

Standing Committee - 2014

STANDING COMMITTEE

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS LAID BEFORE

THE GENERAL SYNOD AT ITS

ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION 2014

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**THE GENERAL SYNOD
OF THE
CHURCH OF IRELAND**

HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

The Ven George Davison, 12 Harwood Gardens, Carrickfergus, Co Antrim, BT38 7US

Mr Samuel Harper, Cramer's Grove, Kilkenny, Co Kilkenny

Mrs Ethne Harkness, 134 Coagh Road, Stewartstown, Co Tyrone, BT71 5LL

Rev Gillian Wharton, The Rectory, Cross Avenue, Booterstown, Blackrock, Co Dublin

ASSISTANT SECRETARY – Mrs Janet Maxwell

SYNOD OFFICER – Mr Garrett Casey

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1. SUMMARY

Some significant matters dealt with during the period 13 March 2013 to 11 March 2014 were:

- A meeting between representatives of the Church of Ireland and the Irish Government in April 2013;
- A submission to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health and Children on Abortion;
- An ongoing engagement with Girlguiding Ulster and Girlguiding UK on their new promise.

2. NAMES AND ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS

Ex-officio Members

THE ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS

THE HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

4/5	μ	Ven Robin Bantry White
6/6		Ven George Davison
6/6		Mr Samuel Harper
6/6		Mrs Ethne Harkness
1/1	μ	Rev Gillian Wharton

ELECTED MEMBERS

Armagh	5/6	Rev Brian Harper
	5/6	Rev Shane Forster
	4/6	Mr Paul Bruce
	0/6	Mr Adam Pearson
Clogher	3/6	Rev Canon John Stewart
	6/6	Rev Canon Bryan Kerr
	6/6	Mr Walter Pringle
	6/6	Mr Glenn Moore
Derry & Raphoe	5/6	Rev Canon Henry Gilmore
	5/6	Ven Robert Miller
	4/6	Mrs Wendy Donaghy
	2/6	Mr Kenneth Witherow
Down & Dromore	0/1	* Ven Philip Patterson
	4/6	Rev Kevin Graham

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	3/4	α	Ven Roderic West
	5/6		Mrs Hilary McClay
	6/6		Mr Andrew Brannigan
Connor	5/6		Rev Dr Alan McCann
	5/6		Rev Trevor Johnston
	6/6		Mr Roy Totten
	5/6		Mrs Pauline High
Kilmore,	5/6		Very Rev Raymond Ferguson
Elphin &	6/6		Ven Craig McCauley
Ardagh	2/6		Mr Alan Williamson
	4/6		Mrs Brigid Barrett
Tuam,	4/6		Ven Alan Synnott
Killala &	2/6		Very Rev Gary Hastings
Achonry	6/6		Mr Denzil Auchmuty
	0/6		Ms Karen Duignan
Dublin &	4/5	μ	Rev Gillian Wharton
Glendalough	6/6		Rev Stephen Farrell
	5/6		Ms Ruth Handy
	1/6		Mr Gregory Fromholz
Meath &	6/6		Rev Peter Rutherford
Kildare	4/6		Rev Canon Lynda Peilow
	6/6		Mrs Joan Bruton
	4/6		Mr Ronan McKenna
Cashel, Ferns	4/6		Very Rev Katharine Poulton
&	3/6		Rev Canon Robert Gray
Ossory	5/6		Mr Cecil Wellwood
	3/6		Ms Hazel Corrigan
Cork, Cloyne	5/6		Very Rev Christopher Peters
& Ross	5/6		Rev Adrian Wilkinson
	5/6		Mr Wilfred Baker
	3/6		Mr Gordon Benn
Limerick &	2/6		Rev Jane Galbraith
Killaloe	5/6		Rev Canon Stephen Neill
	6/6		Mr Adrian Hilliard
	3/6		Mr Edward Hardy

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Co-opted Members

Rev Dr Maurice Elliott	6/6	Rev Andrew Forster	4/6
Mr Andrew McNeile	5/6	Rev Dorothy McVeigh	2/6
Ven Richard Rountree	5/6	Rev Pat Storey	[^] 3/4
Miss Catherine Turner	4/6	Rev Alison Calvin	^β 1/1

The Chief Officer of the Representative Church Body is entitled to attend and speak at meetings of the Standing Committee. The Assistant Secretary of the General Synod is also entitled to attend and to speak at meetings.

*The Ven Philip Patterson died on 5 May 2013.

^α The Ven Roderick West was elected to succeed the Ven Philip Patterson in September 2013.

[^]The Most Rev Pat Storey was consecrated Bishop on 30 November 2013.

^β The Rev Alison Calvin was elected to succeed the Most Rev Patricia Storey as a co-opted member at the January 2014 meeting.

^μ The Rev Gillian Wharton was elected to succeed the Ven Robin Bantry White as Honorary Secretary of the General Synod at the March 2014 meeting.

COMMITTEES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

FINANCE AND ARRANGEMENTS SUB-COMMITTEE

Mr Wilfred Baker
Rev Shane Forster
The Honorary Secretaries

LEGAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Hon Mr Justice Declan Budd	Mr William Prentice
His Honour Judge Tom Burgess	His Honour Judge Derek Rodgers
The Rt Hon Sir Anthony Campbell	His Honour Judge Alistair Devlin
Mr Michael Davey	The Hon Mr Justice Benjamin Stephens
Mr Lyndon MacCann SC	Mr John Wilson QC
The Hon Mrs Justice Catherine McGuinness	

PRIORITIES FUND COMMITTEE

Mr Roy Totten	Ven George Davison
Mrs Joan Bruton	Mr Samuel Harper
Rev Andrew Forster	Mr Glenn Moore
Rev Adrian Wilkinson	Rev Canon Stephen Neill
Mrs Brigid Barrett	

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BUDGET SUB COMMITTEE

Mr Wilfred Baker	Mr Roy Totten
Mr Samuel Harper	Rt Rev John McDowell
Ven George Davison	

WORLD DEVELOPMENT – BISHOPS’ APPEAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Rt Rev Michael Burrows (resigned Jan 2014)	Mr William Kingston
Rt Rev Patrick Rooke	Mr Albert Smallwoods
Rt Rev Ferran Glenfield (from Jan 2014)	Rev Canon Noel Regan
Rev Canon Jonathon Pierce	Ms Ruth Handy

LAY JUDGES OF THE COURT OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

The Hon Mr Justice Declan Budd	Mr Lyndon MacCann SC
His Honour Judge Tom Burgess	The Hon Mrs Justice Catherine Mc Guinness
The Rt Hon Sir Anthony Campbell	Mr Ronald Robbins
The Rt Hon Lord Justice Paul Girvan	The Hon Mr Justice Benjamin Stephens
Mr Patrick Good QC	Mr John Wilson QC

3. ABORTION

In January 2013, the Standing Committee established a Working Group on Abortion to prepare any response to the proposed Protection of Life in Pregnancy Bill 2013 that the Oireachtas was considering. The membership of the working group comprised:

The Archbishop of Dublin;
The Hon Mrs Justice Catherine McGuinness;
Rev Daniel Nuzum;
Ms Joy Gordon;
Rev Dr Rory Corbett;
Mr Samuel Harper;
Ms Hilary Prentice;
Rev Adrian Dorrian.

The working group prepared a response to the proposed Bill which was submitted to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health and Children during their deliberations. The working group welcomed much of the Bill but expressed concerns over the sanctions proposed discouraging women returning from having had abortions in England from seeking medical help. It also noted the importance of having an independent audit. The full submission appears in Appendix A to this report on page 212.

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As this working group had substantially completed its work with this submission, the Standing Committee voted to disband the group.

In December 2013, the Minister of Justice, Mr David Ford MLA announced a consultation on Abortion law in Northern Ireland.

4. APPOINTMENTS

During the period covered by this report, the Standing Committee made the following appointments.

Irish Council of Churches AGM (Arklow Co Wicklow, April 2014)	Most Rev Dr Michael Jackson Most Rev Patricia Storey Rt Rev Michael Burrows Rt Rev John McDowell Very Rev Dermott Dunne Rev Canon David Crooks Rev Canon Ian Ellis Rev Daniel Nuzum Rev Ása Björk Ólafsdóttir Rev Darren McCallig Rev David Mungavin Rev Nigel Sherwood Rev Niall Sloane Dr Kenneth Milne Mrs Roberta McKelvey Ms Ruth Handy Mr Samuel Harper Ms Uta Raab Ms Julie Bell Mr Raymond Kettle
Conference of the Methodist Church (Dublin, June 2014)	Rt Rev Harold Miller Rev Ása Björk Ólafsdóttir
General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (Belfast, June 2014)	Rt Rev John McDowell Rev Canon Ian Ellis
Religious Society of Friends (Dublin, April 2014)	Dr Kenneth Milne and/or Mr Samuel Harper

Porvoo Contact Person for the Church of Ireland Rev Canon Helene Steed

5. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS

6. BISHOPS' APPEAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7. CENSUS

8. CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BOARD

9. CHARITIES LEGISLATION

The Archbishop of Armagh;
Mr Sydney Gamble (appointed by the RB);

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Mr Lyndon MacCann (appointed by the RB);
Mrs Ethne Harkness (appointed by the Standing Committee);
Rev Andrew Forster (appointed by the Standing Committee);
Mrs June Butler, Diocesan Secretary for Down and Dromore and Connor.

The report of the Charities Registration Monitoring Group can be found in Appendix D on page 246.

10. CHILDRENS' MINISTRY NETWORK

A report from the Children's Ministry Network can be found in Appendix E on page 249.

11. CHURCH AND SOCIETY COMMISSION

The Church and Society Commission's report can be found in Appendix F on page 251.

12. CLERGY PENSIONS LEVY

In September 2013, the Standing Committee adopted a resolution on the recommendation of the Representative Church Body that in accordance with section 34 of Chapter XIV of the Constitution, the rate of levy to be paid by each diocese towards the cost of securing the solvency of the Clergy Pensions Fund from 1 January 2014 be set at 13% of the Minimum Approved Stipend in force at 1 January 2014.

13. COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

In April 2013, the Standing Committee received a report from the Consultation with members of the Complaints Committee and Disciplinary Panel. On the proposal of the Honorary Secretaries, two questions were referred to the Legal Advisory Committee. The questions and the Legal Advisory Committee's response can be found in Appendix G on page 259.

The Standing Committee also approved a proposal that the Honorary Secretaries conduct a further review of the Complaints and Disciplinary procedure in 2016.

14. DISBANDMENT OF WORKING GROUPS

In November 2013, the Standing Committee noted that the work of the EU Single Farm Payment Working Group, the Inter-Church Peace Programme Group, the Working Group on Abortion and the Charity Commission NI Consultation Group was essentially completed. It acknowledged with thanks the work of the members of the working groups on behalf of the Standing Committee and the Church of Ireland and resolved that they be disbanded.

15. DIVERSITY AND PARTICIPATION IN DIOCESAN AND CHURCH DECISION MAKING BODIES

In accordance with the General Synod resolution in 2013, in January 2014 the Standing Committee discussed its composition with a view to ‘expanding the diversity of participants to reflect the membership of the Church in terms of age, gender, geographical location, experience and recently arrived migrant groups.’

The election process for Standing Committee results in a body with a diversity of ages, geographical locations and experience. The issues of gender balance and recently arrived migrant groups provided the main focus of discussion at Standing Committee. The Bishops were encouraged to draw attention to the issues at the forthcoming triennial elections.

16. GENERAL SYNOD 2015

The Honorary Secretaries recommended that the 2015 General Synod take place in Armagh City Hotel, Armagh. The Standing Committee accepted this recommendation and accordingly, the 2015 General Synod will take place in Armagh from Thursday 7 May 2015 to Saturday 9 May 2015.

17. GENERAL SYNOD/STANDING COMMITTEE FINANCES

In September 2013, the Budget Sub-Committee presented its report to the Standing Committee. The report was accepted by the Standing Committee. The Sub-Committee renewed its appreciation to committees for their efforts to contain expenditure.

18. GENERAL SYNOD ROYALTIES FUND

During the year the following allocations were made from the Royalties Fund:

- €1,200 to Columba Press to support the publication of Lent with Saint John’s Gospel by the Very Rev John Mann;
- €1,000 to the Irish Traditional Music Archive to support the publication of Tunes of the Munster Pipers which includes a study of the Rev James Goodman, Rector of Abbeystrewry and Professor of Irish at TCD;
- €15,000 to the Synod Department to undertake further research in respect of the copyright management and contractual issues related to the production of the Hymnal Supplement and associated products;
- €3,000 to Columba Press for the production of a Biography of Bishop Donald Caird by Aonghus Dwane.

19. GIRLGUIDING ULSTER/GIRLGUIDING UK

During 2013, Girlguiding UK took the decision to change its promise by removing the words ‘to love my God’ and replace them with ‘to be true to myself and develop my

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beliefs.’ The change took effect from 1 September 2013. At the September Standing Committee, the following resolution was adopted:

That, the Standing Committee of the Church of Ireland conveys to Girlguiding Ulster and Girlguiding UK the following statement:

‘The Church of Ireland wishes to convey to Girlguiding Ulster and Girlguiding UK the high value it places on their work with children and also the partnership between the Church and Guiding through the provision of premises, leadership and other support.

However we are deeply concerned that, as of 1st September 2013, all new members and leaders will be expected to make a new promise ‘To be true to myself and develop my beliefs’, replacing the previous promise to ‘love my God’. We regard the words in the promise ‘To be true to myself’ as falling far short of Christian values and therefore cannot support this promise being used.

We request that Girlguiding Ulster and Girlguiding UK, as soon as possible, provide its many children and leaders from a Christian background the option to make a promise to serve God.

In addition, we request that no Church of Ireland based Guiding unit compel its new members to make this new promise containing the wording ‘to be true to myself’.

In November 2013, a group consisting of the Bishop of Down and Dromore, the Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod and others met with representatives of Girlguiding Ulster and Girlguiding UK to express the concerns of the Church in relation to the new promise. Discussions continued over the Christmas period. The Church has also discussed the matter with the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches. The Honorary Secretaries emailed clergy in Northern Ireland about developments in January 2014 and updated them further in the lead up to Thinking Day. At the time of writing, the matter is unresolved.

20. HISTORICAL CENTENARIES WORKING GROUP

The report of the Historical Centenaries Working Group is included as Appendix H on page 260.

21. HISTORIOGRAPHER’S REPORT

A report from the Church of Ireland Historiographer, Dr Kenneth Milne, is included as Appendix I on page 262.

22. HUMAN SEXUALITY IN THE CONTEXT OF CHRISTIAN BELIEF

The Select Committee on Human Sexuality in the Context of Christian Belief was established pursuant to a General Synod resolution in 2013. Its report appears separately from the Standing Committee report on page 405. In accordance with the resolution, the Standing Committee received a report from the Select Committee in November 2013 and at the time of writing anticipates receiving another in April 2014. In January 2014, the Select Committee appointed the Very Rev John Mann as its chair.

23. IRISH CHURCHES PEACE PROJECT

In November 2012, the Standing Committee approved the participation of the Church of Ireland in the Irish Churches Peace Project. The project is funded by the Special EU Programmes Body PEACE III programme and is a partnership of the Church of Ireland, the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Methodist Church in Ireland, the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland and the Irish Council of Churches. The Standing Committee also appointed the Bishop of Clogher and the Rev John McClure to the Steering Committee of the Peace Project.

A report from the Irish Churches Peace Project appears in Appendix J on page 264.

24. MINIMUM APPROVED STIPENDS

Under Section 51(1) of Chapter IV of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland as revised by Chapter IV of 2011, the Standing Committee is required to consider recommendations from the Representative Church Body as to the rates of Minimum Approved Stipends to take effect from 1 January 2014.

At its meeting of 17 September 2013, the Standing Committee heard a submission by Mr Robert Neill, Chairman of the Executive of the Representative Church Body detailing the background to the RCB's recommendations.

The Standing Committee approved the recommendations of the Representative Church Body with the adoption of the following resolution:

That, in accordance with Section 51 (1) of Chapter IV of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, Minimum Approved Stipends shall be as follows with effect from 1 January 2014:

- (a) no stipend shall be less than £26,788 per annum in Northern Ireland or €36,219 per annum in the Republic of Ireland in the case of an Incumbent or a member of the clergy appointed as Bishop's Curate under the provisions of Section 42 of Chapter IV or of a Diocesan Curate over the age of 30 years appointed under the provisions of Section 43 of Chapter IV.*

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(b) the stipend for a Curate-Assistant shall be in accordance with the following scale:

<i>First Year</i>	<i>75.0% of minimum stipend for incumbent</i>
<i>Second Year</i>	<i>77.5% "</i>
<i>Third Year</i>	<i>80.0% "</i>
<i>Fourth Year</i>	<i>82.5% "</i>
<i>Fifth and succeeding Years</i>	<i>85.0% "</i>

25. NORTHERN IRELAND COMMUNITY RELATIONS WORKING GROUP

In the light of important developments in Northern Ireland regarding community relations, the Standing Committee established a Northern Ireland Community Relations Working Group in September 2013. The group comprises:

The Bishop of Down and Dromore (Chairman);
The Bishop of Clogher;
The Ven George Davison;
Rev Barry Forde.

The group was tasked with responding to consultations and developments on the issue of community relations in Northern Ireland (including the Northern Ireland Executive's new 'Together: Building a United Community' policy document and the forthcoming multi-party talks) and to act as a liaison and support to the Primate in this area. The Working Group may consult as it deems necessary and issue statements and papers on its own behalf or (with the prior approval of the Standing Committee) on behalf of the Church of Ireland.

In January 2014, the Working Group presented a paper on 'Together: Building a United Community', a strategy document prepared by the Office of the First Minister and the Deputy First Minister (OFMDFM). The Standing Committee approved the document with a number of suggested amendments.

Also in January 2014, the Standing Committee appointed the Rev Adrian Dorrian as an additional member of the Working Group on its recommendation.

The report of the Northern Ireland Community Relations Working Group appears as Appendix K on page 265.

26. PARISH DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP

The report of the Parish Development Working Group can be found in Appendix L on page 267.

27. PASTORAL RECONCILIATION AND MEDIATION

In 2012, the General Synod adopted a resolution which stated that ‘Standing Committee shall establish a sub-committee to prepare guidelines on pastoral reconciliation, mediation and arbitration for the use of the Church of Ireland in accordance with the recommendations of the Report presented to the General Synod by the Standing Committee in May 2012 and to make recommendations on the future of the Severance Fund.’

In September 2012, acting on that resolution, the Standing Committee appointed the following to ‘the Pastoral Reconciliation and Mediation Sub-committee’, the (then) Bishop of Meath and Kildare, the Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, Mr Samuel Harper, Ms Ruth Handy, the (then) Rev Pat Storey and the Rev Gillian Wharton.

The group made an interim report to the Standing Committee in April 2013 (too late for the 2013 Book of Reports). Their preliminary recommendations were that the Severance Fund not be confined to circumstances warranting permanent cessation of Ministry, the availability of training in conflict-handling, a greater role for Rural Deans and/or Archdeacons and informal peer-mentoring. The group also emphasised the importance of recognising a common responsibility on the part of clergy and laity alike in avoiding conflict situations arising.

The group has met twice subsequent to the General Synod and has considered a code of practice for encouraging a healthy group dynamic at Select Vestry. The group has also considered the difficulty that arises when mediation has been sought when the conflict is at an advanced stage and the relevant parties are entrenched in their positions.

The group made a second report to the Standing Committee in March 2014 and presented their work on a code of practice and stages of conflict. It announced that the members of the group felt that its work risked overlapping with work being undertaken at the instigation of the House of Bishops and accordingly, the group intended to take a step back while this work was completed.

28. PENSIONABLE STIPENDS

Under Section 2 of Chapter XIV of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland as revised by Chapter V of 2011, the Standing Committee is required to consider a recommendation from the Representative Church Body and the Church of Ireland Clergy Pensions Trustee Limited as to the rates of Pensionable Stipend to take effect from 1 January 2014.

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At its meeting of 17 September 2013, the Standing Committee heard a presentation by Mr Robert Neill, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Representative Church Body detailing the financial background to the RCB's and the Church of Ireland Clergy Pensions Trustee Limited's recommendations.

The Standing Committee approved the recommendations of the Representative Church Body by adopting the following resolution:

That as recommended by the Representative Church Body and the Trustee, in accordance with Section 2 of Chapter XIV of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, Pensionable Stipend shall be as follows with effect from 1 January 2014:

- (a) *Pensionable Stipend shall be £25,498 per annum in Northern Ireland and €36,219 per annum in the Republic of Ireland in the case of an Incumbent or a member of the clergy appointed as Bishop's Curate under the provisions of Section 42 of Chapter IV or of a Diocesan Curate over the age of 30 years appointed under the provisions of Section 43 of Chapter IV.*
- (b) *Pensionable Stipend for a Curate-Assistant shall be in accordance with the following scale:*

<i>First Year</i>	<i>75.0% of Pensionable Stipend for incumbent</i>
<i>Second Year</i>	<i>77.5% "</i>
<i>Third Year</i>	<i>80.0% "</i>
<i>Fourth Year</i>	<i>82.5% "</i>
<i>Fifth and succeeding Years</i>	<i>85.0% "</i>

29. PRIORITIES FUND

- (a) The following allocations from the Priorities Fund were approved by the Standing Committee in March 2014:

ALLOCATION OF GRANTS FROM 2013 PRIORITIES FUND

Ministry	€
Diocese of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory Adult Education Projects – Funding for the development of faith formation and lay ministry programmes, for ministerial outreach in the diocese and its neighbouring dioceses	2,000

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The Church of Ireland Theological Institute – Funding to facilitate a programme for Continuing Ministerial Education and lay training – (€65,000 per year for 5 years) – Fourth year	65,000
The Church’s Ministry of Healing (NI) – To assist with the establishment of Christian healing ministries, in isolated rural and urban communities – (Stg£5,000 per year for 2 years) – Second year	6,023
The House of Bishops – To support continuing ministerial education in the dioceses	40,000
Young Adults’ Ministry (Dublin and Glendalough) – Funding for a new initiative to form, innovate, grow, train, serve, network and build community and ownership of faith and mission among the ‘New Influencers’, to cultivate diocesan and national renewal	3,000
Sub-total	€116,023
Retirement	
C of I Clergy Pensions Fund – Additional income for most needy – (Stg£1,125)	1,355
Sub-total	€1,355
Education	
Ashton School Chaplaincy, Cork – Funding to furnish the school chapel with a communion table and lectern, and install a sound system	2,800
Innovista, Dublin – To provide seed funding for the development of RISE as a teenage leadership programme, equipping teenagers to bring positive change to their communities	1,500
Recorded Church Music Committee – Funding for the publication of a hardback resource guide/reference book, on the use and choice of relevant hymns from the church hymnal and the proposed supplement – (Stg£2,500)	3,011
Search – A Church of Ireland Journal – Funding to rebrand, redesign and refresh the Search Journal	1,800
Solas Project, Dublin – Financial assistance for a programme for young offenders, delivered in prisons and carried through to post release support, including mentoring and skills building	13,500
St Andrew’s Church, Ballysally (Connor) – To assist with the development of the S.A.F.E. (Schools and Families Education) Programme, to connect children, families, schools, church and parish – (Stg£10,000 – First year : Stg£5,000 – Second year : Stg£3,000 – Third year) – First year	12,045

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Summer Madness (NI) – Seed funding for ‘Catalyst’, a new Christian festival for the 20 – 30 age bracket – (Stg£8,000)	9,636
Sunday School Society for Ireland – Funding to increase localised Sunday Club leaders training nationally	2,500

The following applications all concern youth work and the grants allocation take into consideration recommendations made by the Executive Committee of the Church of Ireland Youth Department

BK Banter/Dynamik, Tamlaghtfinlagan Parish (Derry) – Financial assistance to establish a library for our youth groups – (Stg£500)	602
C of I Youth Department – Financial assistance for a three year volunteer support programme – (Stg£5,000 per year for 3 years) – Second year	6,023
Clogher Diocesan Council – Funding for a three year project called ‘The Streams Project’, to integrate young people throughout the diocese into their parish church, life and witness – (Stg£7,000 – First year : Stg£5,000 – Second year) – First year	8,432
Impact Youth, St Mary’s Parish, Ballybeen (Down) – Funding to support the work of Impact Youth, in providing a safe and exciting place for local young people – (Stg£2,000)	2,409
Magheraculmoney Parish (Clogher) – Funding to develop a variety of new programmes, to reach the youth in Kesh and wider area – (Stg£10,000 – First year : Stg£5,000 – Second year : Stg£3,000 – Third year) – Third year	3,614
Mostrim Group of Parishes (Ardagh) – To assist financially with the development of family and youth ministry, within the group of parishes	2,000
‘Transformers’, Ardstraw Parish Church (Derry) – Funding to enable the creation of a youth project, to serve and reach out to unchurched young people in the Newtownstewart area – (Stg£10,000 – First year : Stg£3,000 – Second year : Stg£2,000 – Third year) – First year	12,045
Sub-total	681,917

Community

Beacon Ministries Limited (NI) – Funding for the provision of an outreach programme to families in our community – (Stg£10,000 – First year : Stg£6,000 – Second year) – First year	12,045
Diocese of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory Committee for Social Affairs – Financial support for the setting up of a new initiative within the dioceses, which aims to address social issues and stress, caused by rural isolation and the economic downturn	1,000

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Discovery Gospel Choir (Dublin and Glendalough) – Funding to increase outreach to the local intercultural community in Dublin, by initiating a children’s Gospel Choir, facilitating a parent’s Bible study and developing a diocesan clergy booklet on creating an intercultural church	3,000
St Catherine’s (CORE) Church (Dublin) – To assist financially with three projects, to allow St Catherine’s Church become a resource for the wider community	7,000
St John’s Parish, Stoneyford (Connor) – Funding for the purpose of overcoming sectarianism and parading issues in Stoneyford, by working in partnership with community stakeholders and certain groups in particular – (Stg£10,000 – First year : Stg£5,000 – Second year : Stg£5,000 – Third year) – Third year	6,023
St Nicholas’ Schola Cantorum (Tuam) – To assist financially with the setting-up costs of the Schola Cantorum school of singers, enabling further development and activities	7,000
Trinity – The Gospel Choir of Waterford (Waterford) – Provide seed capital for the formation and initial training of an ecumenical Gospel Choir	2,000
Willowfield Parish Church (Down) – To assist financially with a project, helping people with learning disabilities and men with addictions, to be better integrated into church life – (Stg£10,000 – First year : Stg£5,000 – Second year) – First year	12,045
Sub-total	€50,113
Areas of Need	
Connor – St Anne’s Cathedral, Belfast – To assist with the capital cost of a minibus, for use in a cross community schools’ programme called ‘Choir School’ – (Stg£12,000)	14,454
Derry – Urney Parish – Funding for the purchase of equipment for outreach activity, for the benefit of the whole community – (Stg£2,000)	2,409
Down – Belvoir Parish Church – Funding for the redevelopment of church rooms, to facilitate evangelism and mission to the wider community – (Stg£4,000)	4,818
Down – Boring Wells – Parish of Ballymacarrett – Financial assistance for the provision of a cooking/baking facility, within an emergency food bank project in inner east Belfast – (Stg£5,000)	6,023
Elphin – Lissadell Parish – Financial assistance towards the completion of the refurbishment of the Lissadell Centre, to make it a viable and comfortable resource for ministry	20,000
Ferns – Enniscorthy Church Institute – To assist with the cost of the refurbishment of the Church Institute building, for use as a parish hall and wider community activities	5,000

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Lismore – Lismore Parish Hall – Funding to equip the newly restored hall, for outreach activities in the community	10,000
Ossory – St John’s Church, Kilkenny – Funding for the provision of equipment for a Sunday School/Youth/Parish room	1,000
Sub-total	€63,704
Outreach Initiatives	
Bangor Parish Church (Down) – Seed funding for an outreach programme ‘Building for Life’ – (Stg£10,000)	12,045
Christ Church Development, Clifden (Tuam) – Funding for the development of the church building, to enhance its flexibility as an asset for the whole local community of Connemara, while retaining its role as a place of worship	10,000
Grouped Parishes of Christ Church, Culmore, Muff and St Peter, Londonderry (Derry) – Financial support for a project, which will enable the church to continue to play a leading role in reconciliation – (Stg£5,000)	6,023
Holy Trinity Church, Dromore (Clogher) – Funding to establish and open a CAP (Christians Against Poverty) Centre – (Stg£9,000 – First year : Stg£7,500 – Second year : Stg£5,000 – Third year) – Second year	9,034
Holy Trinity Church, Woodburn (Connor) – Financial assistance for a technology refresh of the computer suite, for the purpose of community outreach – (Stg£2,500)	3,011
Mount Merrion Parish Church (Down) – Provision of funding in support of outreach projects, to transform the local community – (Stg£10,000 – First year : Stg£5,000 – Second year) – First year	12,045
Parish of Camus-Juxta-Mourne, Strabane (Derry) – Financial assistance for ‘The Light House’, a new project to facilitate mission and outreach – (Stg£4,000)	4,818
St Andrew’s Church, Ballysally (Connor) – Financial assistance to develop ministry to the poor, needy and vulnerable of the parish, through the ‘Show the Love – Care in the Community’ project – (Stg£10,000 – First year : Stg£8,000 – Second year : Stg£5,000 – Third year) – Third year	6,023
St Brigid’s the Braniel Mission Area (Down and Dromore) – Seed funding for the mission area, to build a new church congregation among the many young families who have no church connection – (Stg£15,000 – First year : Stg£6,000 – Second year) – First year	18,068
St Hilda’s Church, Kilmakee (Connor) – Financial assistance for various outreach programmes, to reach out into the community – (Stg£3,000)	3,614

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St Lurach's Parish, Maghera (Derry) – Funding for 'The Rectory Walled Garden Project' – a holistic missional outreach programme – (Stg£5,000)	6,023
St Mary's Parish, Ballybeen (Down) – Financial assistance for the programme 'Silver Threads', a weekly lunch club for the over 60's – (Stg£500)	602
St Mary's Parish, Ballybeen (Down) - Seed funding to assist with the development of a men's weekly drop-in – (Stg£1,000)	1,205
St Patrick's Church, Ballymoney (Connor) – To assist financially with the establishment of a Parish Caring Association, to deliver a range of services to the wider community – (Stg£5,000 – First year : Stg£5,000 – Second year) – First year	6,023
St Paul and St Barnabas Parish, Belfast (Connor) – Funding to consolidate three projects currently underway, throughout 2014 – (Stg£3,000)	3,614
St Paul's Caring Group, Lisburn (Connor) – Seed funding to assist with the expansion of community outreach, with a particular focus on youth and young families – (Stg£8,000)	9,636
The Dioceses of Limerick and Killaloe Board of Mission – Funding for an ecumenical project, 'Justice for All and Reconciliation between All', for the people of Rathkeale, Co Limerick	6,250
The Dock, Belfast – Financial assistance for ministry in three areas, with huge potential for growth among unchurched students, in the Titanic Quarter – (Stg£15,000)	18,068
Sub-total	€136,102

Innovative Ministry in a Rural Context

Nohoval Parish Church (Cork) – To assist financially with alterations to the 'Upper Room' in Nohoval Parish Church, for ministry and outreach to the parish and wider village community	10,000
Parish of Errigal and Desertoghill (Derry) – To assist financially with a project 'Transforming our Community – Radiating Christ' – (Stg£6,000 – First year : Stg£4,000 – Second year) – Second year	4,818
The Church Lads' and Church Girls' Brigade (NI) – Funding to create the facilities to expand the organisation into various rural communities – (Stg£3,000)	3,614
Tullogh Group of Parishes (Leighlin) – Financial assistance for an outreach project to an isolated rural community, particularly young men, through sporting activities	5,000
Sub-total	€23,432

Total Allocated **€472,646**

Sterling grants have been converted to Euro using the 2013 end of year rate of 0.8302.

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Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2013 are included as Appendix M on Page 269
Contributions to the Fund do not close until the end of February. The amount actually received by 28 February 2014 was €521,499.

Following a recommendation from the Priorities Fund Committee, the Standing Committee in March 2014, agreed that diocesan targets for contributions to the 2015 Fund should be increased by 1%.

30. WORKING GROUP ON DISABILITY

During the year, the Rev William Murphy stepped down as Chairman of the Disability Working Group. The Rev Jennifer McWhirter was appointed in his place. The Honorary Secretaries would like to acknowledge the contribution of the Rev William Murphy to this important work.

The report of the Working Group on Disability can be read in Appendix N on page 275.

31. OBITUARIES

The following members died since the last session:

The Ven Philip Patterson, Diocese of Down and Dromore
Dr Donald Davison, Diocese of Connor
Mrs Fay Anderson, Diocese of Armagh
Mrs Helen Livingstone, Diocese of Down
Dr Valerie Jones, Diocese of Dublin

APPENDIX A

PROTECTION OF LIFE DURING PREGNANCY (HEADS OF) BILL 2013 - REQUEST FOR SUBMISSIONS

Submission by the Working Group of the Standing Committee of the Church of Ireland

Introduction

The Church of Ireland welcomes the invitation to contribute to the *PROTECTION OF LIFE DURING PREGNANCY (HEADS OF) BILL 2013*. As outlined in our submission to the Joint Committee on Health and Children on 10 January 2013 the Church of Ireland is a Synodical Church where the development of policy is guided by prayerful consideration and discussion of bishops, clergy and laity. The Standing Committee of the General Synod established a working group to make any submissions to the Government or an Oireachtas Committee should the need arise. This submission therefore is submitted in the names of the Working Group on behalf of the Church of Ireland.

The working group has considered the material in the *PROTECTION OF LIFE DURING PREGNANCY (HEADS OF) BILL 2013* and makes the following submission to the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Health and Children for consideration.

Following the Executive Summary this submission will comment on a ‘head by head basis’ as requested.

The introduction, Executive Summary, Comment on heads of Bill and the Addendum should be considered as one document.

The Church of Ireland as a province of the Anglican Communion of Churches affirms the report adopted at the Lambeth Conference, 1958 which states “In the strongest terms, Christians reject the practice of induced abortion ... which involves the killing of a life already conceived.... save at the dictate of strict and undeniable medical necessity”

The position of the Church of Ireland on abortion is summarised in the addendum to this paper which includes excerpts from previous submissions to Oireachtas Committees. We recognise, however, that the decision in the *AB & C v Ireland* case and the decision of the Government to progress the matter through a combination of legislation and regulation had

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‘moved the issue on’ somewhat and thus we will confine most of our submission to the Heads of Bill as requested.

It will suffice to say that the Church of Ireland opposes abortion in principle but recognises that there are exceptional cases of ‘strict and undeniable medical necessity’ where it is and should be an option. There would be a wide variety of sincerely held and conscientious views within the Church as to what constitute such ‘exceptional cases’ but there would be agreement that these include cases where the continuation of the pregnancy poses a risk to the life of the mother.

In all cases the Church of Ireland affirms the importance of sensitive pastoral care for mothers, their partners and their unborn baby. We recognise that, when faced with the possibility of terminating a pregnancy, parents and medical professionals are involved with emotive and complex issues and wrestle with ethical values and principles concerning human life. As a Church, our care is modelled on the compassion and unconditional love that God in Jesus Christ offers to all. This love supports our position that cherishes the lives of all yet recognises that at times the complexities of life present us with difficult choices and where such choices have to be made in cases of ‘strict and undeniable medical necessity’ that termination of pregnancy is sadly an option that must be considered. In addition to our care for parents and their unborn baby, our care also extends to all healthcare professionals who deserve support when faced with difficult decisions such as this.

Executive Summary

1. The Church of Ireland welcomes the invitation to contribute to the *PROTECTION OF LIFE DURING PREGNANCY (HEADS OF) BILL 2013* and welcomes the decision of Government to proceed towards legislation and regulation in this area.
2. The Church of Ireland emphasises the right to life and this includes the right of the unborn.
3. The Church of Ireland opposes abortion in principle but acknowledges that there are exceptional cases of ‘strict and undeniable medical necessity’ where it is and should be an option. There is a variety of opinion within the Church of Ireland on what constitutes ‘exceptional cases’ but agreement that it includes circumstances where the continuation of the pregnancy poses a real and substantial risk to the life of the mother.
4. In the context of the Church of Ireland’s previous comments on abortion about the need for legal clarity, it is agreed that the position in the State at present is very unclear and unsatisfactory, and unfair to pregnant women and medical professionals

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who deserve to be able to make critical, clinical decisions in a secure and well regulated medical framework. Accordingly, the decision by the Government to seek to provide clarity on the issue is welcome.

5. It is agreed that where there is a strict and undeniable medical necessity requiring the ending of a pregnancy at a later stage, where possible, this should be done in a manner that preserves the life of the unborn, without compromising the life of the woman. This diagnosis should be made expeditiously and should be formally notified to the woman. This will require legislation as medical council guidelines on their own will not necessarily have this effect.
6. Special provision should be made for emergency situations where the continuation of the pregnancy occasions a risk to the mother's life that is real, substantial and imminent.
7. The Church has previously urged the Government to adopt a legislative and regulatory approach which will allow for easier alteration in the light of changes in medical science. Accordingly, the Government decision to do so is welcome.

**HEADS OF BILL
PROTECTION OF LIFE DURING PREGNANCY BILL 2013**

HEAD 1 – INTERPRETATION

We welcome:

- that where termination of pregnancy is required “in strict and undeniable medical necessity” that it will be only allowed in the 19 public obstetric facilities in the State, except in cases of emergency.
- that there will be adequate regulation, registration, quality control and audit of each facility carrying out termination of pregnancy.
- that the decision to carry out a termination of pregnancy will be taken at a senior clinical level and through reasonable opinion that has due regard for both the life of a pregnant woman and her unborn baby.

HEAD 2 – RISK OF LIFE FROM PHYSICAL ILLNESS, NOT BEING A RISK OF SELF DESTRUCTION

Subhead 1

We suggest:

- that greater clarity is given as to how certification may come about and that Clinical Practice Guideline(s) are drawn up as a matter of urgency in this area by the professional medical colleges.

We welcome:

- that greater clarity would be given to medical practitioners concerning the timing of intervention in line with the X Case “that the risk to the woman’s life is inevitable or immediate”.
- that two senior clinicians would be involved in the assessment and certification process.

We welcome the protection given to the autonomy of the woman to refuse a termination.

We would like consideration to be given to the place of birth in situations where a baby is close to or beyond viability and believe that, notwithstanding an emergency, such situations should be referred to an obstetric unit that has a neonatal intensive care facility and that the expertise of a Consultant Neonatologist should be sought.

HEAD 3 – RISK OF LOSS OF LIFE FROM PHYSICAL ILLNESS IN A MEDICAL EMERGENCY

In order to give clarity to emergency situations we recommend that there is a specific Clinical Practice Guideline drawn up for this situation. This would be particularly important should the emergency occur outside one of the dedicated 19 Obstetric Units so that the same levels of supportive care would be provided for staff, a mother and her unborn baby.

HEAD 4 – RISK OF LOSS OF LIFE FROM SELF DESTRUCTION

In the X-case of 1992, the Supreme Court held that an abortion was constitutionally permissible under Article 40.3.3 in circumstances where the continuation of the pregnancy constituted a ‘real and substantial risk’ to the life (as distinct from health) of the mother and the risk can only be averted by the termination of a pregnancy. The circumstances of the case made clear that this included a credible risk of suicide.

While affirming the parity of both physical and mental health we acknowledge the complexity of trying to legislate for the area of suicidal ideation.

We welcome:

- the measures being suggested to make a clinical assessment in the situation of potential self-destruction
- the process of review in a situation of appeal

We recommend that termination is only a matter of last resort to save the life of a pregnant woman and in situations of “strict and undeniable medical necessity”.

We would like consideration to be given to the place of birth in situations where a baby is close to or beyond viability and believe that such situations should be referred to an obstetric unit that has a neonatal intensive care facility and that the expertise of a Consultant Neonatologist should be sought.

HEAD 5 – MEDICAL OPINION TO BE IN FORM AND MANNER PRESCRIBED BY THE MINISTER.

We welcome a clear and auditable certification process.

HEAD 6 - FORMAL MEDICAL REVIEW PROCEDURES

We welcome the review process suggested and in particular that a review mechanism must be:

- independent

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- competent to review (i) the reasons for the decision and (ii) the relevant evidence
- the procedures should include the possibility for the woman to be heard
- it should issue written opinion
- decisions must be timely

We suggest clarity is given to an appeal process in the cases where the pregnant woman is a minor and there is a conflict of opinion between the pregnant minor and their legal guardian and the review panel.

HEAD 7 – REVIEW WHERE RISK ARISES FROM PHYSICAL ILLNESS NOT BEING A RISK OF SELF DESTRUCTION

No further comment to make other than for Head 6.

HEAD 8 – REVIEW IN CASE OF RISK OF LOSS OF LIFE THROUGH SELF DESTRUCTION

No further comment to make other than for Head 6.

HEAD 9 GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE

No further comment to make

HEAD 10 FORMAL MEDICAL REVIEW REPORTS TO MINISTER

We welcome this review process.

HEAD 11 – NOTIFICATIONS

We welcome this notification process as an integral part of ongoing audit and monitoring.
In addition:

-we recommend that an independent confidential audit be enjoined on all facilities to submit detailed data on terminations for clinical audit and research purposes. One example would be the approach of the National Perinatal Epidemiological Centre or the Maternal Death Enquiry process.

HEAD 12 – CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION

We welcome the inclusion of a conscientious objection on the part of certain health professionals. Where a decision has been made to carry out a termination of pregnancy in accordance with the Heads above this should be available in every public obstetric facility.

HEAD 13 – TRAVEL AND INFORMATION

No further comment to make.

HEAD 14 – REGULATIONS

No further comment to make.

HEAD 15 – REGULATIONS RESPECTING CERTIFICATION OF OPINIONS REFERRED TO IN THIS ACT

No further comment to make.

HEAD 16 – REGULATIONS RESPECTING NOTIFICATIONS TO THE MINISTER

No further comment to make.

HEAD 17 LAYING OF REGULATIONS BEFORE THE OIREACHTAS

No further comment to make.

HEAD 18 REPEAL AND CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS

No further comment to make.

HEAD 19 OFFENCE

While we recognise the necessity for appropriate sanction, we express concern that sanctions should not deter people from seeking appropriate medical help. We welcome the repeal of Sections 58 and Section 59 of the 1861 Act .

HEAD 20 – COMMENCEMENT.

No further comment to make.

ADDENDUM

Submission by the Most Rev Dr Michael Jackson, Archbishop of Dublin and Mr Samuel Harper, Lay Honorary Secretary of the General Synod of the Church of Ireland to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health and Children in January 2013

Executive Summary

1. While welcoming the invitation to give evidence to the Committee, the Archbishop and Mr Harper express considerable disquiet at the timescale involved on a matter of such exceptional human complexity and sensitivity and the difficulty of involving the synodical structures of the Church. The Church of Ireland is a Synodical Church which develops policy guided by the prayerful consideration and discussion of bishops, clergy and laity. The time given to develop a written response to the Committee (de facto less than three working days) made this impossible. Accordingly, this document can only be considered a preliminary response.
2. The Church of Ireland emphasises the right to life and this includes the right of the unborn.
3. The Church of Ireland opposes abortion in principle but acknowledges that there are exceptional cases of ‘strict and undeniable medical necessity’ where it is and should be an option. There is a variety of opinion within the Church of Ireland on what constitutes ‘exceptional cases’ but agreement that it includes circumstances where the continuation of the pregnancy poses a real and substantial risk to the life of the mother.
4. In the context of the Church of Ireland’s previous comments on abortion about the need for legal clarity, it is agreed that the position in the State at present is very unclear and unsatisfactory, and unfair to pregnant women and medical professionals who deserve to be able to make critical, clinical decisions in a secure and well regulated medical framework. Accordingly, the decision by the Government to seek to provide clarity on the issue is welcome.
5. It is agreed that where there is a strict and undeniable medical necessity requiring the ending of a pregnancy at a later stage, where possible, this should be done in a manner that preserves the life of the unborn, without compromising the life of the woman. This diagnosis should be made expeditiously and should be formally notified to the woman. This will require legislation as medical council guidelines on their own will not necessarily have this effect.

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6. Special provision should be made for emergency situations where the continuation of the pregnancy occasions a risk to the mother's life that is real, substantial and imminent.
7. It is desirable that Review Panel group suggested by the Expert Group should include a lawyer.
8. The clauses of the 1861 Act should be amended or repealed.
9. The Church has previously urged the Government to adopt a legislative and regulatory approach which will allow for easier alteration in the light of changes in medical science. Accordingly, the Government decision to do so is welcome.

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Submission by the Most Rev Dr Michael Jackson, Archbishop of Dublin and Mr Samuel Harper, Lay Honorary Secretary of the General Synod to the Joint Committee on Health and Children on the Implementation of the Government Decision following the publication of the Expert Group Report into matters relating to AB & C v Ireland.

Introduction

We are grateful for the invitation extended to make a submission to the Joint Committee on Health and Children on the issue of abortion and wish to express our gratitude to the Chairman and members for the opportunity afforded. However, we must express considerable disquiet at the timescale given for a response on a matter of this exceptional human complexity and sensitivity.

The Church of Ireland is a Synodical Church and has extensive structures and procedures to allow the policies of the Church to be guided by the prayerful consideration and discussion of bishops, clergy and laity. It was not remotely possible in the short timeframe allowed (de facto less than three working days) to undertake such a procedure and this is totally inappropriate in light of the complexity of the moral, ethical and legal issues involved. Accordingly this paper can only be considered a preliminary response. Some of what appears here expresses the personal opinions of the representatives of the Church (though guided by previous Church discussions) and where this is so, this has been highlighted. Obviously, we intend to convey the report and some of the issues raised to the appropriate bodies within the Church for their own consideration.

The position of the Church of Ireland on abortion is summarised on an addendum to this paper including excerpts from previous submissions to Oireachtas Committees. We recognise, however, that the decision in the AB & C v Ireland case and the decision of the Government to progress the matter through a combination of legislation and regulation had ‘moved the issue on’ somewhat and thus we will confine most of our submission to the issues raised by the Expert Group report. It will suffice to say that the Church of Ireland opposes abortion in principle but recognises that there are exceptional cases of ‘strict and undeniable medical necessity’ where it is and should be an option. There would be a wide variety of sincerely held and conscientious views within the Church as to what constitute such ‘exceptional cases’ but there would be agreement that these include cases where the continuation of the pregnancy poses a risk to the life of the mother.

The Current Legal Situation

In the X-case of 1992, the Supreme Court held that an abortion was constitutionally permissible under Article 40.3.3 in circumstances where the continuation of the pregnancy

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constituted a ‘real and substantial risk’ to the life (as distinct from health) of the mother and the risk can only be averted by the termination of a pregnancy. The circumstances of the case made clear that this included a credible risk of suicide.

The Church of Ireland welcomed the judgment at the time as the wording ‘real and substantial risk to the life of the mother’ was very similar to the ‘strict and undeniable medical necessity’ criterion which the Church has generally held to be appropriate. However, the legal situation has not been clarified and statutory provisions; particularly sections 58 and 59 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861, remain in effect, and provide for severe criminal sanctions for both women and those who assist unlawful abortions.

In the context of the Church of Ireland’s previous comments on the issue of abortion, we would agree that the position at present is very unclear and that this is unsatisfactory and unfair to pregnant women and medical professionals who deserve to be able to make critical, clinical decisions in a secure and well regulated legal and medical framework. We therefore strongly welcome the decision by the Government to seek to provide clarity on this issue.

Expert Group Report & Implementation

Introducing the principles behind its paper, the expert group said that ‘there is an existing constitutional right as identified and explained in the X case judgment of the Supreme Court. The State is entitled and, indeed, obliged to regulate and monitor the exercise of that right so as to ensure that the general constitutional prohibition on abortion is maintained. However, the measures that are introduced to give effect to this constitutional right should not act as obstacles to any woman who is legitimately entitled to seek a termination on lawful grounds.’

We would agree with this general approach.

The expert group went on to highlight the sensitive issue of what should happen in the event that a foetus is viable (or potentially viable) but the continuation of the pregnancy poses a ‘real and substantial risk’ to the life of the mother. We feel that this highlights the need for an effective decision making procedure.

With regard to Chapter 6 of the Expert Group report, the report outlines the tests to be applied in the light of the Supreme Court decision in the X-case and that this should include the question of whether it is practicable to preserve the life of the unborn in the process of terminating the pregnancy without compromising the right to life of the woman. The Church of Ireland submission in 1998 to the Interdepartmental working group on abortion makes clear the Church’s position on the right to life of the unborn. We would therefore, agree with the approach outlined and with the requirement that the diagnosis needs to be made expeditiously and should be formally notified to the woman. Such a device needs the protection of legislation as medical council guidelines on their own will not necessarily have this effect.

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The Expert Group also raised the issue of whether there should be special provision for the rare occasions where the risk to a woman's life is real, substantial and imminent (IE Emergency provisions). Our view is that there should be special provision for such circumstances in the light of the provisions of the 1861 Act which makes the termination of pregnancy subject to severe criminal sanction. We do not feel that it is appropriate for a medical professional faced with an emergency situation where a woman's life is in danger to be constrained from giving necessary treatment in good faith by the risk of criminal conviction. We would emphasise, however, that the synodical bodies of the Church have not taken an official position on this issue.

As to the Review panel, we would agree with the general approach outlined by the Expert Group and of the two options given, we believe that Option 1 (including a lawyer on the panel) would be the preferred approach, although we would again add the caveat that there has not been an official decision on this within the Church of Ireland.

Turning to Chapter 7 and the options for implementation, as a group we welcome the Government's decision to seek to implement by means of Legislation and Regulations which is in keeping with the statement made by the Church in 1998. This approach allows for easier alteration as developments in medical science alter the context of decision making. Similarly we feel there is a strong argument for the abolition and replacement of the clauses of the 1861 Act with a more up to date legal framework but we cannot offer an official Church of Ireland position on this point.

Summary

Without entering into the issue of whether abortion should be available in circumstances beyond those outlined in the X-case (on which there are a variety of opinions within the Church of Ireland), we agree that legal clarity is required to enable women and medical professionals to make informed decisions where the continuation of a pregnancy poses a 'real and substantial risk to the life of the mother' and as such the Expert Group report and the Government's decision to provide a legislative and regulatory framework are overdue and welcome.

ADDENDUM

Church of Ireland's Position on Abortion

In 1958, the Lambeth Conference (a decennial conference of Anglican Bishops Worldwide) adopted a resolution stating:

‘In the strongest terms, Christians reject the practice of induced abortion or infanticide, which involves the killing of a life already conceived (as well as a violation of the personality of the mother) save at the dictate of strict and undeniable medical necessity’.

While Lambeth Conference resolutions are only binding on individual Churches when formally incorporated into the internal legal systems of those Churches, the Church of Ireland has generally used this resolution as its starting point in previous submissions to Oireachtas Committees on the issue of abortion beginning in 1982. The phrase ‘strict and undeniable medical necessity’ clearly carries with it the implication that there are circumstances where abortion is a medical necessity.

In 1982, the Standing Committee of the General Synod sent an official comment on behalf of the Church of Ireland to the then Taoiseach, Mr Haughey which said that ‘we cannot emphasise too strongly the right to life and this includes the right of the yet unborn.’ After quoting the Lambeth Council resolution referred to above and highlighting the words ‘strict and undeniable medical necessity’ the statement went on to add, ‘we greatly doubt the wisdom of using constitutional prohibitions as a means of dealing with complex moral and social problems.’

In 1998, the Church’s Role of the Church Committee made a submission to the Interdepartmental working group on abortion which said *inter alia*:

‘The deliberate termination of an intra Uterine life cannot be right but many in our church believe that exceptional cases may arise which mean that abortion ought to be an option and may even be a necessity in a few very rare cases. No abortion is ever desirable – at most it can only be described as the lesser of two evils, and always undertaken with a profound sense of sadness and regret. The legal framework should allow for such exceptional cases so that the tragedy is not compounded by public debate.’

It is fair to say that there are different opinions amongst Church of Ireland members at all levels, as to what constitute ‘exceptional cases.’ For example, in 2000, a Church of Ireland Medical Ethics Working Group proposed that these should include (amongst others) ‘lethal or severe congenital abnormality in the foetus’. After some debate at the General Synod, this paper was withdrawn on a vote of 166 votes to 164.

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The Church of Ireland's position can be summed up as recognising that there are (regrettably) exceptional circumstances of strict and undeniable medical necessity where an abortion should be an option (or more rarely a necessity) whilst also a concern to avoid a situation whereby legislating for such exceptions provides a 'back door' to widespread abortion, to which the Church is strongly opposed.

APPENDIX B

WORLD DEVELOPMENT – BISHOPS’ APPEAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT 2014

MEMBERSHIP

Rev Olive Donohue	Rev Canon Jonathan Pierce
Rt Rev Ferran Glenfield	Rev Canon Noel Regan
Ms Ruth Handy (Honorary Secretary)	The Rt Rev Patrick Rooke (Chair)
Rev Elizabeth Hanna	Mr Albert Smallwoods
Mr William Kingston (Honorary Treasurer)	Mrs Iris Suitor

The Rt Rev Ferran Glenfield and Mrs Iris Suitor joined the committee in January 2014.

The Rt Rev Michael Burrows and Rev Canon Ian Poulton stepped down from the committee in 2013.

“those who authentically commit themselves to the people must re-examine themselves constantly. This conversion is so radical as not to allow for ambivalent behaviour...Conversion to the people requires a profound rebirth. Those who undergo it must take on a new form of existence; they can no longer remain as they were.”¹

PROJECTS SUPPORTED IN 2013

Due to the generous giving by the Church of Ireland, Bishops’ Appeal was resourced to give €200,882 and £123,002 to a diversity of Health, Education and Rural Development Projects in 2013. These included, but were not limited to HIV/AIDS training and support (medically, nutritionally and socially) in Mozambique and India; Self Help Groups that trained people in livestock keeping and provided loans and set up saving schemes in Ethiopia and Soya farming cooperatives in Togo.

The projects served communities in ways that not only alleviated poverty in the present moment, but also provided training and means for continued empowerment and autonomy on into the future. Bishops’ Appeal estimates that there were approximately 120,000 direct beneficiaries of Bishops’ Appeal funds and nearly half a million indirect beneficiaries whose lives were impacted through improved diet and better meals; improved living conditions; improved health; access to funds for medicine or food if crops failed and higher school attendance.

¹ Paulo Friere, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*, Continuum International Publishing Group, New York, 1996, 29

DISASTER RELIEF RESPONSE

There were two Emergency Appeals in 2013. The first was for refugees and internally displaced people in Syria. The conflict has created the worst refugee crisis since the Rwandan Genocide and money raised by the Church was sent to alleviate the suffering of some of the 2.2 million people who have crossed the border into Iraq, Iran, Jordan and Lebanon and some of the 5 million who have been displaced within Syria itself. €31,000 was contributed and forwarded via Christian Aid and Tearfund.

Then on November 8th, Typhoon Haiyan ripped through the Philippines, altering the lives of 13 million people who were left picking up the pieces in the aftermath of the storm. The Church of Ireland responded swiftly and generously and directed €170,682 and £89,154 for food, water, water purification tablets, blankets, tarpaulin for water-proofing shelters and medical supplies through the Bishops' Appeal. This was split between Christian Aid and Tearfund partners located in different parts of the Philippines. Christian Aid was able to use Church donations as seed funding with which they went to Irish Aid to secure a further half a million for the relief efforts.

DIOCESAN LINK PROJECTS

There were four Diocesan Link Projects in 2013. It is hoped that more Dioceses take on a project in 2014. Not only does it provide education on justice issues and an opportunity to direct funding to a specific community or cause, it unites the diocese in a common purpose and connects it to the Global Church.

Derry and Raphoe NetsWork Project raised funds for mosquito nets in Nigeria and in doing so, raised awareness about the detrimental effects malaria has on health, productivity and even mortality. For £5/€6, people in the Diocese could purchase a mosquito net for a family. The Project was run until March 2014, so that £100,000 could be raised for 20,000 nets.

Tuam, Killala and Achonry Mabweni Project raised funds to support a Masai Girls Secondary School in Kajiado Diocese, Kenya. Their focus was on ensuring the boarding students had proper beds, toilet and shower facilities as initially they were sleeping in classrooms and using makeshift toilets outside. The project will be supported over a three year period.

Meath and Kildare Veterimed Project supports the strengthening of local dairy farmers and dairy cooperatives in Haiti. The project trains and equips farmers and dairies to be able to meet the local demand for dairy products and so rebuild their lives, provide for their families and provide a local alternative to the produce from the USA. The dairies also supply local schools with milk for the children, many of whom are malnourished.

Cork, Cloyne and Ross Houses for Haiti Project focused their Harvest giving on raising funds to build earthquake resistant homes for people who had lost their homes in the

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2010 earthquake. The houses not only gave people security; they improve the standard of living that existed *before* the earthquake struck.

FORGOTTEN PROJECTS

Many projects address issues and situations that do not make the media. The poverty cycle that ensnares billions of people is a daily battle that is easily diverted from when a disaster strikes. Due to two Emergency Appeals in 2013, many projects addressing abject poverty in other parts of the world went unfunded, despite being earmarked for approval once the funds presented themselves. These included Self Help groups in Uganda and fuel efficient stoves in Zambia, whereby beneficiaries would be educated and supported in ways to lift themselves and their families out of poverty. It is our hope that such projects will be prioritised by the Church in 2014. Indeed, individual parishes might consider supporting one of these.

PEOPLE, PUBLICATIONS & PAYMENT DETAILS

This year saw a change in leadership as Bishop Michael Burrows stepped down and Bishop Patrick Rooke assumed the role of Chairperson of the Bishops' Appeal committee. There is no denying Bishop Michael's drive and vigour to see justice for those impoverished at the heart of the Church's agenda. His wisdom, energy, creativity and humour will be missed by the committee and we commend him to new initiatives, whilst urging him to never forget his calling and commitment to the work of the Bishops' Appeal. In equal measure, the committee extends a warm welcome to Bishop Patrick, who is settling well into the role and whose direction and leadership is valued and appreciated. Rev Canon Ian Poulton stepped down from his position as Project Advisor. The Committee extends its gratitude for his dedication and wisdom over the years.

Education Advisor Lydia Monds continues to further the work of the Bishops' Appeal through development education, church talks, workshops, confirmation classes, diocesan services, youth groups, assemblies, schools workshops, synods and publications. In 2013 Lydia delivered 47 talks/workshops in a variety of capacities, facilitated the annual conference, engaged with agencies and dioceses and carried out the administrative duties of the post.

The committee is extremely grateful to Doreen Smyth and Yvonne Gough for their work and support during the Philippines Emergency Appeal.

The Annual Leaflet provides excellent information on projects funded in 2013 and those to be focused on throughout 2014. Leaflets can be obtained from Bishops' Appeal Diocesan Representatives.

Bishops' Appeal is delighted to announce that it now has both sterling and euro bank account details available on the website www.bishopsappeal.ireland.anglican.org to allow people to make lodgements online or at their local bank branch. Many thanks to the Finance Department at the RCB for facilitating this.

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BISHOPS' APPEAL ACCOUNT 2013

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT	Year ended 31 December	
	2013	2012
	€	€
INCOME		
Contributions	650,070	458,671
Deposit Interest	1,435	2,964
Sterling translation loss	(900)	2,759
Tax refunds	15,465	15,280
	<u>666,070</u>	<u>479,674</u>
EXPENSES		
Printing and stationery	9,819	7,653
Administration & Personnel costs	32,132	28,262
	<u>41,951</u>	<u>35,915</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS FOR YEAR	<u>624,119</u>	<u>443,759</u>
Grants Paid	616,554	435,215
Surplus for the year	<u>7,565</u>	<u>8,544</u>

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BISHOPS' APPEAL ACCOUNT 2013

BALANCE SHEET

Year ended 31 December

2013 2012
€ €

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash held by the RCB	124,145	125,151
Debtors	63,845	52,974
	<u>187,990</u>	<u>178,125</u>

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Creditors (Amounts falling due within one year)	2,300	-
	<u>2,300</u>	<u>-</u>

Total Net Assets	<u>185,690</u>	<u>178,125</u>
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FUNDS EMPLOYED

Balance at 1 January	178,125	169,581
Surplus for the year	7,565	8,544
Balance at 31 December	<u>185,690</u>	<u>178,125</u>

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CHURCH OF IRELAND BISHOPS' APPEAL

We have audited the financial statements of the Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal for the year ended 31 December 2013 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Accounting Policies and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the basis of preparation note and accounting policies on page 6 to the financial statements.

Respective responsibilities of Advisory Committee and auditors

As explained more fully in the Advisory Committee's Responsibilities Statement set out on page 4, the Advisory Committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the basis of preparation and accounting policies to the financial statements. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

This report, including the opinion, has been prepared for and only for the Advisory Committee for governance purposes in accordance with our engagement letter dated 4 November 2013 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving this opinion, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come including without limitation under any contractual obligations of the charity, save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2013 have been properly prepared in accordance with the basis of preparation note and accounting policies on page 6 and present the state of the Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal's affairs as at 31 December 2013 and its surplus for the year then ended in accordance therewith.

Emphasis of matter – Basis of preparation

In forming our opinion on the financial statements, which is not modified, we draw attention to the fact that the accounting policies used and disclosures made are not intended to, and do not, comply with all the requirements of Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland.

PricewaterhouseCoopers
Chartered Accountants
Dublin

13 March 2014

*PricewaterhouseCoopers, One Spencer Dock, North Wall Quay, Dublin 1, Ireland, I.D.E. Box No. 137
T: +353 (0) 1 792 6000, F: +353 (0) 1 792 6200, www.pwc.ie*

Chartered Accountants

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BISHOPS' APPEAL CONTRIBUTIONS

	2013		2012	
	Stg£	€	Stg£	€
ARMAGH	38,881	3,494	15,169	1,767
CLOGHER	16,930	4,099	11,862	1,765
CONNOR	48,320	-	18,545	-
DERRY & RAPHOE	51,954	30,412	28,841	13,562
DOWN & DROMORE	33,511	700	31,824	-
DOWN DROMORE & CONNOR	-	-	642	-
KILMORE	330	15,436	1,007	4,606
ELPHIN	-	9,526	-	6,675
CASHEL & OSSORY	-	46,921	-	68,963
FERNS	-	14,447	-	12,513
CORK	-	28,319	-	20,882
DUBLIN	-	181,572	-	131,387
LIMERICK	-	21,600	-	10,432
MEATH & KILDARE	-	21,731	-	26,877
TUAM	-	19,981	-	3,007
INDIVIDUALS (INCL. LEGACIES)	4,749	8,205	-	-
OTHER	<u>1,016</u>	<u>7,912</u>	<u>6,311</u>	<u>16,300</u>
TOTALS	<u>195,691</u>	<u>414,355</u>	<u>114,201</u>	<u>318,736</u>
TOTALS IN EURO		<u>650,070</u>		<u>458,671</u>

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BISHOPS' APPEAL GRANTS PAID		
TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT	2013 €	2012 €
Disaster Relief	267,512	17,808
Health & Medical	90,120	35,273
Education/Communications	64,685	213,366
Rural Development	<u>194,237</u>	<u>168,768</u>
Totals	<u>616,554</u>	<u>435,215</u>
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY		
Christian Aid	270,236	90,319
CMSI	58,078	56,770
Feed the Minds	210	12,660
Tearfund	152,292	64,341
Others	<u>135,738</u>	<u>211,125</u>
Totals	<u>616,554</u>	<u>435,215</u>

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BISHOPS' APPEAL GRANTS PAID

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION		
<u>AFRICA - €159,860; Stg£99,823</u>		
Cashel & Ossory Diocesan Project	Rwanda	CMSI
Cashel & Ossory Diocesan Project	Swaziland	Us
Cerebral Palsy	Uganda	Motivation
Clinical Laboratory	Uganda	CMSI
Community Development	Malawi	Tearfund
Dean Harman Scholarship	Uganda	CMSI
Egumeni Project	Swaziland	Us
Empowering Women	Ethiopia	Christian Aid
Fruit Project	Rwanda	Direct
HIV/AIDS Project	Mozambique	VSO
Horn of Africa	Africa	Christian Aid
Kiaibabu Maternal Health Care Centre	Kenya	Christian Aid
Kiwoko Hospital	Uganda	CMSI
Literacy & Development Project	Burundi	Mothers' Union
Maasai Rural Training Centre	Kenya	CMSI
Mabweni Project	Kenya	CMSI
Nets Work Project	Nigeria	Christian Aid
School Gardens Project	Sierra Leone	Plan Ireland
Soya Farming	Togo	Self Help Africa
Water for Life Project	Ethiopia	Habitat
<u>ASIA - €197,890; £100,915</u>		
Literacy & Development Project	Myanmar	Tearfund
Voter Education	Pakistan	Feed the Minds
Anti-trafficking	India	Tearfund
HIV/AIDS Project	India	Friends of HOPE
Disaster Relief	Syria	Tearfund
Disaster Relief	Syria	Christian Aid
Speed up Mindanao/Poverty Alleviation	Philippines	Christian Aid
Dr Graham's Homes	India	Direct
Refah Public Primary School	Afghanistan	SAFE
Typhoon Appeal	Philippines	Christian Aid
Typhoon Appeal	Philippines	Tearfund
<u>NORTH AMERICA - €9,341</u>		
Meath & Kildare Haiti Dairy Farmers	Haiti	Christian Aid
<u>SOUTH AMERICA - £6,366</u>		
Clash of Worlds/Land Rights and Nutrition	Argentina	SAMS

APPENDIX C

CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BOARD TO GENERAL SYNOD

MEMBERSHIP

The Rt Rev Trevor Williams	(House of Bishops) November 2008
Ven Richard Rountree	(Standing Committee)
Ven Robin Bantry White	(Honorary Secretary)
Rev Eileen Cremin	(Chair – Broadcasting Committee)
Dr Kenneth Milne	(Chair – Literature Committee)
Dr Raymond Refaüssé	(Hon Secretary – Literature Committee)
Mr Adrian Clements	(Church House Senior Management)
	(Internet Committee *)
	(Internet Committee *)
Mrs Jane Leighton	(Representative Body)
Very Rev Alistair Grimason	(Representative Body)
Ms Ruth Buchanan	(Co-option Broadcasting Committee)
<i>Vacant</i>	(Co-option for gender & regional balance)
Head of Synod Services & Communications	<i>(ex officio)</i>
Press Officer	<i>(in attendance)</i>

***The CCB is currently working towards a redesign of the Church of Ireland website and has established a sub-committee to bring forward proposals on the core message of the website and key audiences to be addressed.**

OBJECTIVES 2013-14

- To review the structure and role of the Church of Ireland website and the use of wider social media channels, including the development of a policy on usage;
- To respond to the closure of the Sunday School Society (SSS) Resource Centre and The Good Book Shop Belfast to maintain supply of key materials to parishes;
- To introduce new protocols on social media in respect of children (replacing the protocol on content relating to children on websites);
- To review the purpose and medium-term objectives of sub-committees of the CCB.

Terms of Reference

- Initiate policy in relation to the communications strategy of the Church;
- Co-ordinate the work of the sub-committees;
- Report annually to the General Synod.

Executive summary

Media training was arranged for newly-elected bishops, and the Most Rev Pat Storey was given extensive press office support to assist her in dealing with numerous requests following her election as the first woman bishop. The consecration of Bishop Storey also provided the lead story for the launch of the Church's new E-zine in December 2013. The e-bulletin presents a varied and vibrant view of Church life to both members of the

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Church and to the wider world via contemporary forms of communication, from computers to mobile phones. Each monthly edition links to a range of stories available on Diocesan websites and the main Church of Ireland website. A Lent book focusing on St John's Gospel by Dean John Mann was published and proved very popular, selling more than 500 copies. Plans to redesign the website continued and a sub-committee was set up to bring forward ideas. The closure of the Sunday School Society (SSS) Resource Centre and The Good Book Shop in Belfast represents a major blow to the Church's traditional infrastructure, which cannot easily be replaced. Considerable staff time has been dedicated to ensuring that key materials continue to be available to parishes. Columba Press bound a further 1000 copies of the existing stock of the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and these were marketed to parishes in January 2014. A joint Diocesan Communications and Children's Ministry day focused on developing protocols for social media and internet use in a Church of Ireland context. Support is also being made available to the committee working to produce a supplementary hymn resource for parishes.

Report

DCOs & Youth Ministry Officers develop Social Media Protocols

The Board again thanks the Diocesan Communications Officers for their work during the year and for the contribution they have made to the development of protocols for social media. These protocols were devised at a joint workshop with Children's Ministry Officers in March and will be piloted during the coming year before being reviewed by the same group in early 2015. Communications and communicators must be constantly vigilant as they communicate witness of the Church across modern channels of communication. Communication of the Christian message is at the heart of the Church's mission and it is a very exciting but challenging time for those members of our Church who specialise in this field of work.

Publishing

The Literature Committee worked with Columba Press to produce a Lent Book for 2014, written by the Very Rev John Mann and focusing on The Gospel of St John. The book had sold in excess of 400 copies even before it was printed and Dean Mann received considerable positive acknowledgement from media and had the opportunity to address many more people over the airwaves.

In addition to this, the Committee initiated a new academic series, "Braemor Studies", which publishes the best examples of dissertations by Ordinands at the Theological Institute. Details may be found on the Church of Ireland Publishing website: [www.cip.ireland.anglican.org](http://www.cip ireland.anglican.org)

Sadly, however, the year also marked the closure of the two Church of Ireland bookshops, the Sunday School Society Resource Centre in Rathmines and The Good Book Shop in Church House Belfast. Despite the courageous efforts of many to keep these shops open, recession and declining traditional book sales took their toll as purchasers increasingly turn to on-line mass marketing options. The Board offers its appreciation to the staff in both shops for the many years of service they rendered to the Church, and also to those who acted on the trusts or boards that managed the operations.

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The closures presented a challenge, as it remains important that parishes should have access to Church of Ireland Publishing materials and to key items such as registers, Directories, hymnals and liturgical materials. Ensuring that this happens has largely devolved to the CCB and the staff of Church of Ireland House. The Royalties Fund assisted by purchasing stock of key materials such as registers from the Sunday School Society and these may now be obtained directly from Church House, Dublin. Some stock is still held by Cathedral shops, and other outlets, who can obtain stock from Church House.

E-bulletin launched

The e-bulletin initiative, supported by the Allocations Committee through the Sundry Projects Fund, was established with a view to increasing the information flow across and beyond the Dioceses, presenting a varied and vibrant view of Church life to both members of the Church and to the wider world via contemporary forms of communication, from computers to mobile phones. Each monthly edition links to a range of stories available on Diocesan websites and the main Church of Ireland website. You can receive the e-bulletin by subscribing via the link on the front page of the Church of Ireland website: www.ireland.anglican.org

Press Office

The Church of Ireland Press Office sought to provide a professional communications and information service on matters of substance and/or of national significance relating to the Church, to maximize positive coverage of Church news and to manage media interest and enquiries with honesty and integrity.

Over the course of the year 100 press releases were issued from the Press Office; numerous print, broadcast and web-based interviews were arranged; an active media centre was provided at the General Synod in Armagh; broadcast media training was provided for senior clergy and laity in conjunction with Mr Andrew Graystone of the Church & Media Network; developmental training was provided for Diocesan Communications Officers; and a new monthly E-bulletin was launched. The Church of Ireland E-bulletin initiative began in December 2013 with a view to increasing the information flow across and beyond the Dioceses, presenting a vibrant and varied Church life to both members and, even more importantly, the wider world; now established, it continues to attract a healthy number of subscribers.

The E-bulletin launched with a report on the Consecration of The Most Rev Pat Storey as Bishop of Meath & Kildare on 30th November 2013. The appointment in September of the first woman bishop in these islands attracted a great deal of media interest internationally. The Press Office was pleased to be the conduit for the official dissemination of this news, to handle the considerable press interest at the service of Consecration and to co-ordinate and facilitate over 60 print and broadcast interviews for Bishop Storey from September 2013 through to Spring 2014.

The Press Office had been equally pleased to facilitate the media coverage of the Consecration of The Rt Rev Ferran Glenfield as Bishop of Kilmore, Elphin & Ardagh at St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh earlier in the year on 31st May.

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The General Synod held in Armagh in May attracted solid media interest, North and South, with a presence from RTE throughout; an active presence from Soul Waves Radio, which provided a number of web-based interviews; and an interview by the Archbishop of Armagh for BBC Radio Ulster's 'Sunday Sequence' programme among several other interviews given by senior clergy. The Press Office continued to provide media support to the Archbishop of Armagh in connection with a wide variety of events and occasions and the Primate also gave a further extended interview to 'Sunday Sequence' in August.

The G8 Meeting of international leaders in Co Fermanagh in June 2013 attracted wide media interest from across the world, with Church of Ireland contributions resulting not only from the Bishops' Statement on the G8 but also the Church's prominent support for the 'IF' campaign and associated broadcast services from St Macartin's Cathedral, Enniskillen.

On broader societal issues, the Press Office provided responses to enquiries on many matters having liaised closely with relevant committees, boards and spokespeople. Notable comment was provided, for example, in relation to public disorder in Belfast around the Twelfth of July; following the explosion in Belfast's Cathedral Quarter on 13 December 2013; on the Dr Richard Haass Talks process in the run up to Christmas and into the New Year; and on the change to the Girl Guides promise.

As in previous years the Press Office highlighted the work of the Disability Working Group and its focus this year on deafness and hearing loss on Disability Awareness Sunday. The Press Officer undertook a number of interviews for the *Church of Ireland Gazette* and Church of Ireland website, for example with Rev Dr Maurice Elliott, Director of the Church of Ireland Theological Institute, and with Bishop Alan Abernethy following his attendance at the World Council of Churches Assembly in Busan, South Korea in November. Significant church-related events such as the visit of the Anglican Archbishop of Hong Kong to the Church of Ireland in October, the launch and work of the Irish Churches Peace Project; Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Charles Brown's preaching in St Anne's Cathedral Belfast and St Patrick's Cathedral Armagh during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity; and the Council for Mission's Conference at Dromantine with the Right Rev Richard Chartres, Bishop of London, and the Rev Dr Heather Morris, President of the Methodist Church in Ireland, as guest speakers were all promoted.

Among publications which the Press Office had the pleasure of publicising were the new CITI 'Braemor Studies' series; the BACI Lent resource on Church and Culture; Dean John Mann's *Lent with St John's Gospel* published by Columba Press and the landmark *Church of Ireland Illustrated History* published by Booklink in December.

The Press Officer, Dr Paul Harron, and Press Office Administrator, Mrs Jenny Compston, continued to enjoy working closely with Diocesan Communications Officers, Diocesan Magazine Editors, the various central committees and organisations affiliated to the Church, and with the editor and assistant editor of the *Church of Ireland Gazette*. In addition, good working relations were maintained with journalists at the BBC, RTE, UTV, Soul Waves, local radio stations and a wide number of print publications.

The Press Office continues to be keen to support the many fine efforts of communicators at local – diocesan and parish – level. To that end, it was pleased to once again run the

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annual CCB communications competition, to recognise the vital work of those producing newsletters/magazines, websites and using social media in situations.

Finally, media training was once again delivered, with a Communications Day held in Church House, Dublin on 31st March 2013 for Diocesan Communications Officers and others working in the field of Church communications, along with Diocesan Youth Officers this year, with a particular focus on developing protocols for social media and internet use in a Church of Ireland context; a communications module was delivered by Mrs Janet Maxwell to clergy in training at CITI in March; and broadcast training was provided to newly appointed senior clergy with the valuable assistance of the Church and Media Network.

Broadcasting

The Broadcasting Committee engaged with a consultation on the introduction of a charge for Public Service Broadcasting in the Republic of Ireland, taking a neutral stance, but pointing out the need to ensure access to public broadcasting services for the most vulnerable in society despite acknowledged difficulties in funding the service. This is a challenge in the United Kingdom as well as in Ireland and results from the proliferation in digital media and transformation of the market for broadcast content. The committee continues to support media training and also maintains links with producers of religious programming.

Copyright

A further copyright seminar will be hosted in the Diocese of Derry and Raphoe in the autumn of 2014 and a presentation on copyright issues was made to Church of Ireland Ordinands in training at the Theological Institute in March 2014 by Mr Chris Williams of Christian Copyright Licensing International.

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LITERATURE COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP

Dr Kenneth Milne (Chairman)
Canon Peter McDowell
Ven Richard Rountree
Rev Kenneth Rue
Mr Richard Ryan
Rev Bernard Treacy OP
Dr Raymond Refaüssé (Honorary Secretary)
Mrs Janet Maxwell (*ex officio*)
In attendance: Dr Susan Hood, Publications Officer
Dr Paul Harron, Press Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2014 the Committee will set out to:

- Promote church-related publication within and beyond the Church of Ireland;
- Manage Church of Ireland Publishing;
- Evaluate applications for support from the General Synod Royalties Fund.

MAJOR OUTCOMES FOR 2013

- Arising out of the Action Plan for 2013:
- Three short books in the new series, Braemor Studies, which seeks to publish the best of the final year dissertation in CITI, were designed and published;
- A suitable text for a 2014 Lent Book was identified and arrangements were made to have it published by Columba Press;
- The production of *The Church of Ireland; an illustrated history* was supported.

ACTION PLAN 2014

- Develop structures for promotion and marketing, sales and distribution;
- Promote the use of electronic publishing as well as traditionally printed material to maximise the use of resources;
- Publish a recommended CITI final year student dissertations;
- Work towards the publication of a Church of Ireland parish handbook;
- Work with the Liturgical Advisory Committee on the publication of a marriage service booklet;
- Seek to promote the digitization of the *Journal of the General Synod*.

CHURCH OF IRELAND PUBLISHING

The Literature Committee has continued to further the work of Church of Ireland Publishing (CIP), the publishing imprint for the Church of Ireland.

- The CIP website (cip.ireland.anglican.org) was re-designed.
- The following titles were published in 2012:-

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- Rev Jonathan Campbell-Smyth, *New monasticism – a catalyst for the Church of Ireland to connect with society?*
- Rev John Godfrey, *The place of lament and the ‘Catharsis of Complaint’ in response to the problem of evil.*
- Rev Alistair Morrison, *The new masculinity movement: a viable model for engaging men with God and the Church?*
- Rev Ken Rue (ed.) *Sunday and weekday readings 2014.*
- Dr Kenneth Milne (ed.) *Journal of the General Synod 2012.*

PUBLICATIONS OFFICER

The Publications Officer worked with the authors and editors of the titles listed above and continued to provide advice for aspiring authors and editors.

GENERAL SYNOD ROYALTIES FUND

The Committee recommended the following grants:-

€1,000 to the Irish Traditional Music Archive to subvent the publication of Hugh & Lisa Shields (eds) *Tunes of the Munster pipers 2*;

€1,200 to Columba Press to subvent the publication of John Mann, *Lent with St John’s gospel*;

€3,000 to Columba Press to subvent the publication of a biography of Bishop Donald Caird by Aonghus Dwane;

€15,000 to the Synod Department to undertake further research in respect of the copyright management and contractual issues related to the production of the Hymnal Supplement and associated products.

ACTION PLAN 2014

- Develop structures for promotion and marketing, sales and distribution.
- Promote the use of electronic publishing as well as traditionally printed material to maximise the use of resources.
- Publish a recommended CITI final year student dissertations.
- Work towards the publication of a Church of Ireland parish handbook.
- Work with the Liturgical Advisory Committee on the publication of a marriage service booklet.
- Seek to promote the digitisation of the *Journal of the General Synod*.

BROADCASTING COMMITTEE

MEMBERS

Ms Ruth Buchanan
Mr Roger Childs
Rev Eileen Cremin (Chair)
Very Rev Tom Gordon
Mr Paul Loughlin
Rev Dr Bert Tosh

In attendance

Mrs Janet Maxwell: Head of Synod Services and Communications
Dr Paul Harron: Press Officer

Executive Summary

Broadcast media training was undertaken with the assistance of the Churches' Media Network. Soul Waves, which produced religious broadcasting items targeted at local broadcasting outlets in the Republic of Ireland continues its work but is again facing challenges in resourcing its activities. The Committee submitted a response to the Consultation by the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources in the Republic of Ireland on the introduction of a Public Service Broadcasting Charge. The Rev Dr Bert Tosh delivers annual training on broadcast services to the Ordinands in the Theological Institute.

Future plans

The Committee is conscious that broadcasting and religious programming within broadcasting have gone through a huge market change in recent years and that the Committee needs to take stock and review its overall purpose and objectives in the context of wider Church communications. The Committee is also developing capacity to provide audio-visual content to the Church website in future and to make greater use of the media skills gained through media training of senior Church representatives. The Committee is grateful for the support given through the Sundry Projects Fund by the Allocations Committee towards equipment and training to meet this objective.

Consultation on a Public Service Broadcasting Charge (RI)

The Committee responded to a consultation in the Republic of Ireland on the creation of a Public Service Broadcasting Charge. The Committee responded that while it could see the fiscal challenges facing the public service broadcaster, RTE, it cautioned on the dangers of creating social exclusion at the margins of society and also in terms of age. It would be a problem if the real cost of access to a public service rises at a time when there is no matching uplift in the economic capacity of an increasing large portion of society (largely those who are retired, dependent on social payments and those who find it most difficult to access mainstream employment by virtue of disability, lack of educational achievement etc.). The Committee also queried the workability of some of the alternative proposals to fund PSB including taxes on electronic and mobile devices.

Soul Waves Radio

Soul Waves Radio (SWR) continues to provide independent radio stations in the Republic of Ireland with faith, social and justice content despite its precarious financial situation. With a salaried staff of one, and a small group of dedicated volunteers, the service depends entirely on the financial support of some Roman Catholic bishops, a group of religious orders and the Church of Ireland. The Chairman, Fr Michael McCullagh of Maynooth College has often expressed his gratitude to the Church of Ireland for its financial and practical support in the extension of Christian Ministry which is at the heart of Soul Waves Radio.

The Broadcasting Committee notes the openness of Soul Waves Radio to interviews with Church of Ireland members as well as others of Irish reformed churches.

Since the Broadcasting Committee's last report to Synod, Soul Waves has carried many interviews with Church of Ireland figures including the first woman bishop, the Most Reverend Pat Storey of Meath. The Rt Rev Patrick Rooke, Bishop of Tuam and Very Rev Tom Gordon, Dean of Leighlin spoke about human sexuality. The Rt Rev Harold Miller spoke about Northern Ireland's need for a vision of a shared future. The Rev Gordon Linney, former Archdeacon of Dublin and *Irish Times* columnist, commented on the Irish Bishops' appeal to the G8 leaders meeting in Fermanagh and the extensive public debate following the Archbishop of Dublin's comments on sectarianism among some church members. Brian Walker, Emeritus Professor of Irish Studies at QUB described his work on the experience of Irish Protestants in the dangerous early days of the Free State. Ms Julia Turner described her book, *With Dignity and Grace*, the life of her mother Ms Daphne Wormell. Daphne was the Church's first lay reader and a campaigner for the ordination of women. The Rev David Gillespie, Vicar of St. Ann's Dawson Street in Dublin, reported that the 2013 'Black Santa' Christmas Appeal had brought in some €28,000. This was down slightly on 2012 but not by as much as might have been anticipated in the light of the Central Remedial Clinic top-up payments scandal. The Rev Ása Björk Ólafsdóttir of Dun Laoghaire described her efforts to provide hot lunches for those suffering from food poverty and the homeless.

During the year Fr McCullagh asked Mr Paul Loughlin, the Church of Ireland representative on the Soul Waves Board, to be the organisation's public relations officer. He has now been tasked with contacting all stations that Soul Waves serves to check on their usage and overall satisfaction with the output.

Soul Waves Radio (SWR) is now investigating the possibility of developing an application whereby people may access the service via their smartphones. SWR is acutely aware of the trend among younger people, in particular, to access material of interest via their phones rather than traditional broadcast media. A plan with costings has been requested.

In the same context the 2014 SWR AGM on 19th May will examine the role of new media in evangelisation. The speakers will be the Rt Rev Trevor Williams, Bishop of Limerick and the Most Rev Éamon Martin, the Coadjutor Archbishop of Armagh.

RTE

RTE Religious Programmes continued in 2013 to offer a broad spectrum of output on radio and television, reflecting the religious faith and practice of people across the island,

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on both sides of the border. For Anglican Worship output RTÉ continues to rely on the considerable contacts and expertise of the Very Rev Dr Tom Gordon, Dean of Leighlin and RTÉ's Co-ordinator of Protestant Services, for help in identifying strong liturgical and musical contributors, to fill our slots on radio and television.

Without the effort and good will of these local participants and clergy, who often travel long distances to transmit broadcasts and commit to a lot of rehearsal, RTÉ Worship output would be greatly diminished. RTÉ has also benefitted from a regular sharing arrangement with BBC Radio Ulster, which has enabled RTÉ Radio One to bring strong worship broadcasts from locations in Northern Ireland to a wider audience in the Republic. Some of the worship highlights in 2013 were a Service featuring the choir of Trinity College Dublin, with the Rev Darren McCallig, a Michaelmas Service featuring the visiting choir of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge and a Christmas Service led by the Rev Ian Horner with RTÉ Cor na nÓg.

In terms of Anglican representation in other areas of output, the Archbishop of Armagh, the Most Rev Dr Richard Clarke once more presented a joint Christmas message with the Roman Catholic Archbishop, Cardinal Seán Brady. On *Would You Believe?: Guinnesses for God* told the story of the religious scion of the famous brewing family, through the eyes of one "branch" of the family tree: Os Guinness; *Patrick: The Renegade Saint* included a contribution from former Archbishop of Armagh, the Rt Rev Alan Harper on his illustrious predecessor; and in February 2014, *Leap of Faith* focused on the work of Graham Jones, a lay member of St Catherine's Parish in Dublin who abandoned a lucrative legal career to work with underprivileged inner city children, via the Solas Project.

On Radio One, RTÉ was once more grateful to the Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, for allowing the station to broadcast live the Remembrance Sunday Service and The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve. *The God Slot* continues regularly to feature Anglican voices alongside other denominations in its mix of features and discussions.

BBC

BBC Northern Ireland continues to make not insignificant contributions to Network Religious Programmes; in television to *Songs of Praise*, on radio to *Sunday Worship*, the *Daily Service*, *Prayer for the Day* and *Choral Evensong*.

On BBC Radio Ulster, *Sunday Sequence* continues to draw good audiences as it explores religious and ethical issues, *Morning Service* is broadcast every Sunday and *Thought for the Day* every weekday morning. Canon Noel Battye's *Sounds Sacred* caters for listeners' requests for sacred music. These programmes are still important for a great many people.

Broadcast Training

The Committee thanks the Rev Dr Bert Tosh for assisting the communications team by providing a lecture on skills and techniques for broadcast services short course in communications to the Ordinands at the Theological Institute. The Committee also thanks the Church and Media Network for additional training made available to senior clergy and lay representatives.

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Church and Media Network

Mr Paul Loughlin represented the Committee at the annual conference hosted by the Church and Media Network. Mr Andrew Greystone of the Network assisted the Church of Ireland with broadcast training for a number of senior clergy, bishops and committee spokespersons. The Committee expresses its thanks to the Network for its continued assistance.

Thank you

The Board again offers its thanks to the many people who engage on behalf of our parishes and dioceses with broadcast media at the local and national level. The Committee particularly encourages parishes to look to their local radio stations as a helpful partner and channel to the local community. The Committee again thanks Dr Paul Harron and Mrs Jenny Compston in the Press Office for the help and advice they give to parishes and church representatives who need to engage with broadcast media.

APPENDIX D

CHARITY REGISTRATION MONITORING WORKING GROUP REPORT

MEMBERS

Mrs June Butler
The Most Rev Dr Richard Clarke (Chair)
Rev Andrew Forster
Mr Sydney Gamble
Mrs Ethne Harkness
Mr Lyndon MacCann

In attendance:

Mr Adrian Clements, Secretary General
Mrs Janet Maxwell, Head of Synod Services

The Charity Registration Monitoring Working Group was jointly established by the Standing Committee and the Representative Church Body in September 2014 and has met four times.

The purpose of the group is to monitor the pilot project for registration involving the Diocese of Down and Dromore and the Parish of Annalong (Down and Dromore).

Deemed list of charities

In March 2014, the Working Group wrote to Diocesan Secretaries in Northern Ireland regarding a request from the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI) that details of charities included in the 'Deemed List of Charities' should be checked and confirmed. The Deemed List of Charities is found on the CCNI website and is divided into two sections. Section A contains those charities for which the CCNI has details recorded. Section B contains those charities for which the CCNI has no details. These lists are based on information provided by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC). Consequently, charities that have had no recent dealings with HMRC are not included on the list. Based on an initial review of the list, the committee recommends that an agreed naming system be adopted that would identify the location, name and diocese of each parish registering with CCNI.

Plans to register parishes

At the time of writing this report, the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland has indicated that following the successful completion of the pilot registration process it will begin to register parishes of the Church of Ireland in batches, one diocese at a time. Down and Dromore is likely to be the first diocese to register parishes, followed by Connor, Derry, Clogher, Armagh, Kilmore NI parishes. It is intended to register parishes at group sessions, where assistance and expertise will be available from the diocese and Church House, Dublin/

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the Representative Church Body. The process will be made simpler for our parishes as CCNI has agreed that many of the relevant documents will be pre-registered by the Church. These include the governance documents and the statement charitable purposes (objects). CCNI has requested that parishes do not request registration outside this proposed schedule, and should any parish receive a letter inviting them to register, they should inform CCNI that they are a Church of Ireland parish and they will then be reallocated a place within the Church of Ireland registration schedule. The Church of Ireland will be recognised as a Designated Religious Organisation by the Charity Committee, in recognition of its existing well-established governance procedures.

Governance Documents

The governance documents to be submitted to the Charity Commission are:

- The Constitution of the Church of Ireland
- Diocesan Rules and Regulations
- An Explanatory Memorandum
- The Ordinal.

The Explanatory Memorandum will explain the governance structure of the church and the relationships between the Constitution, the General Synod, Representative Church Body, Diocesan Synods, Diocesan Councils and parishes and select vestries. The Ordinal will be appended as this is the foundation of the relationship between clergy and the governance structures of the Church and between the clergy and the authority of the bishop.

A copy of the draft Explanatory Memorandum can be found on the General Synod website on the Book of Reports page.

Church assets

To prepare for registration, select vestries should take a review of their local situation and consider what church assets they look after on behalf of the church. This includes a review of finances to ensure that there is clarity in respect of funds raised by the parish, particularly where funds have been raised for specific purposes, or where trust funds have been invested to provide income for specific purposes. In future, such restricted funds will have to be separately shown within parish accounts.

Property assets should be vested in the Representative Church Body according to the Constitution of the Church of Ireland. Should parishes have unvested property, property vested in individuals, or property vested in the members of the Select Vestry, they should consider what they wish to do to avoid problems arising in the future.

The Representative Church Body can offer advice on the vesting of property and on the creation of deeds of trust. They will also be able to advise parishes where there is uncertainty over ownership of property or where deeds have been misplaced. Queries should be addressed to Mr Trevor Stacey, Head of Trusts, Church House, Dublin.

Trustee Indemnity Insurance

Trustee Indemnity Insurance is an important aspect of insurance for Select Vestries, which are viewed as parish trustees by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI), in terms of the plan to register each parish as a charitable body.

Trustee Indemnity Insurance covers the personal trustee liability and liability of officers, employees or voluntary workers arising from errors or omissions they make in the management and administration of the organization.

The insurance is available to cover a range of liability in terms of value, to suit different levels of risk. Most parishes already have approximately £100,000 of cover included in their insurance policy as it is provided as an intrinsic part of parish insurance by Ecclesiastical Insurance, Oval James and other major providers of parochial insurance. Select Vestries should confirm this with their insurer. Parishes that do not have Trustee Liability Insurance, should review this situation urgently and ensure that some level of cover is taken out. Parishes that do not have this cover in place are taking a considerable risk as trustees may be liable for loss or damages resulting from errors.

Primate commends work of Select Vestries

The good governance and stewardship exercised by Select Vestries is an important part of our church life. The Most Rev Dr Richard Clarke, as Chair of the Working Group commends the contribution of time and skills by the many people who serve on Select Vestries. He also commended to Select Vestries the opportunity that arises through the Charities Act to offer a witness to the Church's mission through parish reports.

APPENDIX E

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NETWORK REPORT

The Rt Rev Alan Abernethy (House of Bishops)	Rev Jane Galbraith (Limerick & Killaloe)
Rev Janice Aiton (Meath & Kildare)	Vacant (Tuam)
Mrs Joanne Quill (Kilmore)	Rev Anne Skuse (Cork)
Ms Julie Currie (Down & Dromore)	Mrs Tammi Peek (Derry & Raphoe)
Mrs Jill Hamilton (Connor)	Mrs Wendy Houston (Clogher)
*Rev Anne Taylor (Dublin & Glendalough)	Rev Sarah Marry (Sunday School Society)
Rev Barry Paine (Armagh)	Ms Amy McCrea (CIYD)
Rev James Mulhall (Cashel & Ossory)	Dr Kenneth Fennelly (Board of Education RI)
	Rev Dr Ian Ellis (Board of Education NI)

**Resigned May 2014*

1. NEW DEVELOPMENTS

2013 was a year of growth and change for Children's Ministry in the Church. The appointment of a (part-time) Child's Ministry Development Officer, Lydia Monds has been of tremendous benefit to the promotion of Children's Ministry in the Church generally and will also allow for a more coordinated communications between Diocesan Children's Ministry Representatives. Ms Monds will combine this role with that of Children's Ministry Development Officer for the Sunday School Society for Ireland. It is intended that the forging of this close relationship between the Sunday School Society and the Church will facilitate a synergising of activity in Children's Ministry in the life of the Church. The members of the Children's Ministry Network are excited at the opportunities this new development will hold for the future and are grateful to the Sunday School Society for its generosity in entering into this new partnership, which is motivated by the greater mission of introducing children to a faith in Jesus Christ.

2. NEW WEBSITE AND ICT

One of the most prominent ways in which this support will now be provided is through a newly developed Children's Ministry website: www.cm.ireland.anglican.org. The website contains information about upcoming trainings and events throughout the country as well as up to date resources and ideas for different age groups, targeting different times of the Church calendar. The hope is that by 2015 all diocesan websites contain a section dedicated to Children's Ministry, which at the very least connects to the Children's Ministry website.

As diocesan trainings take place the learning from these will be uploaded to the website to ensure that all dioceses can benefit from the ideas being shared and explored in a particular diocese at any given time. Furthermore, the website has a Facebook link that allows people to share their own ideas of what has worked well for them: <http://www.facebook.com/churchofirelandchildrensministry>. The page

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will also provide a forum to ask for help and advice from others in similar roles and to provide support and encouragement.

An Ezine will be sent quarterly through Diocesan Communications Officers to all clergy and through Children's Ministry Representatives to all children's workers in their respective dioceses, that will keep people updated on what is going on and will link them to the latest resources and ideas and to each other.

3. Conferences

The Building Blocks Conferences 2013 were held in Ballymena and Dublin, with over 120 people attending in Ballymena and 240 attending in Dublin. Mr John Hardwick was the key note speaker and the approach this year was music based. The Building Blocks Conferences continue to be important events in the work of supporting Children's Ministry. In addition, a number of members of the Children's Ministry Network attended the Consultative Group on Ministry with Children (CGMC) Conference in the UK in both February and November which were on the topic of *'Children and Family Ministry - the same or different'*.

Rev Mary Hawes, Children and Youth Advisor with the Church of England, attended the February 2014 meeting of the Children's Ministry Network and delivered a half day series on the vision for ministry with children in the Church of England and facilitated a discussion among the Children's Ministry Diocesan representatives present. Rev Hawes also gave details of the forthcoming Anglican Children's Advisors Conference and it is intended that a representative of the Irish CMN would attend that event. It is hoped that building up such closer links our colleagues in the Church of England will enrich and further develop the work of Children's Ministry in the Church of Ireland.

4. CHILDREN'S MINISTRY REPRESENTATIVES

Several Children's Ministry Diocesan Co-ordinators have moved or are in the process of moving diocese and so we extend our thanks to Mrs Wendy Houston, Rev Kathy Trimby and Mrs Alison Jones for their faithful service in their respective dioceses. Their departures have created Children's Ministry Co-ordinator vacancies in the following diocese:

- Meath and Kildare
- Tuam, Killala and Achonry
- Clogher

We are anxious to have these roles filled in 2014 so that each diocese is linked in to the Network.

Finally, we say goodbye to Rev Anne Taylor who has championed the cause of Children's Ministry and who has worked tirelessly to see it embedded more deeply and integrated more fully in the life of the wider Church. Rev Anne will be greatly missed but we wish her well in the next stage of her life and ministry as she takes an incumbency near Liverpool in the UK.

APPENDIX F

**THE CHURCH AND SOCIETY COMMISSION
REPORT 2014**

Members

The Most Rev Dr Richard Clarke
The Most Rev Dr Michael Jackson
Mr Andrew Brannigan
Rev Dr Rory Corbett
Rev Adrian Dorrian (Chair)
Mr George Glenn (*ex officio*)
Mr Ken Gibson
Very Rev Kenneth Hall
Mr Samuel Harper
Mrs Hilary McClay

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Commission Exists to provide oversight and direction of the Church's work in relation to social theology in action. The Commission's work is divided into two main areas:

1. Proactive work such as the preparation of reports, briefing documents and other resource material;
2. Reactive work such as responding to reports and public consultations, in addition to responding to events in society.

The work of the Commission over the past year has included:

1. Distribution of DVD Resource;
2. Response to legislation in both jurisdictions, including proposed laws on Abortion, Presumed Consent for Organ Donors and Human Trafficking;
3. Planning for a series of briefing papers on a variety of subjects for the use of the Church at large;
4. Responses to press inquiries;
5. Representation to government on matters of social theology.

REPORT

The energies of the Commission have been focussed in the following areas.

DVD Resource

This resource, which is designed to be used either as part of a Church Service, in a Parish Study Group or in Home Groups, highlights four social action projects across the Church of Ireland, which have grown out of local Parish contexts:

- Outreach to a local nursing home;
- A women's project;
- A ministry with children in Inner City Dublin;
- A money management/debt counselling project.

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The Resource launched at last year's General Synod. As well as the DVD, the resource includes:

- Liturgical material for use in Worship;
- Bible Study outlines;
- A Sermon outline.

Good Practice Resource

In the preparation of the DVD resource, it has become apparent that many Parishes across the Church are engaged in social action and outreach projects that are both imaginative and varied. Work has begun on a resource that will collate ideas and suggestions that it is hoped will be of use in every parish. This resource will be produced as a PDF Document, and it is hoped it can be made available on the Church of Ireland Website as well.

Briefing Papers

As part of the Commission's remit to be proactive in areas of social theology. In collaboration with Synod Services and the Press Office, a list of contemporary social issues/areas of interest has been drawn up and work has begun on producing a series of summary briefing papers outlining the broad issues relating to particular subjects. It is hoped that these summary documents will be of help in preparing 'first responses' to external enquiries, but may also be of use to local Churches as they seek to address social issues in their own setting. Some of these papers are available for review at Synod.

Responses to Press Enquiries

The Commission responded to a number of press enquiries and issued a well-received pre-Christmas statement which gained some media coverage. Members of the Commission were also interviewed by several news outlets on the subject of abortion and the new Girl Guiding Promise in the United Kingdom. The Commission is indebted to Dr Paul Harron and Mrs Jenny Compston in the Church of Ireland Press Office for their assistance and advice in relation to press matters.

Representation to and engagement with Government

Recognising the fact that Bishops and Archbishops are often the Church's first point of contact with government, the Commission engaged with government bodies North and South on legislative matters. Members of the Commission contributed to the Working Group on Abortion. Responses were made to proposed legislation in the Northern Ireland Assembly regarding Organ Donation and Human Trafficking. The Commission was in contact with the Commission of Education regarding proposed changes to equality legislation.

Revised Terms of Reference

The amended Terms of Reference for the Commission have allowed for increased representation on the Commission from members based in the Republic of Ireland, although this continues to be an ongoing situation. The Commission would welcome further expressions of interest in membership.

Mission Committees Meetings

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The Commission was represented at a gathering of ‘Mission Committees’ of the Church of Ireland.

Future Plans

The following projects will be completed in 2014:

- Good practice resource document.

The following projects will be underway by General Synod 2014:

- Introduction of ‘Flesh and Blood’.

The following projects are ongoing

- Response to press enquiries
- Engagement with government where appropriate.

**APPENDIX TO THE CHURCH AND SOCIETY COMMISSION REPORT
BOARD FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY NI**

Membership of the Board

Rev Dr Jonathan Barry
Mr Arthur D Canning
Mr George Glenn

Mr Robert Stinson
Ms Patricia Leinster

Staff

Mrs Christine Wilford
Mrs Patricia Gilbert
Mrs Lynda Graham
Mrs Gerry McCluskey
Mr Ian Slaine
Rev Dr William Murphy
Mrs Marie Walker

Sessional Counsellor
Senior Social Work Practitioner
Senior Social Work Practitioner
Senior Social Work Practitioner
Chief Executive
Pastor to the Adult Deaf
Administrator

Introduction

The Report on the Church of Ireland Board for Social Responsibility (NI) hereafter called the Board, provides an overview on the Calendar Year 2013 with a focus on:

Proposed changes to the structure of the Board;

- Finance;
- Service Delivery;
- Ending our involvement with the Ministry to the Adult Deaf.

Board Structures

In 2013 the Board continued with attempts at a structural change with regard to membership and its relationship with the Church at a range of levels.

On-going attempts were made to recruit Board Members through a range of Church linked sending representatives during 2013. The process proved slow and some sending bodies did not respond. Based on this lack of response and following contact from Church of Ireland House, Dublin staff members of the Board approached the Honorary Secretaries of the Church of Ireland with the aim of clarifying its relationship with the Church. A meeting was held with the Honorary Secretaries and Board Representatives in November 2013.

The meeting allowed for open discussion on a range of issues, including the lack of any meaningful control by the Church over the Board's work. The Board looks forward to obtaining a detailed response in early 2014 with a strengthening of the relationship between the Board and the Church as the hoped-for outcome.

The Board hopes for on-going support and seeks to maintain a link with the organisation which established us in the first place.

Funding

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The Board depends upon a range of funding sources. Each funder brings, and expects, a clear and open audit control mechanism in place.

The Board receives a Core Grant from the Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety towards the Adoption and Fertility Counselling Services.

Other funding sources are linked to service-delivery. Voluntary Trust Funds are used for specific service-delivery purposes or projects.

Our main funders, plus, the expectation of the funders are listed here:

- Core Grant, Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety – towards core Adoption and Fertility Counselling Services;
- Service Level Agreements – towards service delivery – Next Step and Fertility Counselling Service NI;
- Spot Purchase – by Health & Social Care Trusts – for specific service-delivery;
- Voluntary Trust Funds – towards specific projects e.g. *Information Event for Parents of Donor Conceived Children* – Awards for All (Big Lottery) and Lloyds TSB Foundation for NI, rental of Counselling Rooms for Next Step Service Users – The Enkalon Foundation towards adoption and fertility counselling services – the Dean of Belfast's Christmas Sit Out Appeal;
- Donations from Parishes and Dioceses to fund all aspects of the Board's work;
- The Services of Robert Moore Associates are used to support the Board with a range of financial support services. The on-going support of Mr Robert Moore is most valued, particularly by the Chief Executive. In addition the services of our external Auditor ASM, Newry, is most appreciated by the Board.

The General Purpose and Finance Committee of the Board is fully involved in monitoring the financial situation of the organisation. As with most voluntary organisations in the current economic climate there is a need to regularly monitor the financial needs of the organisation.

Services

i. Adoption Routes

Adoption Routes is the original core service of the Board. All other social work/counselling services have developed from the former Church of Ireland Adoption Society.

In 2013 Adoption Routes took steps to re-enter the adoption placement service. The Adoption Panel has been re-established and a Training Programme for Panel Members has commenced. In addition we have made initial contacts regarding using freelance personnel to assess prospective adopters.

Whilst developing the above, the Board continues to provide a range of core adoption related services. These include:

- Support to adoption placements;
- Post Adoption/Access to Birth Records.

Adoption Routes provides a member of:

- The Adoption Panel of Belfast Health & Social Care Trust;

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- The UK Social Work Advisory Group of BAAF;
- The Northern Ireland Post Adoption Social Workers Group.

ii. Next Step

Next Step is an Independent Counselling and Support Service for Birth Family Members affected by adoption.

In Northern Ireland the majority of children placed for adoption have been removed from birth family following statutory intervention by Social Services. The birth family is a socially isolated and stigmatised group.

Next Step is a service provided by the Board with an input from Family Care Adoption Service.

In 2013 a total of 83 new referrals were received for Next Step.

In October 2013 a Service User – known here as Barbara – gave a personal and emotive presentation to members of the Next Step Project Team (the Project Team being an advisory body made up of a range of professionals, Social Workers, a Judge, a Solicitor and a Birth Parent).

Barbara spoke of her life while caring for her children. Drugs and not her children were the main focus for Barbara. The children were subsequently removed by Social Services and adoption became the plan following failed attempts at rehabilitation.

Barbara gave a detailed, personal and emotive commentary on how Next Step Counselling helped her review her past, move on and care for a further child at home.

Our intention is to produce a DVD with Barbara to share with potential Users and Agencies.

In July 2013, our lead counsellor for Next Step, Mrs Lynda Graham, graduated with a Masters in Counselling & Therapeutic Communication. Congratulations to Lynda on this achievement.

iii. Fertility Counselling Service NI

The Board continues to be the lead provider of this specialist counselling service. In addition Board personnel are active members of both the British Infertility Counselling Association and the Irish Fertility Counsellors' Association. It is important to note that our specialist service, based in Belfast, is having an impact at a national level across two nations as well as on counselling practice.

In 2013 the Fertility Counselling Service received 280 new referrals. This is in addition to on-going counselling cases.

The Fertility Counselling Service NI ran a conference entitled "Becoming a Family with the Help of a Donor" in 2013. The conference was aimed at parents of children conceived through Donor Conception. A range of speakers were invited from Britain, with both academic and personal experience of the issue. The Conference was attended by 65 parents/potential parents and 8 professionals e.g. Counsellors, Doctors, Nurses.

Feedback on the course was most positive. Examples included:

'We have always known we are going to tell our daughter, but this has highlighted it and advised us more';

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'It has helped me formulate my ideas on egg donation and my approach to my infertility';
'We have a donor-conceived child and it helps to prepare us for the time when we start to tell her how she was conceived';
'Broadened knowledge of things from both perspectives';
'Importance of telling';
'Really got an insight into telling and talking';
'Advice on upcoming obstacles. The child's information, not ours'.

Mrs Gerry McCluskey took the lead in organising this event on behalf of the Fertility Counselling Service NI. Well done for all her efforts with regard to the event (a copy of the Report on the event is available on request – e-mail info@fertilitycounsellingserviceni.co.uk)

In late 2013 the Board commenced negotiations with Glasgow Centre for Reproductive Medicine (GCRM) Belfast to provide a contracted Fertility Counselling Service to this new private unit. GCRM Belfast hopes to open its doors in early 2014 following statutory and regulatory inspections.

iv. Social Outreach

With a restriction from our external funders the service of providing support to families in need has come to an end. Sadly many families can no longer have access to financial support at a time of crisis via the Board.

Our Christmas Appeal for Toys was very successful this year. Toys were distributed to families in need across Northern Ireland through a variety of means, Church of Ireland Parishes, Women's Aid and Social Services.

v. Services to the Adult Deaf, Hearing Impaired and Disabled

In May 2013 the Rev Dr William Murphy retired from his post as Pastor to the Adult Deaf. Following this, a decision was taken to remove managerial and line management support from the Board.

The Board provides an input into the Church of Ireland Working Party on Disability. The Board's Chief Executive is an active member of the committee and acts as note taker. This organisation's Report to Synod is displayed separately in the Book of Reports.

vi. Membership

The Board is seriously concerned about the growing potential for it to become isolated from Church control and particularly at a time when the social values which have guided its work are being challenged by many secular developments.

The active presence and participation of clergy and lay members in the management of the Board are essential if growing secular influences are to be offset or balanced by Church teaching.

An appeal for new members has already been launched. The Board wishes to bring this to the attention to all who read this Report and invites your expression of interest should you wish to find out more about our current services.

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vii. Conclusion

The Board continues to provide a range of specialist social work and counselling services.

The Board intends to build on its service-base and explore opportunities for additional areas of service-delivery.

At a time when the existing work of the Board is challenged by secular and legal influences, it hopes to continue receiving support and guidance from the Church.

APPENDIX G

**REPORT OF THE GENERAL SYNOD LEGAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE INTO
QUESTIONS ON CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE DISCIPLINARY SCHEME**

The meeting of the Legal Advisory Committee was convened to give opinion on the following issues:

1. *Can an unincorporated body such as a Diocesan council or a Select Vestry provide the surety required under Chapter VIII S26 (c) of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland? If not, should the Constitution be amended to allow for this?*
2. *Should a person resident in a diocese be excluded from membership of the Complaints Committee or a sub-committee thereof when hearing a complaint against a person resident in the same diocese?*

Accompaniment of Written Submission with sum of £600 or €1000:

The Committee responded as follows:

The Committee advises that Chapter VIII of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland does not preclude an unincorporated body from providing the sum of £600 or €1000 as required under Chapter VIII S26 (c). In deciding whether or not to provide such a sum the body must satisfy itself that it is empowered to do so.

Membership of the Complaints Committee:

The Committee responded as follows:

The Committee advises that no fundamental change to the Constitution is required. The question is primarily one of bias and perception of bias and this is dependent on prior knowledge of the parties and/or another particular interest in the proceedings. Any member of the Complaints Committee (whether from the Diocese or otherwise) should recuse themselves if such a question could arise in a particular case. Accordingly, the Committee feels the matter may be addressed by guidelines rather than Constitutional amendment.

APPENDIX H

HISTORICAL CENTENARIES WORKING GROUP

Membership:

The Bishop of Clogher (Convenor)
The Ven Robin Bantry White
Dr Kenneth Milne (Church of Ireland Historiographer)
Professor David Hayton (co-opted)
Mr George Woodman (co-opted January 2014)
The Ven Ricky Rountree (representing the Liturgical Advisory Committee)
The Rev Earl Storey (in an advisory role)
Dr Paul Harron (in advisory role)

The Historical Commemorations Working Group was established by the Standing Committee in 2012 to monitor activity and to plan events relating to the Decade of Centenaries 2012-2022. In addition to appointed and co-opted members the Working Group consults with professional historians, librarians, and commentators as the need arises. The Working Group conducts its business almost exclusively through telephone conferencing.

It is important to acknowledge that many groups within the Church of Ireland, and many Church of Ireland members working with other civic groups are also organising events to consider the impact of the truly momentous events of the years 1912-1922 on modern Ireland.

The Working Group held a very successful Symposium in Autumn 2012 relating to the political and theological aspects of the Ulster Solemn League and Covenant. The Symposium was attended by about 100 participants from a very wide range of civic, political and religious life in Ireland. The Symposium was held in Moira, Co Down.

A second Symposium was planned to be held in Liberty Hall, Dublin, in November 2013 on the social, religious and economic aspects of the Dublin Lock Out of 1913. Despite a very distinguished panel of speakers, the Symposium failed to attract sufficient participants.

At the time of writing the Group is considering a number of events to mark the anniversary of the beginning of the Great War in August 1914. Because of the profound effect which the war had, and continues to have, on life across the world, there will be an enormous number of events of every sort taking place. In fact the government in the Republic of Ireland has established a website www.decadeofcentenaries.com to help inform interested parties of the range of events that are being planned. A World War One Commemoration Committees has also been established in Northern Ireland, chaired by Mr Jeffrey Donaldson MP.

The Church of Ireland Working Group hopes to organise a symposium reflecting on the specifically theological and ethical implications of the Great War possibly in collaboration with the very extensive programme which has been planned by the authorities of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin.

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Tentative plans are also being discussed to run a short story competition for young people around a theme related to the Great War.

In recognition of the fact that military and constitutional matters did not entirely dominate the 1912-1922 period the Working Group is supporting Cumann Gaelach na hEaglaise in its centenary year.

The Liturgical Advisory Committee (LAC) have been supporting the work of the Group by producing relevant liturgical material which can be adapted for use in a number of contexts. During the past year liturgical material was produced for the 'Lockout 1913' the LAC are currently working on material for the Great War and 1916 Rebellion. These resources will all appear on the Church of Ireland Website, Worship Section.

APPENDIX I

HISTORIOGRAPHER'S REPORT

Numerous titles appear each year dealing specifically with Church of Ireland subjects or making substantial references to the Church, and 2012-3 has been no exception. Now that both political jurisdictions in Ireland have embarked on the decade of commemorations a great deal is being written about the events being marked and the Church of Ireland figures to a varying extent. Particularly noteworthy are Dr Andrew Scholes's treatment of *The Church of Ireland and the Third Home Rule Bill*, (Irish Academic Press, 2012) and Mr Pádraig Yeates's *Lockout Dublin 1913* (Gill and Macmillan reprint 2013), the latter devoting many pages to the 'Saving the Children' scheme that caused much religious controversy during the lockout. 2013 has also seen the publication of Dr Alan Acheson's *Bishop John Jebb and the nineteenth century Anglican renaissance* (Clements Publishing, Toronto).

There have been notable additions to the range of printed primary material now available to scholars. Volume III of Dr Rachel Finnegan's *Letters from abroad: the Grand Tour correspondence of Richard Pococke* [sometime Bishop of Ossory] and *Jeremiah Milles* [Waterford and Lismore] has appeared (Pococke Press, Piltown, Co Kilkenny). Frenchchurch Press (Killenard and York) has published John Stocks Powell's edition of *The combined registers of Portarlinton, Lea and Ballykean 1800-1850*, and also now in print is portion of the *Liber Niger* of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, (RCB Library MS C6.1.1) under the title *Estoire de l'Evangile*, 'a critical edition of an anonymous Anglo-Norman gospel harmony', edited by Brent A. Pitts for the Society for the Study of Medieval Languages and Literature (Oxford, 2012). The proceedings of a Maynooth conference on Richard Fitzralph, '(Richard of Dundalk', the 14th century Archbishop of Armagh, have appeared in print, edited by Dr Michael W Dunne and Dr Simon Nolan, O.Carm.

Reference was made in last year's report to the collection of books of particular liturgical interest donated by Dean Gilbert Mayes to the library of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin. The collection has been professionally listed and details will be posted on-line early in 2014 so that interested readers may, by appointment, consult it in the cathedral Library and Archives.

Two other books, not dealing exclusively with the Church of Ireland but in which the Church figures conspicuously, are *New life for churches in Ireland: good practice in conversion and reuse*, ed. Dr Paul Harron (Ulster Historic Churches Trust, 2012) which is by no means confined to buildings in the province of Ulster, and volume IV in the Yale University Press

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‘Buildings of Ireland’ series’, *South Ulster: the counties of Armagh, Cavan and Monaghan* by Dr Kevin V. Mulligan (2013).

Two works dealing with specifically Church of Ireland subjects are currently going to press: Dr Claude Costecalde’s sumptuously produced *Illustrated history of the Church of Ireland* and a new edition of *The Letters of Archbishop Hugh Boulter* [of Armagh] first published at Oxford and Dublin in 1769/70. The new edition, from Four Courts Press is edited by Dr Kenneth Milne and Professor Patrick McNally and includes additional correspondence and a biographical introduction.

In the course of the past twelve months I have been glad to respond to a number of enquiries of an historical nature and I have met several researchers who are engaged in work on the Church of Ireland.

Consideration has been given to revising the *Bibliography of Church of Ireland history* that was brought out by Church of Ireland Publishing in 2005. However, it has been decided that the most effective means whereby readers can keep abreast of new publications is by consulting the Royal Irish Academy’s database <irishhistoryonline.ie> which is constantly updated and whose ‘search’ pathway will guide them to a vast range of sources pertaining to the Church of Ireland.

Dr Kenneth Milne

APPENDIX J

IRISH CHURCHES PEACE PROJECT

At its meeting in November 2012 the Standing Committee approved the participation of the Church of Ireland in what has become known as the Irish Churches Peace Project (ICPP). The purpose of the project is, *inter alia*, to encourage and manage cross community dialogue at local and province wide levels with a view to deepening the Peace Process.

The ICPP is a programme funded entirely through the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) Peace III Programme and involves a partnership between the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Methodist Church in Ireland, the Church of Ireland, the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland and the Irish Council of Churches. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland is the lead partner. The project enjoys the support of the Office of the First Minister and the Deputy First Minister in Northern Ireland.

The Standing Committee nominated the Rt Rev John McDowell, Bishop of Clogher and the Rev John McClure of the Diocese of Connor to represent the Church of Ireland on the ICPP Steering Group. The Steering Group is chaired by the Most Rev Donal McKeown, Auxiliary Bishop of Connor.

A proposal for funding a project of this nature had first been lodged and discussed with the SEUPB some years ago but came only to fruition in 2013. Because much of the largest part of the funding was allocated to engage staff to deliver the project, the first task of the Steering Committee was to recruit a Director and suitably qualified staff to begin the preliminary work of mapping, familiarisation and planning.

A Director (Mr Keith Hamilton) and six Good Relations Officers (GROs), and two administrative and financial staff have been recruited. The GROs have been assigned to specific geographical areas as identified in the Funding Proposal and Letter of Offer.

The project was officially launched in October 2013 and since that time the staff have been familiarising themselves with their areas of operation and are at the time of writing beginning to deliver the first of their programmes.

Further details of the project can be found on the ICPP website <http://www.icpp.info/>

APPENDIX K

NORTHERN IRELAND COMMUNITY RELATIONS WORKING GROUP REPORT TO THE GENERAL SYNOD 2014

Members:

Ven George Davison
Rev Adrian Dorrian
Rev Barry Forde
Rt Rev John McDowell
Rt Rev Harold Miller

In Attendance:

Dr Paul Harron
Janet Maxwell

The Northern Ireland Community Relations Working Group met four times since it was set up by the Standing Committee in September 2013. The Working Group met in person and by teleconference and also used e-mail to exchange and develop material.

The Working Group's methodology was to spend time reflecting on new proposals and developments in NI with a view to supporting active engagement by the Church in any processes that promote debate of issues relevant to community relations or that will further understanding and reconciliation between communities in NI. The Working Group also sought to deepen the bonds between Churches, participating in joint arrangements to develop a common approach based on Christian values. The Working Group has representation and has worked with an informal group involving the four churches and the ICC.

The current political dialogue is fraught with difficulty as ideological positions remain very far apart. The capacity of the Churches to articulate a unified Christian witness helps provide a framework of continuity and balance when the distance between political views is starkly felt.

In addition, the Working Group is aware of many issues related to culture within the Protestant community including Orange culture and loyalism; how victims and survivors relate to the Church and to wider society and the role of the Church in the public square.

The Working Group considered the history of documents and proposals related to the peace process including *A Shared Future*, *The Programme for Cohesion Sharing and Integration*, *The Consultative Group on the Past (Eames-Bradley Report)*, *Together Building a United Community* and the *Haass Proposals*.

The Working Group made a report to the Standing Committee which gave broad approval to the Working Group's draft response to Together Building a United Community (TBUC) and suggested some amendments both in content and tone. The Standing Committee also encouraged the Group in their work and gave permission for the TBUC response to be submitted to OFM/DFM when the Group had an opportunity to meet to consider the suggestions made by Standing Committee.

APPENDIX L
PARISH DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP
REPORT 2014

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Mrs Brigid Barrett (Administrator)
The Rt Rev Kenneth Clarke
Rev Paul Hoey (Chair)
Rev Ruth Jackson Noble
Dr John Tyrell

As outlined in last year's report the shape of Parish Development in the life of the Church of Ireland is taking a new direction in response to the changing needs of the Church. The core elements of the new way of working are:

1. The establishment of a Network of Parish Development, bringing together those with experience in this area and drawing on the gifts and ideas of interested people from each of the dioceses.
2. The compilation of a common pool of resources, including tools and models developed as part of the Church21 process, to be made available to any parish wanting to embark on its own journey of development.
3. The drawing together of a pool of facilitators who would be willing to serve parishes that would value the objectivity such external guides can bring to a process of development.
4. The running of a bi-annual all-Ireland Parish Development Conference to stimulate interest in and ideas for any parish that is considering embarking on a parish development process.
5. The maintenance of a small steering group to co-ordinate the above and to take general responsibility for communication and for the promotion of parish development.

Since the 2nd and 5th components of the plan are already being enacted the next natural step seemed to be to establish the network (no.1). To this end in early 2013, the Working Group arranged a consultation attended by key people in the field of parish development in each diocese. This group agreed that ten "building blocks" are foundational for any process of development in a parish. These now form the basis of the pool of resources that is being compiled. They are:

1. Honest self-evaluation;
2. Harnessing dissatisfaction;
3. Discerning vision;
4. Building teams;
5. Maximising communication;

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6. Managing change;
7. Shaping culture;
8. Enabling action;
9. Handling conflict;
10. Maintaining momentum.

The group agreed to meet again with a view to sharing ideas and resources and motivating a common approach.

The next intended step is the running of a Parish Development Conference, but the Group is keen first to hear the outcome of the 2014 Mission Conference which is setting out to “articulate the mission of the Church of Ireland in a way that can be embraced and supported by all?” in order to hone its agenda accordingly.

The journey continues.

During the year Mrs Carolyn O’Laoire stepped down from membership. The Group is enormously grateful to Carolyn for her dedicated service over the years and for all the creativity and imagination she brought to the process.

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APPENDIX M

STANDING COMMITTEE

PRIORITIES FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT		Year ended 31 December	
		2013	2012
		€	€
INCOME			
Contributions	1	459,421	559,667
Deposit interest		1,113	673
Investment income		29,951	29,960
		<u>490,485</u>	<u>590,300</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Administration Expenses	2	(34,044)	(39,491)
Operating Surplus for the Year		<u>456,441</u>	<u>550,809</u>
ALLOCATIONS & GRANTS			
Allocations & Grants Distributed	3	(454,612)	(514,900)
Surplus after Allocations & Grants		<u>1,829</u>	<u>35,909</u>
Valuation Movement		43,453	131,086
Currency translation adjustment		3,397	(2,067)
Net Surplus for the year		<u><u>48,679</u></u>	<u><u>164,928</u></u>

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STANDING COMMITTEE

PRIORITIES FUND

BALANCE SHEET		Year ended 31 December	
		2013 €	2012 €
INVESTMENTS			
Investments held by the RCB	4	847,505	804,052
		<hr/>	<hr/>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash held on deposit by RCB	5	332,094	327,033
Cash at bank		261	96
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		332,355	327,129
		<hr/>	<hr/>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Loans		(48,760)	(48,760)
PAYE/PRSI		(4,806)	(4,806)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		(53,566)	(53,566)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Assets		<u>1,126,294</u>	<u>1,077,615</u>
FUNDS EMPLOYED			
Balance at 1 January		1,077,615	912,687
Surplus for the year		48,679	164,928
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance as at 31 December		<u>1,126,294</u>	<u>1,077,615</u>
		<hr/>	<hr/>

Standing Committee - 2014

Notes to the Financial Statements

	2013 €	2012 €
1. Contributions		
Contributions from the dioceses	459,421	559,667
	<u>459,421</u>	<u>559,667</u>
	<u><u>459,421</u></u>	<u><u>559,667</u></u>
2. Administration Expenses	2013 €	2012 €
Salaries & PRSI	22,760	23,025
Organiser's & Committee expenses	4,997	4,814
Printing & Stationary	2,732	7,096
Postage & Photocopying	1,506	2,104
Miscellaneous & Transfers	2,049	2,452
	<u>34,044</u>	<u>39,491</u>
	<u><u>34,044</u></u>	<u><u>39,491</u></u>
3. Grants & Loans	2013 €	2012 €
Ministry	120,193	91,886
Retirement Benefits	1,355	1,888
Education	36,811	125,763
Community	89,079	62,461
Areas of Need	43,748	46,859
Outreach Initiatives	107,108	153,949
Innovative Ministry	56,318	32,094
	<u>454,612</u>	<u>514,900</u>
	<u><u>454,612</u></u>	<u><u>514,900</u></u>

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- Invested assets are shown at market value in 2013 and 2012 values have been restated to show these values.

	2013 €	2012 €
5. Cash on deposit held by the RCB		
Cash on deposit held by the RCB	332,094	327,033
	<u>332,094</u>	<u>327,033</u>

This represents cash held on behalf of The Priorities Fund by the RCB in pooled bank accounts.

- Foreign Currency transactions have been translated to Euro at the rate of exchange ruling at 31 December 2013, €1 = £0.8302 (2012: €1 = £0.8161).
- The Priorities Fund is not the beneficial owner of any tangible fixed assets, and thus no depreciation charge arises in the period.

Standing Committee - 2014



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE CHURCH OF IRELAND PRIORITIES FUND

We have audited the financial statements of the Church of Ireland Priorities Fund for the year ended 31 December 2013 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Accounting Policies and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the basis of preparation and accounting policies notes to the financial statements.

Respective responsibilities of the Committee and auditors

As explained more fully in the Committee's Responsibilities Statement set out on page 4, the Committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the basis of preparation and accounting policies to the financial statements. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

This report, including the opinion, has been prepared for and only for the Committee for governance purposes in accordance with our engagement letter dated 4 November 2013 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving this opinion, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come including without limitation under any contractual obligations of the charity, save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Fund's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Committee; and the overall presentation of the financial statements.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2013 have been properly prepared in accordance with the basis of preparation note and accounting policies on page 5 and present the state of the Church of Ireland Priorities Fund's affairs as at 31 December 2013 and its surplus for the year then ended in accordance therewith.

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE CHURCH OF
IRELAND PRIORITIES FUND - continued**

Emphasis of matter – Basis of preparation

In forming our opinion on the financial statements, which is not modified, we draw attention to the fact that the accounting policies used and disclosures made are not intended to, and do not, comply with all the requirements of Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland.

**PricewaterhouseCoopers
Chartered Accountants
Dublin**

13 March 2014

APPENDIX N
WORKING GROUP ON DISABILITY

Membership

Rev Jennifer McWhirter (Chairperson)	Dr Timothy Jackson
Mr James Clarke	Mr Ian Slaine
Rev Malcolm Ferry	Mrs Audrey Tormey
Mrs Carol Ferry	The Rt Rev Trevor Williams

TERMS OF REFERENCE

In March 2005, the Standing Committee established the Working Group on Disability to address issues concerning disability that affect the Church of Ireland and to consider the implications of legislation in both jurisdictions. The Church of Ireland is periodically invited to comment on consultation documents, white papers and draft legislation. It was envisaged that a working group with expertise in this area would be in a position to prepare considered responses on behalf of the Church.

RETIREMENT OF CHAIRPERSON

The previous Chairperson of the Working Group on Disability, the Revd Canon Will Murphy, retired from this position during the past year. At his last meeting, held on 11th June 2013, he introduced the Rev Jennifer McWhirter, who has taken over the role as Church of Ireland Chaplain to the Deaf, and also as Chairperson of this Working Group. We want to acknowledge Will's hard work on behalf of this working group, his commitment and dedication and wish him all the best for his retirement.

DISABILITY AWARENESS SUNDAY

Resources for Disability Awareness Sunday (the third Sunday in November) were posted on the Church of Ireland website. The Church of Ireland Press Officer made available to Diocesan Information officers and also published in the Church of Ireland Gazette an article about deafness and hearing loss which had been compiled by the Chairperson. The article provided information about deafness and hearing loss and gave some suggestions for parishes to better facilitate people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

GENERAL SYNOD LOCATIONS

The Working Group has approached the General Synod office about the possibility of acting as advisor in the planning of locations of future General Synods. We as a group feel strongly that people with disabilities should be facilitated in their attendance of General Synod and the locations chosen should reflect this inclusion.

THE CHURCH OF IRELAND THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

A seminar on disability awareness for final year students in the Institute is now included as part of the curriculum for ordinands and is intended to encourage them in their thinking through the issues involved in inclusivity for disabled people in the Church.

WORK PLAN

The working group has certain priorities in its planning for the future.

- a) To make people think beyond disability and towards access for all;
- b) to make people aware of the legislation in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland and outline the implications of the same;
- c) to make people aware of key issues involved in making sure properties are accessible.

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APPENDIX O
STANDING COMMITTEE
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Notes	2013 €	2012 €
INCOME			
Representative Church Body	1	568,658	575,521
Deposit Interest	2	4,266	8,013
Royalties Fund Income		20,099	13,868
Grants/Contributions		36,707	20,272
		<u>629,730</u>	<u>617,674</u>
EXPENSES			
Services provided by RCB	3	265,891	269,444
General Synod Expenses	4	32,645	37,916
Miscellaneous Expenses	5	29,508	33,087
		<u>328,044</u>	<u>340,447</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR		<u>301,686</u>	<u>277,227</u>
ALLOCATIONS AND GRANTS			
Allocations to Ecumenical and Anglican Organisations	6	118,703	111,467
Allocations to Church related Organisations	7	190,966	196,760
		<u>309,669</u>	<u>308,227</u>
(Deficit) for year		<u>(7,983)</u>	<u>(31,000)</u>

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STANDING COMMITTEE

FUND ACCOUNT		Year ended 31 December	
		2013	2012
		€	€
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash on deposit held by RCB	8	375,885	385,329
Net Assets		<u>375,885</u>	<u>385,329</u>
FUNDS EMPLOYED			
Balance at 1 January		385,329	414,307
(Deficit) for the year		(7,983)	(31,000)
Currency translation adjustment		(1,461)	2,022
Balance as at 31 December		<u><u>375,885</u></u>	<u><u>385,329</u></u>

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Notes to the Accounts

1. Income from Representative Church Body	2013 €	2012 €
Representative Church Body allocation	596,365	605,454
Refund unexpended allocation	(27,707)	(29,933)
Total income from RCB	<u>568,658</u>	<u>575,521</u>
	<u><u>568,658</u></u>	<u><u>575,521</u></u>
2. Deposit Interest	2013 €	2012 €
-Royalties Fund	4,266	8,013
	<u>4,266</u>	<u>8,013</u>
	<u><u>4,266</u></u>	<u><u>8,013</u></u>
3. Services provided by the RCB		
Services provided by the RCB relates to time apportionment of RCB staff to Standing Committee support.		
4. General Synod Expenses	2013 €	2012 €
-Venue and Facilities	32,645	37,916
	<u>32,645</u>	<u>37,916</u>
	<u><u>32,645</u></u>	<u><u>37,916</u></u>

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5. Miscellaneous Expenses	2013	2012
	€	€
- Inter Church Addiction	3,614	3,676
- Parish Development Working Group	1,053	4,811
- Publications & Printing	3,286	3,956
- Honorary Secretaries' expenses	9,337	9,374
- Porvoo Communion	1,655	891
- Historiographer's Expenses	2,350	1,829
- Church & Society Commission	5,525	2,054
- Council for Mission	860	1,666
- Minor Expenses of Committees	-	1,266
- Commission on Ministry	1,828	1,989
- Covenant Council	-	1,575
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	29,508	33,087
	<hr/>	<hr/>

6. Ecumenical and Anglican Organisations	2013	2012
	€	€
- Anglican Consultative Council	45,905	45,338
- Churches Together in Britain and Ireland	12,045	12,253
- Irish Council of Churches	23,800	23,736
- Irish Inter-Church Meeting	13,197	13,163
- World Council of Churches	8,755	8,577
- Conference of European Churches	5,000	3,000
- Delegates' expenses (travel/conferences)	10,001	5,400
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	118,703	111,467
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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7. Allocations to Church related Organisations	2013 €	2012 €
- Central Communications Board	140,088	125,948
- Royalties Fund	12,223	37,500
- Church of Ireland Marriage Council	13,131	15,001
- Royalties Fund Expenditure	21,277	12,440
- Safeguarding Trust	4,247	5,871
	<u>190,966</u>	<u>196,760</u>
8. Cash on Short Term Deposit	2013 €	2012 €
- Royalties Fund	302,393	306,265
- Hymnal Revision	1,551	1,578
- Other Account Balances	71,941	77,486
	<u>375,885</u>	<u>385,329</u>

This represents cash held on behalf of Standing Committee by the RCB in pooled bank accounts.

9. Foreign currency transactions have been translated to Euro at the rate of exchange ruling on 31 December 2013, €1 = £0.8302 (2012: €1 = £0.8161).

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CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF THE CHURCH OF IRELAND STANDING COMMITTEE

In accordance with our engagement letter dated 4 November 2013 we have compiled the entity's financial information, which comprises the Income and Expenditure Account, Fund Account and the related notes, from the accounting records and information and explanations you have given us.

The financial information has been compiled on the basis set out in the accounting policies on page 1 to the financial statements.

This report is made to you in accordance with the terms of our engagement. Our work has been undertaken so that we might compile the financial information that we have been engaged to compile to meet your governance requirements. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than you for our work or for this report.

We have carried out this engagement in accordance with technical guidance in M48 'Chartered Accountants' Reports on the Compilation of Historical Financial Information of Unincorporated Entities' issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland (ICAI) and have complied with the ethical guidance laid down by the ICAI relating to members undertaking the compilation of historical financial information.

You have approved the financial information for the year ended 31 December 2013 and have acknowledged your responsibility for it, including the creation and maintenance of all accounting and other records supporting it and the appropriateness of the accounting basis on which it has been compiled, and for providing us with all information and explanations necessary for its compilation.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit of the financial information. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations given to us by you and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the financial information.

**PricewaterhouseCoopers
Chartered Accountants
Dublin**

13 March 2014

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GENERAL PURPOSES FUND				
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT				
			2013	2012
			€	€
INCOME				
Interest and dividends			1,034	1,034
Venerable E Colvin Bequest			23	23
			<u>1,057</u>	<u>1,057</u>
EXPENSES				
Registrar's fees			63	63
Legal and other costs			992	992
			<u>1,055</u>	<u>1,055</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS FOR YEAR				
			2	2
Balance 1 January 2013			27,764	23,624
Currency translation adjustment			(1)	5
Gains unrealised on revaluation			<u>1,504</u>	<u>4,133</u>
Balance 31 December 2013			<u>29,269</u>	<u>27,764</u>
FUNDS EMPLOYED				
Investments			29,250	27,748
Cash held by RCB			<u>19</u>	<u>16</u>
			<u>29,269</u>	<u>27,764</u>
Sterling balances and transactions have been translated to Euro at the rate of exchange ruling at 31 December 2013, €1 = £0.8302 (2012: €1 = £0.8161).				

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CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF THE CHURCH OF IRELAND GENERAL PURPOSES FUND

In accordance with our engagement letter dated 4 November 2013 we have compiled the entity's financial information, which comprises the Income and Expenditure Account and Fund Account from the accounting records and information and explanations you have given us.

This report is made to you in accordance with the terms of our engagement. Our work has been undertaken so that we might compile the financial information that we have been engaged to compile to meet your governance requirements. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than you for our work or for this report.

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**PricewaterhouseCoopers
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Dublin**

13 March 2014

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