Committee also receives reports from panels which were set up during the 2013-4 review of

chaplaincy in greater Belfast, and which help to ensure that chaplaincy in each university campus works more closely with the local churches. One panel works in partnership with the QUB Chaplain and comprises the three neighbouring Presbyterian ministers and a representative from Union College; the other panel works with the Ulster University (UU) Chaplain in Belfast and Jordanstown and a number of ministers and leaders from North Belfast Presbytery. These groups, while very different, are now reasonably well established and have led to increased support for the chaplain and, in some cases, a wider range of Christian activity.

39. The Committee is of the view that it would be beneficial for those groups to come together and begin to look at a strategy for Belfast. The boundary lines between QUB and UU are blurred when it comes to where students live. About one third of the UU students form Jordanstown and Belfast campuses live in the QUB area and there is a steady development of more city centre halls of residence to accommodate the move by UU from Jordanstown to York Street (now scheduled for completion in 2020). The new QUB Chaplain has made good connections with Stranmillis University and Union Colleges but there remains the absence of any provision for the students of Belfast Metropolitan College and the Newtownabbey campus of the North-eastern Regional College.
40. The Committee suggests the needs of these 60,000 students ought to be brought to the attention of the Belfast Conference.
41. All of these strands of work underline the need for the wider church to review its purpose and provision for chaplains in tertiary level education. It is hoped that the outcome of the Review Task Group will help to point the way forward.

THE ELMWOOD AVENUE (CAFÉ GRACE) TASK GROUP

42. The Task Group was formed in response to an amendment to a resolution passed by the General Assembly in 2017, as follows: 'That... the decision to sell the property at 12 – 14 Elmwood Avenue (Café Grace) be deferred and that a Task Group be set up to consult with other interested student ministries and investigate ways in which it may be retained for ministry purposes at no ongoing cost to the church' (Minutes of the General Assembly, 2017, p.48).
43. The report of the Task Group is included as Appendix 3.

JOHNSTON LAMBE, Convener

MAUREEN BENNETT, Convener

STRATEGY FOR MISSION COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Urban Mission

44. The Belfast Conference

Neil Harrison (MDO) who will facilitate the work of the Conference attended his first meeting this month. He writes:

- (a) “The Conference agreed in May 2017 that in order to build the momentum of its work, three meetings of the Conference would take place between September and December 2017.
- (b) “The purpose of these meetings, hosted in each Presbytery, would be to gain a fuller understanding of their missional engagement and some of the encouragements and challenges therein. The meetings took place as follows: 29th September 2017 West Kirk (North); 25th October 2017 Mountpottinger (East); 15th November 2017 Windsor (South). At each meeting, the host Presbytery presented their current missional engagement, special areas of mission, encouragements and hindrances to the development of mission, along with recommendations for consideration. This was followed by a discussion and SWOT analysis with the input of all Conference members.
- (c) “On 16th January 2018 in Assembly Buildings, David Bruce tabled a report that summarised the work of the three previous meetings along with relevant statistical analysis using figures across all the Belfast Presbyteries since 1965, showing numbers who have attended one communion per year – as a baseline for broadly committed memberships of congregations. It was decided that the next phase of the work of the Conference should be to build a coherent vision for the future of PCI work in the city.
- (d) “On 28th February 2018, Christoph Ebbinghaus led a process of reflection and discussion with the Conference to help begin discerning a vision for PCI’s future in the city. This was framed around an exercise imagining ‘what could be’ for PCI in Belfast in 2037 – 20 years from now. A further meeting of the Conference was planned for 18th April, sharpening this initial vision-building work, helping to equip the Conference for its foundational purpose of allowing the three Belfast Presbyteries to collaborate together in pioneering new work, advising the Linkage Commission and the CMI with comment at critical points of decision-making, and developing credible sustainable models for Presbyterian mission and ministry in the city, into the future.”

Urban Mission network.

- 45. A list of potential congregations and Ministers who could participate in an Urban Mission network has been drafted. The Mission Development

officer will progress this. This will start by gathering a small number of PCI ministers/leaders who are involved in urban contexts, to decide whether a network would be helpful, and what it could achieve. It is initially envisaged that this need not involve significant additional resources, but could exist largely as a closed group on social media, primarily for peer-support and information sharing. It should also be noted that a number of the vacancies for which the Council been asked to provide comment to the Linkage Commission are in urban mission situations, including large housing estates. The need for strategic input into this increases.

46. Linkage Commission advisory comment

- (a) The Committee provides advisory comment to the Linkage Commission with respect to Home Mission vacancies (routinely) and other situations on request. In the current year, advice has been given in respect of Trinity Cork and Aghada; Sligo with Boyle; St Columba's, Lisburn; Great Victoria Street; Mullingar and Corboy, and Clones, Stonebridge, Newbliss and Ballyhobridge. CMI representatives have met with a number of Kirk Sessions at the request of the Commission, especially at key moments of their vacancy process. Specific input with ministers and Kirk Sessions from the Mission Development Officer has been required in four congregations following the commencement of new ministries.
- (b) The Council is also occasionally asked to comment on situations where a congregation in augmentation is seeking to create a paid post for mission related work. CMI opinion is sought as to whether, based on missional merit, normal rules regarding the allocation of congregational finances can be set aside in some cases.
- (c) The Committee is conscious that the opinion offered by the Council to the Commission needs to be consistent and coherent and rigorously arrived at.

47. Strategic Discussions

- (a) **Rural Mission.** Following consideration during the year, the Council has agreed to seek approval from the Priorities Reference Panel, and funding from the United Appeal, for the creation of a position of Rural Chaplain. There is a general recognition of a unique spiritual need among the farming community – often including young men, and their families working in isolated locations, and in trying economic times. Other agencies (including Rural Support, and the Ulster Farmers' Union) advocating on behalf of rural communities have encouraged the Church to progress this. The initial intention is that a chaplain be appointed to work in three Presbytery areas, focussing initially on the weekly livestock markets, seeking to build connections with farmers, and helping to make connections with local churches. The fortnightly column in Farmers' Weekly, written by a team of Presbyterian contributors has been warmly received – the columns have been further distributed as part of the PCI blog outputs.

- (b) **Migrants' Ministry.** The Committee has noted comments of the International Meeting Point Management Group, concerning the expiration of the lease at 133A Lisburn Road in 2019, and the need for strategic decisions regarding the continuation of the work in this, or in other, locations in the city.
- (c) **Priorities.** The Committee has completed a basic analysis of the 50 largest towns in Ireland (north and south) by population from the 2011 census; with a recognition of where there is, and is not, Presbyterian witness. This list of major population centres excludes the six major cities of Ireland: Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Galway, Londonderry and Belfast which are already identified as priorities for mission by the Council. While this list does not form a definitive ranking of missional priorities for our denomination, it may usefully be set alongside our existing priorities to assist the Committee in determining next steps for planting and revitalisation.

Rank	Town	Pop.	Province	County	
1	Waterford	53504	Munster	County Waterford	N
2	Drogheda	38578	Leinster	County Louth	
3	Dundalk	37816	Leinster	County Louth	
4	Swords/Donabate	36924	Leinster	County Dublin	
5	Bray	31872	Leinster	County Wicklow	
6	Ballymena	28717	Ulster	County Antrim	
7	Navan	28559	Leinster	County Meath	N
8	Newtownards	27821	Ulster	County Down	
9	Newry	27433	Ulster	County Down	
10	Carrickfergus	27201	Ulster	County Antrim	
11	Ennis	25360	Munster	County Clare	N
12	Coleraine	25089	Ulster	County L'Derry	
13	Kilkenny	24423	Leinster	County Kilkenny	
14	Tralee	23693	Munster	County Kerry	N
15	Carlow	23030	Leinster	County Carlow	
16	Newbridge	22742	Leinster	County Kildare	N
17	Portadown	22100	Ulster	County Armagh	

Rank	Town	Pop.	Province	County	
18	Portlaoise	22050	Leinster	County Laois	N
19	Balbriggan	21722	Leinster	County Dublin	N
20	Naas	21393	Leinster	County Kildare	
21	Athlone	21349	Leinster	County Westmeath	N
22	Mullingar	20928	Leinster	County Westmeath	
23	Celbridge	20288	Leinster	County Kildare	N
24	Wexford	20188	Leinster	County Wexford	
25	Antrim	20001	Ulster	County Antrim	
26	Omagh	19910	Ulster	County Tyrone	
27	Letterkenny	19274	Ulster	County Donegal	
28	Sligo	19199	Connacht	County Sligo	
29	Larne	18228	Ulster	County Antrim	
30	Greystones	18140	Leinster	County Wicklow	
31	Clonmel	17140	Munster	County Tipperary	N
32	Malahide	16550	Leinster	County Dublin	
33	Carrigaline	15770	Munster	County Cork	N
34	Leixlip	15504	Leinster	County Kildare	N
35	Banbridge	14744	Ulster	County Down	
36	Tullamore	14607	Leinster	County Offaly	
37	Armagh	14590	Ulster	County Armagh	
38	Maynooth	14585	Leinster	County Kildare	
39	Killarney	14504	Munster	County Kerry	N
40	Enniskillen	13599	Ulster	County Fermanagh	
41	Strabane	13456	Ulster	County Tyrone	
42	Arklow	13163	Leinster	County Wicklow	
43	Cobh	12800	Munster	County Cork	N
44	Ashbourne	12679	Leinster	County Meath	N

Rank	Town	Pop.	Province	County	
45	Midleton	12496	Munster	County Cork	N
46	Mallow	12496	Munster	County Cork	N
47	Castlebar	12068	Connacht	County Mayo	N
48	Limavady	12043	Ulster	County L'Derry	
49	Holywood	12037	Ulster	County Down	
50	Enniscorthy	11381	Leinster	County Wexford	

MISSION GRANTS PANEL

48. Any applications for grant assistance from the CMI on behalf of local congregations or projects are first assessed by the Mission Grants Panel. Applications for grant assistance, either through the Irish Mission Fund Grant scheme (for evangelistic work), or the Mission Support Grant scheme (for more general project support) should be directed to Philippa McCracken (Mission Support Officer, Partnerships) in the Mission Department, Assembly Buildings. Relevant forms for application are available on request.

KENNY HANNA, Convener

CHURCH PLANTING PANEL

49. The Panel met twice during the year. The Council Secretary chaired these meetings pending the appointment of a convener. The Panel gave opportunity to the Ministers of Donabate and Maynooth to highlight their own perspectives having planted churches. Issues raised included:

- Forming a core group
- Drawing up a community profile
- Different models – “island of strength”
- Funding models
- Care for the pioneers
- Timelines – how realistic and useful are they
- Selection of church planters
- Regulatory requirements, and necessary changes to the law of the church
- Membership
- Appointment of elders

50. The Panel's work continues.

Mission Partnership Forum

51. The Mission Partnership Forum draws membership from the Methodist and Presbyterian churches, including their Home Mission departments.
52. Charities legislation. Of primary concern in this MCI-PCI discussion are the effects and ramifications of Charities Legislation, particularly on the nature of the Alternating Ministry Scheme. As things stand, it seems unlikely that congregations with joint MCI/PCI heritage can register with the Charities Regulatory Authority in the Republic as congregations with joint membership of a parent denomination. It may be that a choice will be required to register as either a PCI or MCI congregation. The Forum is addressing the implications of this for the Alternating Ministry scheme. Any constitutional changes required will be brought to both the Methodist Conference and the General Assembly as appropriate, and in due time.

BEN WALKER, Convener

PROPERTY PANEL

53. Proposed new church building in Maynooth
 - (a) In November 2017 the Maynooth congregation gave approval to the revised basic designs and budgets for a new building. Comments on the proposals have been received from Presbytery. Meetings between CMI Property Panel and the Maynooth Project Team to clarify, assist, monitor progress and give guidance, are being held to allow the formal purchase of the proposed site to proceed.
54. Derryvolgie Halls of Residence, Belfast
 - (a) The Making Good Defects Certificate has been issued for Year 1 Works (2016) in January 2018. The Practical Completion Certificate has been issued for Year 2 Works (2017) for Refurbishment work to block C and the bungalow in February 2018. Final preparations are being made to allow year 3 Works for Refurbishment work to Blocks A and B to be carried out during summer of 2018.
55. Carndonagh Manse
 - (a) Carndonagh Manse is one of some 1200 homes in the Donegal area affected by the serious problem of Mica content in the blockwork walls. The Republic's government is now expected to announce a decision on who specifically will fund remedial works to these defects, during the summer of 2018.

56. Dundalk Presbyterian Church Properties
 - (a) The Congregation in consultation with the CMI Property Panel has considerable work to do to bring their various properties up to current health and safety standards.
57. Carlingford Church
 - (a) The sale of the property is now in the hands of both sets of solicitors to finalise the transfer. Proceeds from the sale will be allocated to capital expenditure, initially in Maynooth.
58. General
 - (a) The Panel continues to address other matters of a property nature including applications for grant assistance towards repairs/improvements to church property throughout the island.

CYRIL CAVAN, Convener

FINANCE PANEL

59. **Disposal of assets.** No assets were sold in 2017 although agreement has been reached for the sale of Carlingford Church for 300,000 euros.
60. **Capital projects.** As has been previously reported the Panel has prepared projections of income and expenditure for the Council's capital programme in line with projects approved at Maynooth and Donabate. A transfer of £400,000 was made in 2016 from the Home Mission account to the Capital account to help facilitate these projects. The project in Maynooth has progressed slowly but steadily. It is likely that a significant additional financial commitment will be required in 2018. The projections prepared reveal a major monetary shortfall and therefore the Council has made additional capital budget provisions in 2018 and 2019. Budgets for 2019 for both revenue and capital have been prepared and will form the basis for the CMI United Appeal application for that period.
61. **Financial results.** Draft Management Accounts for the year to 31st December 2017 have been prepared and received by the Council. The figures reveal a small deficit of some £265,000, which is less than expected but requires some explanation. The Council has been blessed with some unexpected bequests and legacies amounting to almost £155,000.
62. On the expenditure side, property repair grants of £25,290 made are significantly lower than that which was budgeted. This may indicate that congregation properties are not being fully maintained due to insufficient direct resources locally, which is a concern.
63. The Derryvolgie Halls of residence property has not been significantly updated since its original construction some 20 years ago. It is hoped to complete the final phases of the work in the summer of 2018 to bring the building up to current standards. Funding for all of this

work is being partially supported by an increase in accommodation fees to current market rates and from existing resources. It is felt that adequate funding exists to complete the work. Further increases to the accommodation charges in future years will be required to establish a reserve for future refurbishment and maintenance.

64. **Investments.** It is pleasing to note a further substantial rise in the value of CMI investments of approximately £290,000 but it must be remembered that the value of investments can fall as well as rise as indeed they did in 2015 (£219,000)
65. Areas of greater financial concern relate to “Third Party” funding of chaplaincy services in prisons and hospitals. The full effect of this has not yet been fully felt but additional internal funding will need to be sought to maintain services at current levels.

DENIS GUILER, Convener

APPENDIX 1

The Home Mission Review

1. Part 1 of this report is a shortened summary of the main points of the 2017 Review report and its recommendations.
2. Part 2 of this report is the outcomes of the work of a CMI/Linkage Commission Task Group formed to address the practical challenges of implementing the central tenets of the 2017 Review, and incorporating the comments of Presbyteries, after the document was sent down for comment by the General Assembly.

PART 1

3. **SHORTENED SUMMARY OF THE REVIEW REPORT**, as passed by the General Assembly in 2017, and sent down to 10 Presbyteries for comment.
 - (a) The 2016 General Assembly agreed: That a review of the Home Mission be undertaken on terms agreed by the Council for Mission in Ireland, and that a report with recommendations be brought to the General Assembly, ideally in 2017. (GA Minutes 2016, p.41)
 - (b) The purpose of the Home Mission, as described in the Code (Par 114), is to provide a “more flexible” organisation within the general structures of the Church for missional development. Currently this flexibility is primarily exercised in the appointment process for ministers, who are called by the Council rather than a congregation. Support is largely given in the form of financial grants, with some accompaniment for Home Mission ministers by Council staff.

4. The Review notes that in its current operation the scheme has become static, in that congregations can enter the Home Mission but there are few incentives or encouragements to leave it.
5. This Review proposes that the Home Mission should continue to provide flexibility for missional development in strategic settings, but that the support offered should shift towards offering a range of inputs including:
 - Training
 - Mentoring
 - Networking opportunities
 - Financial grants
6. The Review proposes that the Home Mission becomes a process for congregations rather than a destination. The aim of the process is that, where possible, the life, spiritual health, fruitfulness and long-term stability of congregations will be enhanced and secured.
7. The Review proposes the option of three pathways for congregations beginning this journey:
 - Planting
 - Revitalising
 - Sustaining
8. Entry into the process will be based on clear criteria, with an individually tailored plan for the process being drawn up with the congregation as it commences.
9. The Review anticipates that a congregation will leave the Home Mission scheme when the agreed plan has reached its conclusion.

Review Recommendations

10. To deliver the changes recommended in this Review, adjustments will be needed in the areas outlined below. It is recommended that these matters be examined in detail by a CMI/Linkage Commission Task Group in light of Presbytery comments on the Review as follows, and report to the 2018 General Assembly:
 - (a) **Grants.** That the current provision of grants for capital purchases, property repairs and maintenance, mission support grants for projects and personnel and a number of other smaller provisions be examined and, if necessary, reconfigured.
 - (b) **Council Staffing.** That since the Review envisages an accompaniment of congregations on their pathway with the Home Mission, helping to form their Development Plan and leading to their leaving the scheme, substantial executive staff time must be allocated to this. This change may involve the redrafting of some existing job descriptions or possibly the recruitment of additional executive staff.

- (c) **Property.** That the rules and guidelines surrounding property held by Home Mission congregations be examined and, if necessary, reconfigured.
- (d) **Ministerial calls.** That any revisions to rules and guidelines concerning the conduct of Home Mission vacancies and the issuing of calls be examined and, if necessary, reconfigured.

PART 2

11. Report of the Home Mission Review Panel, following the work of the Home Mission Review Implementation Task Group, and responses from Presbyteries to the GA17 Report.

Introduction

12. The 2017 General Assembly received the Report of the Home Mission Review (see above). This was sent down to ten Presbyteries for comment (each of which has Home or Urban Mission congregations within their bounds).
 - (a) Six Presbyteries submitted responses: Armagh, Ballymena, Dromore, Monaghan, Newry, and East Belfast. The Panel expresses thanks to these Presbyteries. In broad summary, the responses from Presbyteries affirmed the thrust of the Home Mission review as brought to the General Assembly 2017 – recognising the value of moving from a destination to a journey or a process.
 - (b) In parallel to this, a CMI/Linkage Commission Task Group was formed to consider the detail of implementation of the provisions of the Review, including Ministerial Calls, Grants, Property and Council staffing, while taking into account Presbytery responses. The remainder of this Report summarises this work.

Entry to and Exit from the scheme

13. Several Presbyteries referred to this issue: “... the big question arises as to where the balance of power in the decision making process lies, particularly with regard to exit, relating to the respective roles and decision-making influences of the congregation, kirk session, presbytery, CMI and Linkage Commission.” (Monaghan submission).
 - (a) Where is the decision made that conditions have been met to enter or exit the scheme?
 - (b) How are such conditions defined?
 - (c) What happens to congregations which are currently in the Home Mission?
 - (d) What criteria are applied in these decisions?
14. These questions interrogate the relative roles of presbytery, Linkage Commission and Council, with necessary input locally from the kirk session and congregation itself.

15. To summarise the phases of the process as outlined in the 2017 report:
 - (a) Phase one is the initial assessment of existing Home Mission congregations, and the agreement of their pathway. Principles need to be drafted for this and a set of priorities agreed. While the detail of this remains to be agreed, some parameters might include:
 - (i) Home Mission congregations in a linkage with a non-Home Mission congregation may well be low on the list of priorities as it may be assumed under their current arrangements they have adequate support from being with a larger partner in a linkage.
 - (ii) The overall missional priorities as set by the Council for Mission in Ireland at other times might well provide an overlay in analysing the priorities for which congregations proceed to a pathway sooner rather than later.
 - (iii) The specific mission priorities identified by Presbyteries in their Mission Plans of 2009 may provide helpful insights, even if they need to be revised.
 - (iv) It is recognised that with 72 congregations and 36 charges in the existing scheme, not all of this work will be accomplished at once.
 - (b) Phase two is the initial assessment of congregations not previously in the Home Mission, which are referred by the Linkage Commission, or presbytery. At times of transition (such as vacancy) the presbytery and Linkage Commission must have the freedom to consider if the benefits of a Home Mission pathway for a congregation are appropriate for their long-term fruitfulness.
 - (c) Phase three is the detailed mapping of the pathway selected for a given congregation. This process will involve conversations between the kirk session, CMI and the presbytery.
 - (d) Phase four is the period of accompaniment, working through the pathway.
 - (e) Phase five is exit from the scheme.
16. The criteria for exit need to be agreed, and the mechanism for deciding when the exit criteria have been met, needs to be settled.
17. The Panel notes that the transition from the old to the new scheme is going to take some years to accomplish, unless the old scheme is simply abandoned, and every congregation's entry to the scheme considered from first principles. Some congregations currently in the Home Mission depend upon existing grants provision, and upon solid commitments made to continuing support into the future, and under all circumstances, these would need to be honoured.

18. Summary of questions to consider on assessing entry to the scheme:
 - (a) Is the work of the congregation considered to be a missional priority as identified by presbytery?
 - (b) Is the work of the congregation considered to be in an area of high missional priority as identified by the CMI? (Six major cities of Ireland; larger population centres; places where there is no other reformed witness; Euro-route 01 on the eastern seaboard; places where PCI has a historic presence.)
 - (c) Is the congregation in transition, such as vacancy?
 - (d) Is the congregation in a linkage with another congregation which is not in the existing Home Mission?
 - (e) Is the congregation in receipt of grant funding from CMI currently, and/or have such commitments been made?
19. Summary of questions to consider on assessing exit from the scheme:
 - (a) Is the presbytery in agreement that it exit the scheme?
 - (b) Is the kirk session in agreement that it exit the scheme?
 - (c) Has the congregation made measurable and satisfactory progress on its defined pathway on entry to the scheme?
 - (d) Do the leadership and people own a vision for their mission in their setting?
 - (e) Has the leadership developed a coherent sense of the congregation's future, acknowledging the limited capacity of the church centrally to provide long-term financial assistance?
 - (f) Is the financial stability of the congregation secured, with a justifiable degree of subvention from central resources?
20. The Panel recommends regarding the development of principles for entry to and exit from the Home Mission that for a period of years the old and new schemes may run in parallel, but with no new initiatives or admissions to the old scheme being made in this period.
21. Ministerial Calls, including the granting of leave to call, candidate selection, ministers moving within the scheme.
 - (a) The Review Report (2017) notes that any revisions to rules and guidelines concerning the conduct of Home Mission vacancies and the issuing of calls will be examined and if necessary reconfigured. The new scheme assumes that the 'entity' of the Home Mission ceases. This does not mean that the CMI cannot issue ministerial calls – but not under the old rules.
 - (b) Presbyteries reflected concerns that there be clarity on which body issues a call when a vacant congregation is embarking on a Home Mission pathway.
 - (c) Most responses requested clarity on what happens in a church plant (a consistent reference as a priority for the Church) where a planter is called to special work by CMI, and then transitions to become the minister of a newly formed congregation.

- (d) The Panel carefully notes that if it was suggested the old scheme be abandoned and the new scheme phased in on a case-by-case basis, the status of ministers called by the old Home Mission would need to be secured during such a transition.
- (e) The Panel recommends that a new model of ministerial deployment be written, based on the short-to-medium-term needs of a congregation on one of the three identified Home Mission pathways:
 - Planting
 - Revitalising
 - Sustaining

Granting of Leave to call

- 22. Within the new Home Mission who will Leave to Call be granted to? In the current Home Mission the Call is to CMI and the Minister is inducted into a congregation. This may not be appropriate if congregations are on a Home Mission pathway for a relatively short period. Furthermore, there will be congregations on Home Mission pathways which have already called their own minister.
- 23. In vacant congregations or projects where there is no kirk session (e.g. a church plant) or a vacant development congregation, leave to call to special work may be granted to CMI.
- 24. In some situations the Linkage Commission may make entry onto a Home Mission pathway a condition for Leave to Call, either to the congregation or the CMI to special work. CMI advice to the Commission when seeking leave to call would include identification of the Home Mission Pathway the congregation might embark upon and recommendations about the kind of leadership required.
- 25. In vacant congregations where there are reasonable grounds to suppose the minister will remain in post after the accompaniment period is completed, and where there is a functioning kirk session, the minister may be inducted to the congregation as part of the terms of the original call from CMI, or the minister may be inducted to special work (as outlined above) from which he/she must resign at its completion before being inducted to a charge.

Candidate selection

- 26. In situations where the CMI issues calls to special work for ministers (or others) for short to medium terms, specifically related to their pathway, and as part of the recruitment process, the Panel recommends the adoption of leadership profiles based on the skills-set and spiritual gifting required for the role.
- 27. If calls to this special work were to be issued by CMI in this way then the method of selection of suitable candidates should more resemble the

approach taken in contracted positions (without themselves becoming contracts). This in fact already happens in the appointment of ministers to chaplaincy positions.

28. A Personnel Specification document for each position would be drafted, against which an application form would be designed and then compared. This would include essential and desired criteria for the role.
29. An interview process may be followed which more resembles the current Home Mission practice than standard procedure, with a panel that is representative of stakeholders, and led by CMI as the call-issuer.
30. Such calls could be
 - Full-time
 - Part-time/bi-vocational
 - Ordained/non-ordained
 - Time-limited
31. The Council for Training in Ministry may be invited to consider a training option which would specifically equip probationers for service in these short to medium term roles. The Council for Training in Ministry could also consider the provision of specific in-service training opportunities to equip candidates for these roles, either beforehand or 'on the job'.
32. CMI could identify other specialist agencies offering short-term training as part of a contribution to the pathway – such as Forge, ForMission etc.

Ministers moving within the scheme

33. Within the current Home Mission, there is provision for Home Mission Ministers to be moved by CMI to other charges within the Home Mission. This provision is rarely used, but there was general agreement among presbyteries and on the Panel that the provision should be retained for ministers called to special work, if the Home Mission becomes a 'process rather than a destination' with meaningful reviews being conducted. The provisions of the Code recognise the right of a congregation to choose its own minister – even within the constraints of current Home Mission rules.

CMI Grants to Home Mission congregations, and property matters

34. The Review Report (2017) noted that the current provision of grants be examined and, if required, reconfigured:
 - (a) capital purchases;
 - (b) property repairs and maintenance;
 - (c) mission support grants for projects and personnel;
 - (d) other smaller provisions.

35. Several presbyteries called for a more strategic use of the grants facility currently used by CMI.
- (a) **Mission Grants.** The Home Mission review requires a resetting of the parameters and scope of the current CMI grant-making facility for mission purposes. What sort of funding would a congregation on a Home Mission pathway need? This would be heavily influenced by the pathway (plant, sustain, revitalise). Mission grants which might be payable (according to the pathway) could be for training, ministry and mission programmes, salaries and property.
 - (b) Property grants (Repair and Capital) currently administered by the Property Panel for Home Mission congregations would need to be re-purposed, especially for congregations on a short-term pathway.
 - (c) Repair grants could be awarded when a congregation on a Home Mission pathway demonstrated that a property repair was essential to their mission as defined by their pathway and that the costs could not be met in any other way.
 - (d) Capital grants towards the purchase or construction of facilities (buildings for meeting, manses) for church plants would remain available. The allocation of capital funds for purposes outside this would be exceptional.
 - (e) Other Home Mission grants are currently available in Home Mission situations, and include:
 - (i) Small grants for the support of mission projects (less than £5000). This could continue for congregations on a Home Mission pathway.
 - (ii) Home Mission fabric grant. This would be discontinued.
 - (iii) Home Mission Ministers' car loan. This would be discontinued.
36. The Review Report (2017) asked that the rules and guidelines surrounding property held by Home Mission congregations be examined and if necessary reconfigured. (Code Par 300(4-6))
37. As with mission grants, the approach to dealing with Home Mission property would depend on the pathway chosen for a congregation entering the Home Mission.
- (a) The question of title to Home Mission property varies depending on the history of the relationship. In settings where a property was purchased by a Home Mission capital grant, the position of BMI and subsequently CMI has been to transfer title of the property to the local congregation as soon as possible, with the recommendation that the Education Board of Presbytery be appointed as Holding Trustees. However in the past (and usually for local reasons), title is held by the PCI Trustees, or sometimes locally appointed congregational Trustees.

- (b) It is recommended that with the implementation of the Home Mission review the principle of transferring the asset to the local congregation become a policy and that steps be taken in all situations where property is held centrally but in the name of the congregation for this property to be transferred.
 - (c) If assistance were needed for the maintenance of such properties then this would be handled in the normal way through the CMI repair grants system.
38. CMI's involvement in providing support for property would in the future be handled on a partnership basis determined by the needs of the pathway that the congregation was on. For example in the case of a church plant, where few or no resources exist locally for the purchase or even rental of property, the CMI would potentially provide the resource for such provision.
39. The Code currently provides for the payback of capital grants or even repair grants where the property that benefits from these is sold by the congregation within five years. A similar provision would need to be retained so that grant monies can be clawed back if no longer needed for the purpose for which they were given.
40. For congregations already in the Home Mission transferring to a pathway, the Home Mission would honour existing commitments, whether capital or repair grants for property, but over time and as they transfer to a new pathway, reassess the needs for this continuing support.
41. For congregations embarking on a Home Mission pathway, title to property would be held with the congregation, or transferred to it. Grant applications would be assessed on the pathway and the needs at the time.

Council Staffing

42. Since the Review Report (2017) envisages an accompaniment of congregations on their pathway with the Home Mission, helping to form their Development Plan and leading to their leaving the scheme, additional executive staff time must be allocated to this. Can this be achieved with the level of Council staffing currently available? If the review proposals create a body of work that is not deliverable, then this needs to be said now to avoid making commitments which cannot be met.
43. In responding to the question raised in the Report about the need for additional paid staff to manage the accompaniment process, presbytery responses were broadly positive, recognising that additional capacity will be needed. The Panel notes the following:
- (a) One presbytery (Armagh) resisted the employment of additional staff centrally: "Presbytery would also be concerned about the possibility of further executive staff being appointed as a consequence of changes to the scheme. This ought to be resisted and staff reallocated instead."

- (b) The others recognised the need and proposed different solutions. One presbytery proposed a creative solution of using the potential capacity created by the call of part-time ministers to congregations within their bounds.
 - (c) The Panel further notes there is no constitutional restriction to using ministers from neighbouring presbyteries to offer accompaniment within the bounds of another presbytery.
44. The Panel recommends that suitable people are identified, trained and deployed under the direction of the executive staff in the Council to fulfil the accompaniment role. Staff who may have a role include the Mission Development Officer, the Mission Support Officer (partnerships) and the Training Development Officer.
45. Other models may be considered for the process of accompaniment including those in part-time ministry of word and sacrament who may take on such accompaniment as defined additional duties. Once accompaniment begins, progress needs to be evaluated, a report written up, adjustments made and conclusions drawn.

Other Related issues

46. **Alternative models of Church.** Rules in Church Plants more generally need to be re-drafted, as they are based on legislation dating back to Church Extension. In the light of the Council's experience in Maynooth, Donabate and Cliftonville Road, and the further reflections of the CMI Church Planting Panel, the Panel will synthesise this into a coherent set of proposals, and bring overtures to the General Assembly in 2019.
47. **Smaller Churches.** One of the principles the review argued for is that congregational models need to be developed that will allow groups of 20/30/40 people to be established in such a way that they can be a sustainable congregation.
48. The Panel notes the valuable work being done by the CCLW on small and fruitful congregations. It is recognised that entirely different models of gathering as the people of God will be required if such small churches are to survive and grow. Matters to consider include:
- (a) Ownership of (and responsibility for) buildings;
 - (b) Financial obligations to the central church through assessments and contributions to stipend;
 - (c) Salaried leadership, other than a minister.
49. **Sustainability.** The need for long-term stability is identified in most of the Presbytery responses, but how this is measured and assessed will be key to the effectiveness of the Home Mission in the future. The Church needs to have confidence that any decisions to release central resources will be made following solid examination of the actual need, and in faith that the blessing of God will follow in his time.

50. **Reviews and Consultations.** One Presbytery noted the potential duplication of review requirements which may include:
- (a) Consultation Review
 - (b) Home Mission Review
 - (c) Reviewable Tenure Review
 - (d) A way of rationalising the content and delivery of these reviews will be helpful if a congregation embarked on this scheme. Initially the Panel affirms the primacy of the Consultation process, and recommends the other reviews be based on the most recent Consultation outcomes as a starting point.

Recommendations

- 51. That before the introduction of the revised scheme, the principles underpinning entry to and exit from the scheme be further refined, and that for a period of years the old and new schemes run in parallel, but with no new initiatives or admissions to the old scheme being made in this period.
- 52. That a new model of ministerial deployment within the Home Mission scheme be written, based on the short-to-medium-term needs of a congregation on one of the three identified Home Mission Pathways, Planting; Revitalising; Sustaining, and that this model include approaches to candidate selection.
- 53. That the CMI and Linkage Commission, as appropriate, consult with the Council for Training in Ministry and the Council for Congregational Life and Witness regarding aspects of this review which may benefit from their comment and future involvement.
- 54. That suitable people are identified, trained and deployed under the direction of the executive staff in the Council to fulfil the accompaniment role with congregations envisaged in the revised scheme. Existing staff who may have a role include the Mission Development Officer, the Mission Support Officer (Partnerships) and the Training Development Officer.
- 55. That the Home Mission Review Panel (with additional members as required) continue its work for a further year, and report to the General Assembly in 2019, to include draft proposals and overtures (as required) to reflect the changes proposed.

APPENDIX 2

Submission of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland to the Northern Health and Social Care Trust in response to the consultation document 'Generic Model of Chaplaincy and Re-alignment of Session and Ministry'.

1. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland welcomes the opportunity afforded by the Northern Health and Social Care Trust to be involved in the consultation process re the operation of generic chaplaincy on Trust sites. The Church appreciates the opportunity afforded the Very Rev Dr Donald Patton, Convener of our Healthcare Prisons and Forces Chaplaincy Committee, to meet with the Executive Director of Nursing and User Experience, Mrs Eileen McAnerney, and others, on Wednesday 24th January, 2018.
2. The General Council of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland considered a report tabled at its meeting on Tuesday, 20th March, 2018, by the Healthcare Prisons and Forces Chaplaincy Committee, and passed unanimously the following resolution -
That the General Council expresses its concern to the Northern Health and Social Care Trust at the proposed formalising of a generic model of chaplaincy across the Trust's sites, and affirms the detailed consultation submission of the Healthcare, Prisons and Forces Chaplaincy Committee to the Trust, outlining the general and specific concerns, as the position of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland on this matter.
3. We recognise, and pay tribute to, the professionalism and dedication of so many in caring for those who need the services of the healthcare system. The Church has had a long association with the healthcare system through its chaplaincy ministry and has valued the opportunity to contribute to the holistic care of patients and staff alike.
4. We acknowledge some of the strengths of a generic system outlined in the Trust's consultation document, including:
 - (a) The changes in how patients self-identify, or not, as the case may be.
 - (b) The volume, and, often, rapid turn-over of patients.
 - (c) The positive reception of chaplaincy by patients who completed questionnaires.
 - (d) The opportunity to develop a more consistent working relationship with ward staff.
5. We echo the view expressed by the Heads of the four main denominations in their letter that 'They are not opposed to Generic Chaplaincy per se'...
6. However, we have a number of concerns.
 - (a) The Trust's Consultation paper commits to the embedding of the generic model within the Northern Trust sites. It adduces positive

reasons for doing so. However, the patient survey return of 20%, is a weak basis on which to build such a radical change in the pattern of chaplaincy provision.

- (b) The surveys do not seem to have asked if patients with a denominational attachment would prefer to have a chaplain from their own church background.
- (c) There is no objective comparison of the two systems. Statistics are used to support this change but chaplains know that the method of compiling the statistics is flawed, while recognizing that more patients do not declare a religious preference and affiliation. A more thorough audit needs to be carried out.
- (d) The generic model requires that every patient is seen by a chaplain, but this cannot be achieved within the hours and the number of personnel sustained by the budget allocated by the Trust. The system works currently because the four main Churches provide supplementary chaplaincy personnel at no cost to the Trust – church sisters, ordained Assistants, Deaconesses, and lay volunteers. In effect, the Churches are subsidising an under-resourced service.
- (e) A part-time generic system limits religious care. A protestant chaplain cannot offer sacramental ministry to a Roman Catholic patient. Non-Presbyterian chaplains may not understand the nuances and practices which a patient values. A patient on other floors can ask to see a Presbyterian Chaplain, but this eats into the time the chaplain has on his/her designated floors. We are concerned at the inevitable minimising of the religious aspect of the chaplaincy role and access by patients to the chaplain of their religious affiliation, and we echo the comment of the four main church leaders that ‘...provision must be made for the different understandings there are of the delivery of pastoral liturgical and sacramental ministry.’ Arrangements will need put in place for ministry which can only be properly delivered by a denominational representative.
- (f) There may be an issue with future contracts. When a vacancy occurs, how will the job be advertised? Will it be described and contracted as ‘a generic chaplain’ or as ‘a Presbyterian chaplain working within a generic model’? If the former, then we have a problem.
- (g) Feedback from parish ministers indicates a high degree of dissatisfaction since the generic model was introduced at Antrim. Over the decades, ministers have appreciated the regular flow of information about their parishioners being admitted to hospital, enabling them to visit and to maintain local church and personal contact. There is an expectation by patients this will happen. However, many ministers report they often do not know that a parishioner is in hospital, and they can be embarrassed by the

assumption that they are too busy or just don't bother. The twice repeated statement in the consultation document that 'Many of the patients who declare a denomination no longer require their faith leader to be informed as they have already been informed' is inaccurate. This experience has disrupted and damaged the working relationship, and goodwill, within the local community, contrary to the declared vision of the Trust to partner '...with our community'.

7. The Consultation document also refers to 'Re-alignment of Sessions and Ministry'. There are concerns with proposals around this:
 - (a) The Trust document notes: 'All aspects of healthcare provision are working towards a seven-day service provision and the Chaplaincy service as part of the wider healthcare service will require to consider this aspect in the future.' This would prove impractical for part-time chaplains who are also ministers in local congregations. Will there be enhancement for unsocial hours?
 - (b) The Trust document further notes: 'Chaplains will be required to help out by dealing with urgent requests on other Trust Sites that they may not normally minister on.' Will travel expenses be paid? Will travel time be included as paid work time, given that this would be a requirement of the Trust?
8. We ask that the Trust will give serious consideration to the concerns expressed in this response so we may continue to develop a good working relationship which delivers the optimum religious and spiritual care to patients and staff, and which fosters goodwill and co-operation within the wider community.

Very Rev Dr W. DONALD PATTON, Convener,
Healthcare Prisons and Forces Chaplaincy Committee,
Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

Rev DAVID BRUCE, Secretary, Council of Mission in Ireland,
Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

22nd March 2018

APPENDIX 3

Report of the Elmwood Avenue (Café Grace) Task Group

1. The Task Group met five times; on 13 September, 4 October, 13 November, 12 December 2017 and 12 March 2018. The Task Group received verbal and written submissions at its different meetings from:
 - Rev Peter Gamble (proposer of the amendment to the General Assembly resolution in 2017)
 - Rev William Henry (seconder, above)
 - Rev David Montgomery (CUI Ireland, Director)
 - Martin Agnew (CUI Treasurer)
 - Jim Crookes (CUI Vice-chair)
 - Rev Michael Anderson (QUB Chaplaincy Partnership Group)
 - Rev Principal Stafford Carson (UTC)
 - David Small (President, QUB CU)
 - Matthew Burke (QUB CU member)
 - Rachel Gamble (QUB CU member)
 - Dr Barbara McDade (Stranmillis College staff)
 - Rev Barry Forde (Church of Ireland/Methodist Chaplain, QUB)
 - Rev Dave Gray (QUB/Stranmillis/UTC Chaplain)
2. The work of the Task Group
 - (a) The timeline of purchase of the adjoining properties and their refurbishment, including the terms of purchase, restrictions on the use of funds and their sources, including the War Memorial Trust and the QUB Community Trust
 - (b) The cost to the church of disposal and retention, recognising the significant capital sum tied up in the building
 - (c) Estimated market value of the property
 - (d) The terms of the current tenancy agreements in place with three organisations
 - (e) The possibilities of reconfiguring the use of space on all floors
 - (f) The potential benefits and pitfalls of letting the café area to a commercial operator
3. Main points in discussion.
 - (a) Several significant changes have occurred since the original discussions about the future of the Elmwood Avenue property were commenced in 2014/15:
 - (i) The Queen's Students' Union building is now scheduled for demolition, commencing with the ending of several tenancies from June 2018.

- (ii) A new PCI chaplain has been appointed at Queen's, Stranmillis and Union Theological College.
 - (iii) A license agreement has been entered into with CU Ireland, for the use of some rooms within the Elmwood Avenue building.
 - (iv) The proposed move of the UU (Jordanstown) campus into Belfast has been postponed, first by one year, and again by a further year to 2020.
 - (v) Developers in the private sector have been granted planning permission for the construction of privately run student residential facilities, mainly in the area from Shaftsbury Square towards the city centre. An estimated 5,000 accommodation units either has been or will be created by this investment.
 - (vi) Indicators show that student accommodation in the South Belfast area is taken up by students from a wide variety of institutions – not only QUB and Stranmillis, or even those located in the general area. It is estimated that 1/3 of the Ulster University Students attending Jordanstown or Belfast live in the Queen's area.
 - (vii) The case has been well and repeatedly made (including in a recent on-line survey of Presbyterian university students, mostly from the greater Belfast area) that while Derryvolgie is a valued and important PCI presence in the Queen's area, the work of the PCI chaplain needs to extend beyond this residential community of 88 students. The chaplain needs to be accessible to all students.
 - (viii) The increasing secularisation of Northern Irish society will continue to place the church on the margins of discourse in the public square. Retaining a PCI-owned, visible and managed presence on the Queen's campus would be to the benefit of the Church, allowing access to facilities for the use of a wide range of sympathetic organisations, both within PCI and beyond it.
- (b) There remains a significant need for a PCI presence on the campus of UU (Belfast) and the Universities and Colleges Chaplaincy Committee must keep this matter on its agenda, not only to address the day-to-day matters of chaplaincy in the York Street area but the wider ramifications of the close proximity of two third-level campuses within a small geographical area in the City of Belfast.
4. Recommendations
- (a) That the Council directs the Universities and Colleges Chaplaincy Committee to ensure that in its current review of the purposes, profile and provision for chaplaincy in the tertiary education sector:

- (i) the changes in the student context in Belfast, including the move of the Jordanstown Campus to York Street in Belfast and the rapid growth in the provision of private student residence places are kept under constant review for the next five years;
 - (ii) that a coherent vision for student ministry and mission in this setting be developed;
 - (iii) that practical steps to ensure the credible provision of a chaplaincy service on each third level campus are considered and where possible, implemented.
- (b) That the property in Elmwood Avenue (Café Grace) be retained for a period of five years from 2018, and that steps be taken to ensure its financial viability which may include:
 - (i) The negotiation or renegotiation of tenancy agreements and licenses to reflect commercial rates.
 - (ii) The investigation and commencement of arrangements, commercial and otherwise, to place the retention of the building on a secure financial footing.
 - (iii) That negotiations with a potential tenant to operate the ground floor as a Café be commenced.
- (c) That consultations with the Presbyterian Chaplain at Queen's University take place at each decision point, to ensure the use of the building for the mission of the church is enhanced rather than hindered by the changes proposed.

RESOLUTIONS

1. That the Report of the Home Mission Review Panel (Appendix 1) be received and its recommendations adopted.
2. That the Submission of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland to the Northern Health and Social Care Trust (Appendix 2) on the proposed introduction of a generic model of Chaplaincy be noted, and that the Healthcare, Prisons and Forces Chaplaincy Committee be encouraged to respond as appropriate to consultation requests from other Trusts and bodies making similar proposals.
3. That the Report of the Elmwood Avenue (Café Grace) Task Group (Appendix 3) be received, and its recommendations noted pending completion of relevant negotiations with all parties.
4. That the work of PCI chaplains in Healthcare, Prisons, the Forces, Universities and Colleges be commended to the Church for prayer, both privately and at services of worship.

5. Consolidated Resolution:

- (a) That the General Assembly affirm the work of the Council in support of Home Mission congregations and ministers, Irish Mission Workers and Deaconesses.
 - (b) That the General Assembly affirm the valuable work of staff and volunteers in mission projects under the auspices of the Council, including South Belfast Friendship House, Nightlight and the International Meeting Point.
 - (c) That the General Assembly affirm the work of the Strategy for Mission Committee in its proposals for the deployment of a Rural Chaplain, and encourages the work of the Belfast Conference in developing a vision for Presbyterian mission in the City for the future.
6. That the report of the Council for Mission in Ireland be received.