

COUNCIL FOR MISSION IN IRELAND

Acting Convener: REV BRIAN COLVIN
Secretary: REV DAVID BRUCE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Council for Mission in Ireland met twice since the 2016 General Assembly. The Council Convener, Rev Stephen Simpson intimated his intention to retire from the role, which became vacant on 1st January 2017. Rev Brian Colvin was nominated and appointed as Acting Convener until the appointment of a permanent successor to Mr Simpson.

2. **Home Mission, Irish Mission and Deaconess Committee.** (Paragraphs 11 to 17 and Appendices 1 and 2) The Committee oversees all aspects of the work of the Home Mission, and met four times during the year. Its main work has been the conduct of a Review of the Home Mission, as directed by the 2016 General Assembly. The Home Mission Review Report is included as Appendix 2, and a resolution appended. The Committee receives reports from the Irish Mission Workers and Deaconesses Panel, which manages the detail of permissions required for the deployment and support of field staff working under the call of the Council. A Directory of Ministers, Deaconesses and Irish Mission Workers serving under the call of the Council is included in Appendix 1.

3. **Healthcare, Prisons and Forces Chaplaincy Committee.** (Paragraphs 18 to 31) The Committee oversees all aspects of the work of chaplaincy in hospitals, prisons and the armed forces in both jurisdictions. It met four times during the year, and receives reports from a Forces Chaplaincy Panel. It appoints interview Task Groups for recruitment when required. The Report will highlight some issues of common concern with other churches in their interaction with Health and Social Care Trusts, especially regarding recruitment of chaplains and the increasing pattern of generic chaplaincy. The Committee continues informal conversations with other institutions seeking chaplaincy services, such as the Police, and welcomes increasing dialogue with public institutions in the Irish Republic. A Southern Chaplaincy Advisory Panel is being formed to comment on chaplaincy matters in the Republic, not only to this Committee but also the Universities and Colleges Chaplaincy Committee.

4. **Universities and Colleges Chaplaincy Committee.** (Paragraphs 32 to 45) The Committee oversees the provision of a chaplaincy service in Universities and Colleges in both jurisdictions. It met on four occasions during the year, and receives reports from the QUB Chaplaincy Partnership Panel, the UUB Chaplaincy Partnership Panel and the Derryvolgie and Elmwood Avenue Management Panel. It will receive reports from the Southern Chaplaincy Advisory Panel in the future. The four-year project to refurbish the Derryvolgie Halls property has successfully reached its second phase. Consideration was given to the sale of the Elmwood Avenue property, and the Council approved that this be referred for permission to the PCI Trustees. A wider matter of state

funding for universities and colleges chaplaincy across the Republic of Ireland has been referred to the meeting of Church Leaders.

5. **Strategy for Mission Coordination Committee.** (Paragraphs 46 to 61) The Committee is responsible for the development of priorities in mission, and for offering advisory comment to the Linkage Commission on matters referred to it, including applications for leave to call in Home Mission situations. The Committee met on four occasions during the year. It receives reports from the Church Planting Panel, the International Meeting Point Panel, the Nightlight Panel and the Mission Grants Panel. The location of the South Belfast Friendship House under the Council will mean that a further Panel reports to the Committee in the future. A Task Group looking at Rural Mission has commissioned a number of initiatives which are noted in the Report.

6. **Property Panel.** (Paragraphs 62 to 64) The Property Panel was convened four times during the year, and reports to the Council. It oversees all aspects of the management of properties within the remit of the Council, including acquisitions, repairs, disposals and regulation of tenancies.

7. **Finance Panel** (Paragraphs 65 to 70) The Finance Panel was convened four times during the year, and reports to the Council. It has oversight of Council finances, including the review of quarterly management accounts, the preparation of annual accounts for presentation to the Council and the General Assembly, consideration of the finances of major capital projects, and the preparation of budgets for annual submission to the United Appeal.

INTRODUCTION

Rev David Bruce writes:

8. The Council pays tribute to the work of Rev Stephen Simpson, its first convener, who resigned from the position at the end of 2016, having steered the Council from the beginning of its work. Stephen combined a keen strategic vision for mission in Ireland with a pastor's concern for those engaged in the work, expressed not only at many committee meetings but through his visits to Home Mission pulpits and manses across Ireland. His past experience as a minister within the Home Mission and the Irish Republic gave him a unique insight into the demands and opportunities faced by ministers under the call of the Council. The Council is especially appreciative of the leadership he has given in the early stages of its formation and work.

9. The Council pays tribute to the work of Rev Brian Colvin who resigns from his role as Convener of the Home Mission, Irish Mission and Deaconess Committee at the Assembly. Brian had previously served as Convener of the Home and Irish Mission Committee for the former Board of Mission in Ireland and following restructuring and some adjustments to remit, continued this work. Brian was always willing to travel on delegations to congregations and Kirk Sessions, and brought a keen eye to these meetings, helping to distil the issues and bringing clarity to decision-making. The Council adds its appreciation to Brian for assuming the additional duties of Acting Council Convener up to the General Assembly in 2017.

10. 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; Kathryn Anderson (Admin Assistant pt),

Lorraine Beatty (Support Officer, Property), David Bruce (CMI Secretary), Marjorie Coulter (Admin Assistant pt), Nehru Dass (Finance Manager), Mandy Higgins (PA to CMI Secretary), Karen Hutchinson (Senior Admin Assistant), Helen Johnston (Mission Support Officer, Member Care), Emma Love (Admin Assistant pt), Peter McDowell (Mission Support Officer, Partnerships), Uel Marrs (CGM Secretary), Beverley Moffett (Senior Admin Assistant), Michelle Pollock (Office Supervisor and PA to CGM Secretary), and Marianne Trueman (Senior Admin Assistant pt). The Council records its thanks to Evelyn Craig who retired as Administrative Assistant during the year.

HOME MISSION, IRISH MISSION AND DEACONESS COMMITTEE

Home and Urban Mission

11. The Council calls and supports 36 Home or Urban Mission ministers, 26 Deaconesses, including 2 probationers and 3 students, and 5 Irish Mission workers. (See Appendix 1) Calls for ministry positions under the Council's remit are issued by the Committee on Council's behalf. In addition, it supports through Irish Mission Fund grants, the deployment of 9 Community Outreach Workers and 2 Nightlight evangelists.

12. The Council has approved applications from the Kirk Sessions of St Columba's, (Dromore Presbytery), and Great Victoria Street (South Belfast Presbytery) for Urban Mission Status.

13. The full report of the Home Mission Review Task Group is included as Appendix 2, and a resolution is appended.

Irish Mission Workers and Deaconesses

14. A successful three-day retreat for Irish Mission Workers, Deaconesses and Community Outreach Workers took place at the Carrickdale Hotel in October 2016.

15. A regular cycle of 3-yearly reviews of the work of Deaconesses and Irish Mission Workers continues.

16. Requests from the Kirk Sessions of Whiteabbey (Carrickfergus Presbytery) and Greenwell St (Ards Presbytery) for Deaconess positions to be created were approved. A Deaconess vacancy in Strand (East Belfast) was not filled, and was withdrawn.

17. The Council recorded its thanks for the work of Deaconesses Amanda Cooper and Kathleen Spence, and Irish Mission Worker, Harry Moreland all of whom have retired.

REV BRIAN COLVIN, Convener

HEALTHCARE, PRISONS AND FORCES CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE

Healthcare Chaplaincy

18. The following is a directory of Healthcare Chaplains currently serving, including full time, part-time and honorary.

PCI Healthcare Chaplains.

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.

In most Health and Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland, Chaplains are employees of the Trust.

In most major Hospitals in the Irish Republic, PCI Chaplains are honorary appointments, typically fulfilled by the local minister.

Rev Lindsay Blair	Altnagelvin Hospital
Rev David Cupples	South West Acute Hospital, Enniskillen
Rev Tony Davidson	St Luke's; Mullinure and Longstone
Mrs Susan Dawson	Coordinating Chaplain, Dublin Hospitals
Rev Molly Deatherage	Mayo General Hospital
Rev Ken Doherty	Mater Hospital, Belfast
Mrs 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
Rev Jim Hagan	Craigavon Area Hospital
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
Mrs 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 Alan Mitchell	Sligo University Hospital (interim)
Rev Jane Nelson	Tyrone County Hospital
Rev Dr Ivan Neish	Whiteabbey Hospital
Rev Leslie Patterson	Lagan Valley Hospital
Rev Mark Proctor	Tallaght Hospital (Adelaide and Meath)
Rev Mark Russell	Altnagelvin Hospital
Rev Marlene Taylor	Marie Curie Hospice
Rev Ivan Thompson	Bluestone Psychiatric Unit
Rev Alan Thompson	South Tyrone Hospital
Vacant	Cork University Hospital
Vacant	Dundalk
Vacant	Musgrave Park Hospital, Belfast
Vacant	Ulster Hospital, Dundonald

19. A day-conference for Healthcare Chaplains was planned for 11th May 2017. Rev Paul Nash (Senior Chaplain, Birmingham Children's Hospital) was the invited speaker, addressing the subjects, *Spiritual care in a changing environment* and *Generic or Denominational, chaplaincy?*

20. *Retirements and Appointments.* Rev Tom Luke retired as Chaplain in the Causeway Hospital on 31st December 2016. Rev John Gilkinson is covering the work pending the appointment of a permanent successor. The Rev Paul Erskine retired from chaplaincy in the Musgrave Park Hospital, Belfast, on 31st March 2017. The Trust has indicated its intention to seek a successor to Mr Erskine. The Council recorded its appreciation to Tom Luke and Paul Erskine at its March 2017 meeting. Rev Keith Hibbert, minister of Cumber and Upper Cumber, has been appointed (part-time) in Altnagelvin Hospital, Londonderry.

He will work alongside Rev Lindsay Blair and Rev Mark Russell.

Prisons Chaplaincy

21. The following is the directory of Prison Chaplains currently serving, including part-time and honorary.

PCI Prison Chaplains

Rev Rodney Cameron (full time)	Maghaberry (Coordinating Chaplain), and Magilligan
Rev Graham Stockdale	Hydebank Wood
Rev Colin Megaw	Woodland's Juvenile Justice Centre
Rev Alan Boal	Mountjoy, Dublin

22. A Funding Agreement between the Northern Ireland Prison Service and the Presbyterian Church in Ireland for 2016/1017 has been approved by the Council and implemented.

23. The Committee Convener visited Maghaberry Prison on Friday 10th February 2017.

The Very Rev Dr Donald Patton writes:

24. I met with our two chaplains, Rev Rodney Cameron, and Rev Graham Stockdale who also ministers in Hydebank College. I met some of the other denominational chaplains and during a tour of the Prison I was able to talk freely with prisoners and with Prison staff, gaining insight into the work and conditions. I had a 30 minute meeting with officials who oversee chaplaincy.

25. The work of our chaplains is highly valued as professional, compassionate, and practical, providing an integrated role within the structures, and yet perceived as distinct from the prison authority, and also confidential. An ALPHA course is being run through March and into April, subject to there being no changes at short notice to prison time-tabling. Officials emphasised that the constraints in budgeting and the best way forward for chaplaincy may be for the Protestant churches to consider the co-ordination of their budget allocations and personnel. This matter will be considered in detail by the Committee in the coming year.

FORCES' CHAPLAINCY PANEL

Rev. Professor Patton Taylor (Panel Convener) reports:

26. The following is a directory of Forces Chaplains currently serving, including part-time.

Commissioned Chaplains within the Armed Forces

Rev. Mark Donald	Army Reserve (part time)
Rev. Mark Henderson	Army
Rev. Colin Jones	Army
Rev. Ivan Linton	Army
Rev. Graeme McConville	Army
Rev. Norman McDowell	Army
Rev. Heather Rendell	Army
Rev. Dr Paul Swinn	Army
Rev. Dr Philip Wilson	Royal Air Force
Rev. Simon Hamilton	Royal Naval Reserve (part time)

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

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. Dr 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

Rev Derek Weir	OCM
Rev. Prof. Patton Taylor	OCM

27. *ROI Forces Chaplaincy.* At meetings with the Head Chaplain of the Irish Defence Forces in Dublin, a number of matters of mutual interest were explored, including the possibility of the identification of a suitable Minister within the jurisdiction who could take up a role of Officiating Chaplain, as required, to Presbyterians within the Defence Forces. It was noted that the Irish Defence Forces in general are embarking upon a significant recruitment drive.

28. *Visit of a group to the Somme in memory of Chaplains serving in the First World War.* This event is now scheduled to take place in the first half of 2018.

29. *Prayer Breakfast.* A successful Prayer Breakfast was held in Bangor West in late October 2016. It is planned to hold another such event at a later date, in a different geographical location.

30. *Appointments and Deployments.* Several applications and expressions of interest are being explored, including a candidate for regular service with the Royal Navy, a candidate for regular service with the RAF, a candidate for reserve service with the RAF, and a candidate for the Army Reserve. The following applications have been successful to date in 2016/17:

- (a) Rev. Simon Hamilton (Cladymore and Tassagh), Royal Naval Reserve Commission.
- (b) Rev. Jane Nelson, (First Omagh), Air Training Corps.
- (c) Rev. Dr Paul Bailie, (Mission Africa), Army Cadet Force Commission.

31. Other appointments and deployments:

- (a) Rev. Kenneth Crowe, (Bushvale), has been promoted as the Senior Army Cadet Force Chaplain in Northern Ireland.
- (b) Rev. Ivan Linton (1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Regiment), is currently on deployment with 1 Royal Irish in Afghanistan.

VERY REV DR DONALD PATTON, Convener

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE

32. The following is a directory of serving Chaplains in Universities and Colleges, 2016/17.

PCI Universities' and Colleges' Chaplains

Rev Karen Mbayo	Queen's University, Belfast
Rev Cheryl Meban	UU Jordanstown and Belfast Campuses
Rev John Coulter	UU Coleraine Campus (part time)
Rev Graeme Orr	UU Magee Campus (part time)
Vacant	Trinity College, Dublin
Vacant	NUI University College, Dublin

Vacant	Dublin City University
Rev Andrew Watson	Letterkenny Institute of Technology (part time)
Vacant	NUI University College, Cork (part time)
Rev Helen Freeburn	NUI University College, Galway (part time)
Rev Vicki Lynch (MCI)	University College, Limerick (part time)
Rev Dr Keith McCrory	NUI Maynooth (part time)

Appointments and other changes

33. Rev Andrew Watson took up his appointment at Letterkenny Institute of Technology in September 2016.

34. Rev Graeme Orr took up his appointment at University of Ulster at Magee College in February 2017.

35. Rev John Faris retired as Chaplain in NUI University College Cork in March 2017.

The Focus

36. In essence the work of the Committee has focused on four significant developments which together have caused it to reflect on what strategic principles ought to guide PCI's future work among students, and the importance attached by the wider church to this major and potentially influential section of the community.

- (a) The implications of the Higher Education Authority's (HEA) directive to universities and colleges in the Republic of Ireland, to ensure that public procurement rules are applied to the appointment of chaplains.
- (b) The principles that should inform the role of chaplain, including how we work together with other Christian churches in a world that is increasing secular.
- (c) How we best support the chaplain in the Belfast Campus of Ulster University as that campus develops.
- (d) An agreement to sell Grace Café (12-14 Elmwood Avenue) with the intention of channelling that resource into developing our work in Derryvolgie Hall and in Ulster University's new Belfast Campus

The role of Chaplain

37. The role of a Presbyterian Chaplain, including the terms and conditions and reporting expectations, varies significantly from post to post. In many instances the role is seen as an additional set of duties appended to the work of a local parish minister who agrees to take them on, sometimes (but not always) with remuneration. The Committee adheres to the principle of ensuring (so far as possible) that the work of chaplaincy is integrated within an all-age worshipping community. The role needs to include more than the pastoral care of Presbyterian students and the provision of services of worship at key points on the church calendar, even if these are among the formal functions associated with the role.

Chaplaincy work must include reaching out with the Christian gospel to young people in a secular environment.

Developments in the Republic of Ireland

38. Concerns raised by the campaign group *Atheist Ireland* have prompted a departmental review of chaplaincy services in higher education in the Republic of Ireland. The HEA has drawn the institutions' attention to the need to:

- (a) ensure value-for-money for any expenditure on chaplaincy services and regularly monitor and evaluate the use, value and impact of these services from a student perspective;
- (b) ensure that chaplaincy and other support services are available to students of all faiths, in keeping with their responsibilities under the Irish Constitution, and that the use of lay chaplains is considered as a means to address that;
- (c) ensure that there is no discrimination between the appointment of lay and clerical chaplains;
- (d) address any 'legacy' arrangements in place which did not involve a formal process of appointment or procurement in line with public sector rules or guidelines as a matter of priority within the next twelve months;
- (e) ensure that there are robust agreements or contracts in place with chaplaincy services that clearly set out their services and responsibilities to the entire student base and accountability arrangements for delivering on this remit.

39. The cost of providing chaplaincy services across the higher education sector in the Republic is estimated at €1.7m per annum. The majority of chaplaincy services are supported by the core grant, although there are other funding and business models in place. Although this is a significant sum, it represents only 0.02% of the total HEA recurrent grant to the higher education sector. The vast majority of the €1.7m goes to the Roman Catholic chaplains. (source: Higher Education Authority (HEA) Report on Chaplaincy Services.)

40. This HEA guidance has not come as a surprise and its implications are being felt already. Following a new tendering process in Dundalk College of Technology, all of the chaplaincy duties have been assigned to the Catholic Archdiocese of Armagh. The arrangements also mean that it is unlikely that a stipend for the provision of joint chaplaincy services for Methodists and Presbyterians will continue in University College Dublin (UCD). The Church of Ireland has appointed a full time chaplain in UCD but the post is entirely funded from Church sources.

41. The Committee notes that a service level agreement now governs the provision of chaplaincy services in University College Cork.

42. Throughout Ireland, a chaplain approved by a university or college has the advantage of being an associate member of staff and usually has an office or shared space from which to work. However, the chaplain must be sensitive to the constraints associated with any public appointment. Thus the questions for the Committee going forward include:

- (a) the value of closer co-operation with other chaplains from the Protestant faith in the tendering process in ROI;

- (b) whether it is better to have, for example, one full-time Protestant chaplain or several part-time chaplains of various denominations;
- (c) the value of church-funded chaplains working off-site where they have fewer constraints;
- (d) the importance or not, of a chaplain being ordained; and
- (e) the resources needed for such work

Developments in Northern Ireland

43. *QUB Partnership.* At the heart of the work in Queen's University is the teaching and discipleship of the 88 students at Derryvolgie Hall (DV). Apart from the various group sessions during the week and the corporate worship and faith-sharing sessions on Sunday evenings, each student agrees to participate in one of several service opportunities.

44. This academic year, the chaplain and a small group of students from both DV and the Hub (the Church of Ireland's Chaplaincy Centre) visited Elms Halls of residence with a view to having intentional faith-focused conversations. They usually make contact with around 70 students on a given evening each week and, to date, have had some very encouraging conversations.

45. The local churches in the greater Queen's area now take it in turn to provide a weekly meal for international students in Fisherwick Church. The event is run in conjunction with Friends International, and a group of DV students helps with both the serving of the meal and engaging in faith-focused conversations. Around 60 international students attend, most of whom are on a twelve-week study programme. Another group of DV students helps with the student lunches, provided by Fisherwick Church. During first term, between three and four hundred lunches were served each Thursday; in term two, the numbers are traditionally smaller with between two and three hundred lunches served each week.

46. Chaplaincy work is largely relational; students are best in reaching other students but, nonetheless, it is important to have some more mature adults who can also get to know the students, share hospitality and some of their life experiences, and to act as role models - hence the emphasis on chaplaincy working in partnership with an all-age worshipping community. It is the chaplain's intention to raise the awareness of chaplaincy work among local churches and encourage greater involvement in student work.

47. *Ulster University (Belfast) partnership.* Rev Cheryl Meban has formal chaplaincy responsibilities in both the Jordanstown and the Belfast campuses of Ulster University. The partnership group has focused on developing links between the student work and the outreach work by Carnmoney congregation in Cathedral Quarter. About 6-10 students from UU and QUB attend the 'Carmmoney Central' mid-week gathering in the MAC theatre.

The issues currently being discussed are

- (a) the need for accommodation which will permit greater flexibility for the work of both chaplaincy and church with the arrival of the university into the Belfast Campus over the next two years;
- (b) the need for extra personnel who might concentrate on making wider contacts with students on the Belfast campus and in the emerging new halls of residence;

- (c) how a collaborative approach to chaplaincy on campus might helpfully develop.

48. *12-14 Elmwood Avenue (Café Grace)*. Over a number of years it has become clear that the need for dedicated offices, meeting rooms and a term-time Café in Elmwood Avenue may not be necessary. This issue was considered in depth by the Management Panel, the full Committee and the Council.

49. The Committee reaffirms its commitment to maintaining and forging new connections with local churches to nourish the work of chaplaincy in the Queen's University area, and maintains its commitment to the Derryvolgie residential accommodation model of chaplaincy provision at Queen's, although it does not restrict its vision to this alone. The management of a Café in the Elmwood Avenue building had become a burden, not only financially (as the Café has consistently operated at a substantial loss) but in terms of the responsibility and working hours required by the Chaplaincy staff and interns. Having considered all factors, the Council agreed to seek the permission of the PCI Trustees for the sale of the property, with a view to using the subsequent capital capacity for the development of student ministry facilities in the wider Belfast area.

DR MAUREEN BENNETT, Convener

STRATEGY FOR MISSION COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Alternating Ministry Scheme Review Outcomes

50. Work is progressing on exploring the possibilities of a composite funding model between the Methodist and Presbyterian Home Mission departments in relation to the three congregations within the Alternating Ministry Scheme. Such a model will need to be compliant with charities legislation as it applies in both jurisdictions, and involves both denominations. This work is being progressed with the Mission Partnership Forum.

Urban Mission

51. *Belfast Conference*. In accordance with the resolution passed by the General Assembly in 2016 (Minutes page 40, Resolution 2), steps have been taken to establish a permanent Conference for Belfast, made up of representatives of each of the three Belfast Presbyteries. As per the model agreed by the General Assembly, the CMI Strategy for Mission Committee invited the Very Rev Dr HA Dunlop to serve as the Conference Chair. The Mission Development Officer (MDO), Rev Dr MJ Welsh is facilitating the Conference process.

52. At the time of writing, the Conference Chair and MDO have had four meetings with Presbytery representatives, the main purposes of which have been to:

- (a) build relationships;
- (b) ensure that all involved in taking the work forward are aware of the background to the Conference's formation;
- (c) establish an agreed set of parameters for the membership and work of the Conference;

- (d) allow individual Presbyteries to begin to express something of their hopes and concerns for the work of mission in their part of Belfast.

It is anticipated that the first full meeting of the Conference will have taken place before the General Assembly meets in June.

53. *Urban Mission Status*. During the year, Urban Mission Status was granted to Great Victoria Street (South Belfast Presbytery) and St Columba's (Dromore Presbytery).

Associated Mission Projects

54. *Nightlight*. The work of Nightlight continues to involve a team of volunteers working under the leadership of Brian Simons and Linzie Cobain. Conversations are taking place with Street Pastors and the SOS Bus Board regarding ways of working in collaboration and forging better connections with Belfast City Council, especially for special events.

55. A review of the vision and purpose of Nightlight will be appropriate when a ministerial appointment (which involves a role with Nightlight staff) to Great Victoria Street has been made.

56. Catherine Dalzell has resigned as Nightlight administrator after 17 years of service. Pending a review of the position, CMI's Mission Department staff will provide administrative support.

57. *South Belfast Friendship House*. The General Council has agreed that the South Belfast Friendship House be located as a Mission Project of the Council for Mission in Ireland. A Management Panel has been appointed to oversee the work, and will report to the Committee. The Panel includes representation from PW and the Council for Social Witness.

58. *International Meeting Point*. The project, based at 133a Lisburn Road, Belfast, continues to grow encouragingly to the point where there are significant pressures on the existing facilities. These and other matters are being considered by the IMP Management Group which oversees the work, in partnership with South Belfast Presbytery. Keith Preston (Irish Mission Worker and Project Leader) is joined by Henry Coulter (Assistant Project Leader) and Sharon Heron (Deaconess).

Rural Mission

59. *Farming Life*. From the beginning of 2017, through the Strategy for Mission Coordination Committee and using a team of six writers, a regular column that seeks to bring a perspective of Christian faith, has been published in Farming Life. This initiative has been very welcome. It reaches a large readership and has produced encouraging feedback.

60. *Rural Chaplaincy*. The developing idea of a Rural Chaplain / Outreach worker has been encouragingly discussed and developed. Recently a consultation meeting was held between members of the Committee and representatives of the Presbyteries of Down, Iveagh, and Newry. The following main points emerged from the discussion:

- (a) The concept was positively received and there was agreement that SMCC should continue to work towards a pilot scheme;

- (b) Selecting the right person for the role is key. Their understanding of and affinity with the farming community, pastoral and discipling skills, and being a good listener will all be key to this work;
- (c) The role should grow and develop once a person is in post. There is a danger that the job could grow to become unmanageable. Management arrangements should be set in place to protect the chaplain;
- (d) The work must feed into and be owned by local congregations, seeing it as a logical extension of their mission in a specialised area;
- (e) Funding sources will be identified for a possible commencement in 2018;
- (f) Feedback from the Presbyteries has been sought and is being assessed. If the feedback is positive SMCC will continue to work towards a pilot scheme and a local representative will be co-opted onto the Committee.

Church Planting

61. A Church Planting Panel is being formed from those with skills, experience and a vision in this regard.

62. A Day Conference on church planting was held in February 2017, jointly with the Council for Global Mission. The main speaker was Dr Martin Robinson, principal of Formission College, Birmingham. Not only was it very helpful to be together with those from CGM, but the reflections from both Dr Robinson and the gathered group were stimulating and have provided agenda items for the above Panel's discussion and action as it starts its work.

Strategic discussions / Engagement with Presbyteries

63. Discussions are ongoing with representatives of Dublin and Munster Presbytery regarding Bray / Blackrock / Southern DART corridor and also Cork City. Vacancy Assessments for the Linkage Commission were completed in Dundalk, Drogheda and Sligo with Boyle.

64. The separate question of how best to engage with Presbyteries on developing a strategy for mission is being actively considered.

REV BEN WALKER, Convener

PROPERTY PANEL

Maynooth new church building

65. Progress is being made towards site purchase, planning approval, and the development of concept plans leading to a tendering process. A local project team has been appointed which will liaise with the Panel as the project develops.

Derryvolgie Halls of Residence, Belfast

66. Tender documents are being prepared for year-2 works which will be undertaken during July and August 2017. The works will consist of new main

entrance doors including a new security system to all blocks, refurbishment of Block C and work to the bungalow to convert it back to the Chaplain's residence. Estimates are being prepared but gross costs will be in the region of £400,000.

General

67. The Panel continues to address other matters relating to property held in connection with the work of the Council throughout the island. These include very major and comparatively minor matters. A selection of those considered in the past year includes:

- (a) consultation on the proposed sale of the property at 12-14 Elmwood Avenue, Belfast;
- (b) investigations of defects in the construction of the Manse at Carndonagh;
- (c) assistance with the sale of the Manse of Great Victoria Street and its replacement;
- (d) applications for grant assistance towards repairs in many locations assistance with the plans for a community hall facility in Carlow;
- (e) the refurbishment of the church hall in Cootehill.

CYRIL CAVAN, Convener

FINANCE PANEL

Disposal of assets

68. The Council holds some properties that are no longer required by the Church and the sale of some of these assets has been considered. However, this course of action is not believed to be appropriate in the immediate timeframe, particularly as positive rental streams are currently being received. Following notification to the General Assembly in 2016, The Shankill Road Mission property, which has been unused since 2012, has been sold.

69. The permission of the PCI Trustees has been sought for the sale of the property at 12-14 Elmwood Avenue, Belfast.

Capital projects

70. The Panel has prepared projections of income and expenditure for the Council's capital programme in line with new church building projects approved at Maynooth and projected for Donabate. A transfer of £400,000 has been made from the Home Mission account to capital to help facilitate this.

71. The project in Maynooth has moved forward and a significant financial commitment will likely be required in 2017 and 2018. Further detail on this and other property development projects is contained in the Property Panel report below.

72. The projections prepared reveal a major monetary shortfall for capital projects. As a consequence, the Council will be seeking additional funding of £150,000 from the United Appeal for, at least, each of the five years from 2018, even if the considered asset disposals proceed on more favourable terms than currently exist.

Future planning

73. Areas of greater financial concern relate to the funding of Chaplaincy Services in Universities, Prisons and Hospitals. Budget reductions in the NI Prison Service, and the likely restriction of public money for chaplaincy services in the Irish Republic may mean that additional United Appeal money will be sought, or services curtailed.

DENIS GUILER, Convener

COUNCIL FOR MISSION IN IRELAND**APPENDIX 1**

Directory of Home and Urban Mission Charges, Ministers and Church Planters, Irish Mission Workers and Deaconesses serving under the call of the Council for Mission in Ireland.

HOME MISSION MINISTERS

Rev RSG Beacom	Lisbellaw, Lisnaskea, Maguiresbridge and Newtownbutler
Rev Andy Carroll	Donabate
Rev David Conkey	Enniscorthy and Wexford
Rev Molly Deatherage	Ballina, Killala, Ballymote
Rev Nathan Duddy	Arklow
Rev Al Dunlop	Howth and Malahide
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 Stephen Lockington	Corboy and Mullingar
Rev Vicki Lynch (MCI)	Christ Church, Limerick (Alternating Scheme)
Rev Dr Keith McCrory	Maynooth

Rev Gary McDowell	Greystones
Rev Ian McKee	(Aughnacloy) and Ballymagrane
Rev Jean Mackarel	Drumkeeran, Killeshandra, Cavan and Bellasis
Rev Roger McElnea	(Newtownstewart) and Gortin
Rev Colin McKibben	(Convoy, Carnone, Donoughmore) and Alt
Rev Katherine P Meyer	Sandymount (Alternating Scheme)
Rev Alan Moore	(Cavanaleck) and Aughtentaine
Rev William Montgomery	Fermoy and Cahir
Rev Mark Proctor	Naas (part time)
Rev Stephen Rea	Carlow and Athy
Rev David Reid	(Ardstraw) and Douglas
Rev Daniel Reyes Martin	Kilkenny
Rev Stephen Richmond	Donegal and Stranorlar
Rev Stanley Stewart	Clones, Stonebridge, Ballyhobridge and Newbliss (pt)
Rev Rodney Thompson	(Badoney, Corrick) and Glenelly
Rev Andrew Watson	Carrigart and Dunfanaghy (pt)
Vacant	1st Bailieborough, Corraneary, (Trinity Bailieborough)
Vacant	Cork and Aghada
Vacant	Dundalk
Vacant	(Frankford, Castleblayney), Corvalley and Ervey
Vacant	Drogheda
Vacant	Inch (Stated supply)
Vacant	Irvinestown, Pettigo and Tempo
Vacant	Kells (Under review)
Vacant	(1st Monaghan) and Smithborough
Vacant	(Kerrykeel, Milford) and Rathmullan
Vacant	Sligo with Boyle (Stated supply)

URBAN MISSION MINISTERS

Rev Mervyn Gibson	Westbourne
Rev Robert Love	Taughmonagh
Rev Ian McDonald	New Mossley
Rev Danny Rankin	Strand, Belfast
Rev Lachlan Webster	Craigavon
Vacant	Great Victoria Street
Vacant	St Columba's, Lisburn

CHURCH PLANTERS

Rev Dario Leal	Cliftonville Road. The Living Room
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IRISH MISSION WORKERS

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

DEACONESSES

Sonya Anderson	Shore Street, Donaghadee
Eileen Black	1st Magherafelt
Jenny Clegg	Ballycrochan, Bangor
Doreen Draffin	Whitehouse and Hospice Chaplaincy Team
Eleanor Drysdale	Wellington, Ballymena
Joanne Dunlop	Chaplaincy Teams, Antrim and Craigavon Hospitals
Sharon Heron	Windsor and International Meeting Point
Roberta Irvine	Greystone Road, Antrim

Christine Kyle	Ulster Hospital Chaplaincy Team
Phyllis Linton	West Church, Ballymena
Heather McCracken	Belfast HandSC Trust Chaplaincy Team
Sadie McCullough	Whiteabbey
Lynda McFaul	Deaconess without Charge
Amy Magee	Muckamore
Tracey Nicholl	St James, Ballymoney
Julie Peake	Deaconess without Charge
Michelle Purdy	Ballyclare
Hazel Reid	1st Broughshane
Margaret Robertson	Elmwood, Lisburn
Rosemary Spiers	1st Antrim
Evelyn Whyte	1st Lisburn

COUNCIL FOR MISSION IN IRELAND

APPENDIX 2

THE HOME MISSION REVIEW REPORT

INTRODUCTION AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE REVIEW

1. 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)

2. 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 the congregation. Support is largely given in the form of financial grants, with some accompaniment for Home Mission ministers by Council staff.

3. The Review notes that in the current operation of the scheme has become static in that congregations can enter the Home Mission but there are few incentives or encouragements to leave it.

4. 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:

- (a) Training;
- (b) Mentoring;
- (c) Networking opportunities;
- (d) Financial grants.

5. 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.

6. The Review proposes the option of three pathways for congregations beginning this journey:

- (a) Planting;
- (b) Revitalising;
- (c) Sustaining.

7. 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.

8. The Review anticipates that a congregation will leave the Home Mission scheme when the agreed plan has reached its conclusion.

9. The Review recommends that its work be sent down by the General Assembly for comment by 31st December 2017, to Presbyteries which have Home or Urban Mission congregations within their bounds, and to all other Presbyteries for information and comment if desired. It further recommends that a joint CMI/Linkage Commission Task Group be appointed to examine in detail the operational and regulatory implications of the Review, taking into account Presbytery comments, and report to the 2018 General Assembly.

BACKGROUND TO THE REVIEW

10. The current Home Mission scheme was put in place “*to provide for a more flexible organisation in special areas of the church’s life and interest*” (Code, Par 114(1)). This included the deployment of ordained and supplementary ministries, and provided for the provision of financial grants to assist congregations or causes. Reflecting the need for flexibility within the structures of the Church, the Code further states that the Home Mission shall provide “*for such other fields of service as the General Assembly, or its Council for Mission in Ireland, may from time to time determine*” (Code, Par 114(1)(c)).

11. In practice this means that the Home Mission provides support for congregations smaller in size and in remoter geographical locations in Ireland – many in the Republic (Code, Par 300(1)).

12. Over the years, and following the setting aside of the Church Extension strategy, church planting was incorporated into the work of the Home Mission. In addition, there was a recognition of the specialist nature of Urban Mission and a separate category was created as a sub-group of the Home Mission to reflect this. The same Home Mission rules apply for the calling of ministers and the provision of grants to these Urban Mission congregations.

13. Through the Home Mission scheme the Council currently offers financial support, especially property grants which are by far the largest financial

component. It offers advice and consultancy, but these are significantly limited by staff time. The Council issues calls for Home Mission ministers and is closely involved in their selection, in partnership with Kirk Sessions and Presbytery Vacancy Commissions.

14. In practice the Home Mission has evolved into a general scheme of support, which incorporates vulnerable congregations, while at the same time seeking to develop innovative mission in other places where work is planted and/or being revitalised.

15. The Home Mission has become static. Congregations join the scheme, but very few leave it. The only congregation to leave the Home Mission in the last decade has been Lucan.

16. For many Presbyterians the assumption justifying the existence of the Home Mission has been that weaker congregations in the Irish Republic needed support from stronger congregations in Northern Ireland. However, it has become clear that congregations all over Ireland are in need of support as they adapt to the new realities of secularisation and rapid social and demographic change. In fact, there are Home or Urban Mission congregations in 10 out of the 19 Presbyteries.

METHODOLOGY FOLLOWED IN THE REVIEW

17. The Review Task Group included representation from the Council for Mission in Ireland, ministers serving in Home Mission congregations, ministers who had previously served in Home Mission congregations, non-Home Mission ministers and the Linkage Commission. It met regularly from September 2016 to March 2017.

18. All serving Home Mission ministers were invited to participate in an online survey to ascertain their experience and impressions of the current Home Mission and to gather views about a possible future scheme. They were all invited to participate in a day conference with the Review Task Group.

19. The Review Task Group followed a three stage process for the review as follows:

Stage 1: Understanding the current Home Mission

The Review Task Group identified three pathways congregations within the current scheme appeared to be following:

- (a) planting;
- (b) revitalising;
- (c) sustaining.

20. Consideration was given to the experience of other UK denominations in addressing similar issues.

21. Key issues relevant to all three pathways were identified:

- (a) *Purpose*: Why should the central church help/support/engage with such congregations?
- (b) *Criteria*: Assuming a scheme for such congregations exists, what should the entrance and exit criteria be?
- (c) *Support*: What sort of support/engagement does the congregation need? What can reasonably be offered by the central church?
- (d) *Terminology*: What are the best names or descriptions for each pathway?

(e) *Outcomes*: What does a successful outcome of participation in the scheme look like?

(f) *Transitioning*: How and when should a congregation leave the scheme?

22. *Stage 2: In-depth consideration of each pathway*

The Review Task Group held two half-day workshops exploring the key issues identified in Stage 1 in relation to each pathway.

23. A day conference with Home Mission ministers was held to present the results of the Task Group's discussions. Interaction with the Home Mission ministers was vital to ensure that the results of the review process were realistic, practical and relevant to the needs on the ground.

24. *Stage 3: Developing proposals for the new scheme*

25. The results of the first two stages provided the outline of the scheme proposed in this Report. A drafting group was appointed to refine the results and to make specific proposals. The full Review Task Group met to make final revisions. The final Review document was approved by the Council for Mission in Ireland at its March 2017 meeting.

ISSUES AND PRINCIPLES IDENTIFIED FROM STAGES 1 AND 2 OF THE REVIEW

26. Is the Home Mission still needed? If so, what should it do? The Home Mission currently encompasses a wide variety of congregations, including:

- (a) church plants in areas of growth;
- (b) established congregations in areas of potential growth;
- (c) established congregations in areas where significant growth seems less likely.

27. The consensus within the Review Task Group was that the Home Mission is still needed to provide flexible arrangements within the general structures of the Church to stimulate and enable missional development. The Group agreed that if the Scheme did not exist, something resembling it should be created.

28. The consensus from both the Review Task Group and Home Mission ministers was that such a scheme should provide a range of support to congregations, including *networking*, *mentoring* and *training* opportunities as well as *financial* and *personnel* support.

29. The Review Task Group affirmed that the purpose of the Home Mission should be consistent with the missional principles and priorities reported to the General Assembly in recent years by several Boards and Councils. This involves the formation and support of Presbyterian churches that are a credible missional presence in their context, which means (among much else) that their life, spiritual health, fruitfulness and long term stability need to be enhanced and secured. The investment, in terms of finance and other support required to deliver this, must be sustainable, both locally and for the central church in the longer term.

30. *Sustainability*. The Review Task Group considered sustainability in terms of:

- (a) the long term viability of a particular congregation;
- (b) the long term capacity of the central church to subsidise congregations.

31. Currently the Home Mission provides some financial support to congregations which are often in isolated and minority contexts. This support is an outworking of the principle of the strong supporting the weak. However,

the situation has changed dramatically since the Home Mission's inception. The number of congregations looking to, and depending on, the central church for financial subsidy is increasing and becoming unsustainable. Further, it can no longer be assumed that such congregations are only, or even predominantly in the Republic of Ireland.

32. A recurring concern in the Review Task Group discussion was that the current Home Mission has become static - something which congregations become part of, but do not leave. This situation may encourage a culture of dependency. The Review proposes supportive involvement from the centre, but this support should be given for a limited period of time.

33. As a denomination we have come to assume certain norms of church life. These inherited assumptions often include a full-time minister, at least one church building and a manse. It is with this model in mind that we currently consider the question of viability when looking at existing congregations or church plants. In settings where the congregations are smaller, or in pioneering situations, this paradigm may not serve us well.

34. *Ecclesiology and missiology*. It was beyond the remit of the Review Task Group to develop a full ecclesiology and missiology to underpin the work of Home Mission, but Paul's missionary strategy in Acts has informed the Task Group's thinking.

35. It is widely accepted that Paul had a strategy of establishing congregations in strategic population centres. It is evident that he appeared to be content to declare his work in a region complete when a church was established in the centre. This approach implies that he envisaged that the church would be a hub from which the gospel would spread throughout the region. In spite of being small and vulnerable it was assumed that in Christ they had all the resources necessary for their survival, growth and mission in their region. When a need arose in one location, resources were gifted from another.

Stage 1 and 2 Conclusions

36. *The Home Mission as Process, not Destination*. This suggests that congregations may move into and out of the scheme more easily – the scheme would be more dynamic and less static. A congregation ought normally to move out of the Home Mission when the purpose for joining the scheme has been achieved. This might be the establishment of a new work, revitalising a congregation in an area of identified potential, or helping a congregation transition towards a more sustainable model to ensure long term witness in a strategic area.

37. This conclusion will require particular consideration of how a congregation transitions into and out of the scheme. Suitable criteria will have to be identified, and the relative roles of the congregation, Presbytery, CMI and Linkage Commission agreed.

38. One criterion identified by the Review Task Group and Home Mission ministers was the degree of missional vision within the local congregation. This vision is already assessed at the time of transition through vacancy when leave to call is sought and terms are agreed.

39. The planned-for outcome of the process is that a congregation becomes both vibrant and viable, such that its life, spiritual health, fruitfulness and long term stability will be enhanced and secured.

40. The Review Task Group envisages the following components of the process:

- (a) Entry to the scheme;
- (b) Agreement of Pathway;
- (c) Drafting and implementation of a Development Plan;
- (d) Review of the implementation of the Plan;
- (e) Planned exit from the scheme.

41. On entry into the process a **Pathway** will be agreed with the Presbytery, Congregation and the Council:

- (a) *Planting* refers to the establishment of new churches using appropriate models.
- (b) *Revitalising* involves investing in the building up of existing churches in strategic locations where numerical growth and development may be realistically expected.
- (c) *Sustaining* involves helping existing churches transition to a sustainable model that will ensure a long term future. It is recognised that not all congregations will have a sustainable future in their current form, and the process assumes the active pursuit, with Linkage Commission and Council involvement, of alternative futures for them.

42. The Review commends an approach for smaller churches which would assume a group of (say) 20, 30 or 40 people meeting regularly together is the church of Jesus Christ in that place. The Review Task Group assessed processes in support of smaller churches in other denominations, including the Church of Scotland, the Church of England (especially the London Diocese), the United Methodist Church (USA) and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of America. One of these denominations makes the following five value statements:

- (a) A church has worth and significance because it is a people of God, not because of its size;
- (b) In determining ministry success, being a missional church is more important than size;
- (c) Lack of growth in a church, regardless of size, may or may not be indicative of missional unfaithfulness but must be honestly addressed;
- (d) Solutions to issues in a small church may be different than those in a larger setting;
- (e) Leaders of small churches will especially benefit from connections with peers, mentors, and coaches.

43. The Review affirms that smaller Churches have the God-given resources required for their life and survival, even if this might not mean the ownership of a building, the services of a full-time minister and the running of a programme of activities and organisations typically associated with PCI Churches. The task, then, is to develop the appropriate forms and structures by which this small Church will organise its life. An appropriate model in some circumstances might be part-time or auxiliary ministry. In other circumstances it could mean that the church meets in rented premises. These need not be seen as second-best solutions or compromises, but simply as the appropriate expression in that place, and indeed, a sensible approach when pioneering new work.

44. It must be reiterated that the purpose of the process is positive, even if it may mean the consideration of radical change in some settings. The process is built on an ecclesiology and missiology which recognises that

existing congregations are the church in their locations. It sees their missional significance and is concerned about ensuring their long term survival and growth by developing a model that is sustainable for them and the central church.

45. The Review proposes that congregations currently within the Home Mission automatically become members of the new Home Mission and enter onto the pathway most appropriate for them, agreed as outlined above.

46. When the Pathway has been agreed, a **Development Plan** will be drafted which will chart a way forward based on the congregation's recent history, the current needs and context and the overall strategy for mission of the denomination. This Development Plan will be individually tailored to the context and will include broad objectives to be addressed within an appropriate and agreed time-frame. The Development Plan may use elements of the already tested materials in use by the Council, including the "8 P's" matrix already considered by the General Assembly (GA Reports, 2014 pp 130-132). The Development Plan will include:

- (a) *training and support* for leaders and members, including the development of skills in the management of change;
- (b) *assistance* in the process of exploring alternative approaches to congregational life to secure sustainability;
- (c) a commitment to *face-to-face support/mentoring*.

47. Regular reviews of progress will be required within an agreed timeframe.

48. It will be made explicit that the expectation is the congregation will leave the Scheme when the agreed plan has reached its conclusion.

The selection and call of ministers.

49. When entry to the Scheme occurs at a time of vacancy, the Review affirms the need for the Council for Mission in Ireland to have significant input to the selection and call of ministers in missional situations. This includes calls to specific work such as Church Planting or revitalising work in congregations where normal means of oversight are absent. In these cases the minister will be inducted to special work.

50. In some situations the CMI will participate in the ministerial selection process with the Kirk Session when directed to do so by the Linkage Commission, possibly as part of the Reviewable Tenure terms. If this is invoked at the time when leave to call is granted, it could include CMI involvement in the process of drawing up a list of candidates.

REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS

51. 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.

COUNCIL FOR MISSION IN IRELAND

RESOLUTIONS

1. That the Home Mission Review Report, with its recommendations be received and sent down to Presbyteries with Home/Urban Mission congregations within their bounds, namely Armagh, Ballymena, East Belfast, South Belfast, North Belfast, Derry and Donegal, Dublin and Munster, Dromore, Monaghan and Omagh for specific comment, and to all other Presbyteries for information and comment if desired, by 31st December 2017, to Very Rev Dr Roy Patton (Review Panel Convener), c/o The Mission Department, Assembly Buildings.

2. That the General Assembly affirm the work of the Strategy for Mission Coordination Committee in the development of a pilot scheme for rural chaplaincy.

CONSOLIDATED RESOLUTION

- 3. (a) 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.
 - (b) That the General Assembly encourage the Universities and Colleges Chaplaincy Committee in its work to develop chaplaincy in the rapidly expanding campus of the Ulster University in Belfast, and in its efforts to develop a chaplaincy presence in the major third level campuses in Dublin.
 - (c) That the General Assembly affirm the work of the Home Mission, Irish Mission and Deaconess Committee in the support of Irish Mission Workers and Deaconesses, and their deployment in congregations and mission projects in Ireland.
4. That the Report of the Council for Mission in Ireland be received.