

**CHURCH OF IRELAND**  
**THE REPRESENTATIVE CHURCH BODY**  
**REPORT 2007**

## The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

### CONTENTS

	Page
Representative Church Body – offices and chairpersons	5
Representative Church Body – membership	6
Committees of the Representative Body	9
Mission and responsibility	14
Main points	14
Operating and financial review 2006	15
Allocations recommended to the General Synod 2007	16
Investments and markets	20
Clergy remuneration and benefits	25
Property and Trusts	27
Historic Churches Advisory Committee	29
Library and Archives Committee	31
Donations and bequests to the Church of Ireland	33
Miscellaneous and general	35
Resolutions recommended to the General Synod	36
Financial statements year ended 31 December 2006	37

### APPENDICES

	Page
A Total income applied by the Representative Body in 2006	60
B Extract from the accounts of the Church of Ireland Theological College for the year ended 30 June 2006	61
C Fund performances – Comparative total returns 2002-2006	63
D General Unit Trusts – Financial statements and investment manager's reports for the year ended 30 June 2006	64
E Socially Responsible Investment – Annual review and report of the Investment Committee	78
F Church Fabric Fund – Grants allocated during 2006	79
G Guidelines for Memorials in Churches	80
H Accessions of archives and manuscripts to the Representative Church Body Library, 2006	83
I Funds received by the Representative Church Body in 2006 for parochial and diocesan endowment etc	87

**THE REPRESENTATIVE BODY OF THE CHURCH OF IRELAND**

The Representative Church Body (RCB) was incorporated by Charter in 1870 under the provisions of the Irish Church Act, 1869. Its legal structure is that of charitable trustee or trust corporation with perpetual succession.

The main activities of the Representative Body involve management of investments, administration of trusts and deeds of covenant, payment of stipends and pensions, property and legal transactions and treasury management as well as supporting the core work of the Church by providing finance for the sustentation of the clergy and pensioners, training of ordinands, education, youth, communications etc. The RCB Library is the repository for the archives of the Church and the Library for the Church of Ireland Theological College and the Church at large. The committee structure is designed to reflect these mainline activities and responsibilities.

**Office**

Church of Ireland House  
Church Avenue  
Rathmines Dublin 6

Tel 01-4978422  
Fax 01-4978821  
Email [office@rcbdub.org](mailto:office@rcbdub.org)  
Website [www.rcb.ireland.anglican.org](http://www.rcb.ireland.anglican.org)

**Library**

Braemor Park  
Churchtown  
Dublin 14

Tel 01-4923979  
Fax 01-4924770  
Email [library@ireland.anglican.org](mailto:library@ireland.anglican.org)

**Chairman, The Representative Church Body**

Most Rev AET Harper, Archbishop of Armagh\*

**Committee Chairpersons**

Executive	Mr S Gamble
Allocations	Mr GC Richards
Investment	Mr RS Neill
Property	Mr RH Kay
Stipends	Mr HJ Saville
Library and Archives	Mrs CH Thomson
Legal Advisory	Mr RL Nesbitt SC
Audit	Mr GC Richards
Historic Churches Advisory	Mr RS Neill

**Chief Officer and Secretary**

Mr DC Reardon

---

\* in place of Most Rev RHA Eames (retired 2006)

**THE REPRESENTATIVE BODY OF THE CHURCH OF IRELAND**

In accordance with the Charter of Incorporation (1870) the Representative Body is composed of *ex officio*, elected and co-opted members. The Charter provides that the *ex officio* members shall be the archbishops and bishops, the elected members shall consist of one clerical and two lay representatives for each diocese or union of dioceses presided over by one bishop and the co-opted members shall consist of persons equal in number to the number of such dioceses for the time being. (See also Constitution of the Church of Ireland, Chapter X).

The Representative Body is composed of the following sixty members. The attendance of each at the four meetings of the Representative Body held during the year 2006 is denoted by the figure placed before each name.

**A Archbishops and Bishops: *ex officio* members (12)**

- 4 Most Rev AET Harper, Archbishop of Armagh\*  
5 Beresford Row, The Mall, Armagh
- 4 Most Rev JRW Neill, Archbishop of Dublin  
The See House, 17 Temple Road, Dublin 6
- 4 Most Rev RL Clarke, Bishop of Meath and Kildare  
Bishop's House, Moyglare, Maynooth, Co Kildare
- 4 Right Rev MGStA Jackson, Bishop of Clogher  
The See House, Fivemiletown, Co Tyrone BT75 0QP
- 4 Right Rev KR Good, Bishop of Derry and Raphoe  
The See House, Culmore Road, Londonderry BT48 8JF
- 2 Right Rev HC Miller, Bishop of Down and Dromore  
The See House, 32 Knockdene Park South, Belfast BT5 7AB  
Bishop of Connor†  
Vacant
- 4 Right Rev KH Clarke, Bishop of Kilmore  
48 Carrickfern, Cavan
- 4 Right Rev RCA Henderson, Bishop of Tuam  
Bishop's House, Knockglass, Crossmolina, Co Mayo
- 2 Right Rev MAJ Burrows, Bishop of Cashel and Ossory‡  
Bishop's House, Troysgate, Kilkenny
- 2 Right Rev WP Colton, Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross  
The Palace, Bishop Street, Cork
- 4 Right Rev MHG Mayes, Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe  
12 Eden Terrace, North Circular Road, Limerick

---

\* in place of Most Rev RHA Eames (retired 2006)

† translated to Armagh 2007

‡ from 2006

The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

**B Elected members (36)**

Every member elected, except to a casual vacancy, must retire from office on the first day of the third Ordinary Session of the Diocesan Synod after that member's election (Constitution Chapter X, Section 3). The date in brackets after each member's name denotes the year in which that member is due to retire. Outgoing members are eligible for re-election provided they have not reached 74 years of age by 1 January preceding election.

Armagh	3	Ven RG Hoey, The Rectory, 2 Maytown Road, Bessbrook, Co Down BT35 7LY (2009)
	1	Mr HW Young, 12 Fairlea Heights, Moneymore, Magherafelt, Co Londonderry BT45 7UQ (2007)
	4	Mrs J Leighton, 14 Drumbeemore Road, Armagh BT60 1HP (2008)
Clogher	1	Ven CT Pringle, Rossorry Rectory, Derrygonnelly Road, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh (2009)
	3	Mr JWC Allen, Aughnahinch, Newtownbutler, Co Fermanagh (2007)
	4	Mr WJ Dickson, Carrickanure, Annyalla, Castleblayney, Co Monaghan (2008)
Derry and Raphoe	3	Ven DS McLean, 12 Station Road, Castledawson, Co Derry BT45 8AZ (2008)
	4	Mr JHD Livingston, 28 Station Road, Garvagh, Coleraine, Co Londonderry BT51 5LA (2009)
	4	Mr S Gamble, 14 Spruce Road, Dysart, Strabane, Co Tyrone (2007)
Down and Dromore	4	Rev Canon PF Patterson, 69 Church Road, Newtownbreda, Belfast BT8 7AN (2009)
	3	Mr WHC Montgomery, Rosemount House, Rosemount Estate, Greyabbey, Newtownards, Co Down BT22 2QA (2007)
	4	Mr WL Dermott, 3 Ashdene Grange, Comber, Newtownards, Co Down BT23 5SL (2008)
Connor	2	Rev Canon JO Mann, St John's Rectory, 86 Maryville Park, Belfast BT9 6LQ (2009)
	2	Mr RH Kay, 2 Brookvale Terrace, Portrush, Co Antrim BT56 8EY (2007)
	4	Mr JW Wallace, The Hermitage, 7 Ahoghill Road, Randalstown, Co Antrim BT41 3BJ (2008)
Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh	2	Ven AJ Forster, The Rectory, Drumcliffe, Co Sligo (2008)
	4	Mrs HR Hicks, Garvary Lodge, 49 Teemore Road, Derrylin, Co Fermanagh BT92 9QB (2009)
	1	Mr AC McElhinney, Calry Rectory, The Mall, Sligo (2007)*
Tuam, Killala and Achonry	3	Ven RE Dadswell, The Rectory, Ballisodare, Co Sligo (2008)
	1	Mrs A Walton, Bon Air, Uggool, Moycullen, Co Galway (2009)†
	3	Mrs CH Thomson, Luimnagh West, Corrandulla, Co Galway (2007)

---

\* in place of Mr D Meikle (resigned 2006)

† in place of Mr N Prins (retired 2006)

The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

Dublin and Glendalough	1	Ven DA Pierpoint, The Vicarage, 30 Phibsborough Road, Dublin 7 (2009)*
	2	Mr DA Seaman, Rivendell, Templemills, Celbridge, Co Kildare (2007)
	3	Mr DG Perrin, Barn Close, Ballybrack Road, Shankill, Co Dublin (2008)
Meath and Kildare	1	Rev LTC Stevenson, The Rectory, Portarlinton, Co Laois (2009)†
	2	Mr RF Colton, Highfield, Ballyduff, Tullamore, Co Offaly (2007)
	3	Mr D Gillespie, Cherryfield, Kill, Naas, Co Kildare (2008)
Cashel and Ossory	4	Very Rev LDA Forrest, The Deanery, Ferns, Enniscorthy, Co Wexford (2008)
	2	Mr PC Clifton-Brown, Ballinamona House, Cashel, Co Tipperary (2009)
	3	Mr C Galloway, Newtown, Waterford (2007)
Cork, Cloyne and Ross	4	Ven REB White, Moviddy Rectory, Aherla, Co Cork (2008)
	3	Mr JK Roberts, Corran, Ferney Road, Carrigaline, Co Cork (2009)
	4	Mr JE Stanley, Scart House, Belgooly, Co Cork (2007)
Limerick and Killaloe	0	Very Rev SR White, The Deanery, Killaloe, Co Clare (2008)
	2	Mrs LM Gleasure, Phoenix Farm, Kilflynn, Tralee, Co Kerry (2009)‡
	1	Mr RW Benson, Templehollow, Killaloe, Co Clare (2007)

**C Co-opted Members (12)**

- 3 Dr P Barker, Karibu Sana, Broomfield, Malahide, Co Dublin (2008)
- 3 Mr TH Forsyth, 3 Hainault Lawn, Dublin 18 (2007)
- 4 Mr JRB Hewat, Rathmichael Lodge, Shankill, Co Dublin (2007)
- 2 Mr LJW MacCann SC, 2 Knapton Terrace, Dun Laoghaire, Co Dublin (2009)
- 2 Mr TB McCormick, 24 Dartmouth Walk, Dublin 6 (2008)
- 2 Mr RS Neill, Killegar Park, Enniskerry, Co Wicklow (2009)
- 0 Mr RL Nesbitt SC, 35 Wellington Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4 (2007)
- 3 Mr GC Richards, 32 St Alban's Park, Dublin 4 (2009)
- 2 Mr HJ Saville, 22 Church Road, Boardmills, Lisburn BT27 6UP (2009)
- 1 Mr D Smith, Knockleigha, Shaw's Bridge, Co Down BT8 8JS (2009)
- 3 Mr GW Stirling, 3 Alma Road, Monkstown, Co Dublin (2008)
- 1 Mr RP Wilson, 109 Ballyward Road, Castlewellan, Co Down BT31 9PS (2008)

The following co-opted members retire in May 2007:

Mr JRB Hewat  
Mr RL Nesbitt  
Mr TH Forsyth

**Note** Very Rev RD Harman and Lady Sheil attend meetings of the Representative Body as Honorary Secretaries of the General Synod.

---

\* in place of Rev Canon WBA Neill (retired 2006)

† in place of Ven PHA Lawrence (retired 2006)

‡ in place of Mr WT Morrow (retired 2006)

The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

**COMMITTEES OF THE REPRESENTATIVE BODY**

The Executive, Allocations, Investment, Property, Stipends, Library and Archives and Legal Advisory Committees are elected from the members of the Representative Body in September each year and their chairpersons are appointed triennially. The Audit Committee and Historic Churches Advisory Committee are appointed triennially. Membership details, number of meetings held between 1 January and 31 December 2006 and record of attendances are given below.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

(7 meetings)

Mr S Gamble (6)  
(Chair)

Most Rev AET Harper*	(0)	Ven AJ Forster	(6)
Most Rev JRW Neill	(7)	Ven CT Pringle	(3)
Most Rev RL Clarke	(5)	Ven REB White	(6)
Mr GC Richards	(7)	Mr RW Benson	(5)
Mr RS Neill	(5)	Mr JRB Hewat	(6)
Mr RH Kay	(7)	Mr DG Perrin	(6)
Mr HJ Saville	(7)	Mrs CH Thomson	(5)

The Executive Committee has an overall responsibility to protect the interests of the Representative Body and its trusts, to consider and, if thought fit, to give approval to the recommendations of the subsidiary committees, to give formal approval to routine property and trust transactions, to formulate legislative proposals and policy for approval, to liaise with other central organisations and dioceses and to deal with all matters affecting the employment and remuneration of staff including specialist appointments where the Representative Body is a party to any contract of employment.

The Archbishops and the Chairpersons of the Allocations, Investment, Property and Stipends Committees are *ex officio* members of the Executive. Very Rev RD Harman attends meetings of the Executive Committee as an Honorary Secretary of the General Synod.

**Prayer read at the commencement of all Executive Committee meetings**

*“Almighty God, we meet in your presence to exercise stewardship of the resources of this Church. Grant to us a clear mind and judgement in all things, a willingness to seek your will for the Church and an awareness of the trust and responsibility given to us. Guide us with your wisdom and lead us in the paths of truth. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.”*

---

\* in place of Most Rev RHA Eames (retired 2006)

The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

**ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE**

(4 meetings)

Mr GC Richards (3)  
(Chair)

Mr WL Dermott	(3)	Mr JE Stanley	(4)
Ven AJ Forster	(4)	* Vacant	

The function of the Allocations Committee is to investigate requests for financial support and make recommendations to the Executive Committee or the Representative Body as appropriate, to maintain a “watching brief” on the use and deployment of resources allocated to committees and organisations including their budgetary procedures and accounting policies, to anticipate financial pressures ahead and plan forward accordingly, to ensure that trust limitations are observed in the use of Representative Body funds and to co-ordinate with other financial bodies (Priorities Fund Committee, Investment Committee, Stipends Committee, Pensions Board etc).

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

(7 meetings)

Mr RS Neill (7)  
(Chair)

Mr WL Dermott	(6)	Mr TB McCormick	(5)
Mr TH Forsyth	(6)	Mr GW Stirling	(6)
Mr D Gillespie	(7)	Mr RP Wilson	(3)

The function of the Investment Committee is to oversee the invested funds of the Representative Body and other funds held in trust, to monitor portfolio and investment management performance, to maintain an appropriate level of reserves, to formulate lending policies and approve parochial and glebe loan applications, to advise with regard to investment policy and strategy and generally report to the Executive Committee or to the Representative Body as appropriate.

---

\* vacancy arising from retirement of Most Rev RHA Eames



The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

**PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

(5 meetings)

Mr RH Kay (5)  
(Chair)

Mr JWC Allen	(2)	Mr JHD Livingston	(5)
Mr PC Clifton-Brown	(5)	Ven DS McLean	(4)
Mr RF Colton	(4)	Mr JK Roberts	(5)
Very Rev LDA Forrest	(5)	* Vacant	

The function of the Property Committee is to process all matters affecting glebes, churches, parochial buildings and graveyards vested in the Representative Body in accordance with statutory responsibilities as laid down in the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, to manage the buildings directly under the control of the Representative Body, to co-ordinate with diocesan see house committees and care for see houses and all residences provided for the use of church officers, to care for all properties assigned by the Representative Body for the use and occupation of retired clergy and surviving spouses, to assist and provide guidance in the planning and disposal of redundant churches and the contents thereof, to provide technical support and advice to parishes and dioceses, to maintain property records and registers and generally to report to the Executive Committee or to the Representative Body as appropriate.

**Note:** Representatives of the dioceses who are members of the Representative Body are entitled to attend meetings of the Property Committee when relevant diocesan property matters are under consideration.

**STIPENDS COMMITTEE**

(2 meetings)

Mr HJ Saville (2)  
(Chair)

Mr RW Benson	(2)	Ven DS McLean	(2)
Rt Rev WP Colton	(1)	Mr DG Perrin	(1)
† Mrs L Gleasure	(1)	Ven CT Pringle	(1)
Mrs J Leighton	(1)	Mr D Smith	(1)

The function of the Stipends Committee is to make recommendations concerning Minimum Approved Stipends, mileage rates for locomotory expenses, and the remuneration, expenses and budgets for the episcopate and other church officers, to monitor changes in taxation and State legislation insofar as clerical remuneration matters are concerned, to investigate and make recommendations in relation to grant aid requests from dioceses for the support of the Ministry and the training of newly ordained clergy, to consult with dioceses and make recommendations to provide for the better maintenance of the Ministry generally, to monitor and report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Clergy Remuneration and Benefits Committee as approved by General Synod in 1990 and report to the Executive Committee or to the Representative Body as appropriate.

---

\* vacancy arising from retirement of Mr N Prins

† in place of Mr WT Morrow (retired 2006)

The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

**LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES COMMITTEE**

(3 meetings)

Mrs CH Thomson (3)  
(Chair)

Most Rev RL Clarke	(3)	Ven REB White	(3)
Rt Rev MGStA Jackson	(0)	Very Rev SR White	(0)
Advisory Members	–	Rev Canon CA Empey	(2)
		– Dr K Milne	(3)
		– Mrs V Coghlan	(2)

The function of the Library and Archives Committee is to manage the RCB Library and its resources having regard to trusts and objectives, to maintain archives and Church records generally (including records of contents of churches and of church plate), to co-operate with the Theological College and Committees using the Library premises and to provide a cost-effective service to the Church and the public at large subject to the approval of the Executive Committee or the Representative Body as appropriate and budget limitations.

**LEGAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

(0 meetings)

Mr RL Nesbitt SC  
(Chair)

Mr AC Aston SC	Mr LJW MacCann SC
His Honour Judge JG Buchanan	Mr RLK Mills SC
The Hon Mr Justice DNO Budd	Master JW Wilson QC

The function of the Legal Advisory Committee is to advise the Representative Body on any legal or trust matter which the Executive Committee or the Representative Body may properly refer to it.

The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

(2 meetings)

Mr GC Richards (2)  
(Chair)

Ms P Barker	(2)	Mr HJ Saville	(2)
Mr RW Benson	(2)		

The Audit Committee's primary function is to assist the Executive Committee in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities by reviewing the financial statements, the systems of internal control and the audit process. The Committee meets twice yearly with the auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers, to review the scope of the audit programme prior to audit, the outcomes for the year when the audit is completed and any issues arising from the audit.

**HISTORIC CHURCHES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

(3 meetings)

Mr RS Neill (3)  
(Chair)

‡ The O'Morchoe	(3)	† Very Rev LDA Forrest	(1)
*‡ Ven DA Pierpoint	(1)	Mrs P Wilson	(3)

The Historic Churches Advisory Committee was formed following a resolution passed by the Representative Church Body at its meeting in September 2003. Its function is to act as a Historic Churches Advisory Committee to the Church of Ireland generally but with particular reference to the revised statutory guidelines issued in relation to the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (R.I.), with power to consult.

The Committee consists of three elected members, at least two of whom shall be members of the Representative Church Body and at least one of whom shall be a member of the Property Committee, with power to co-opt two further members.

---

\* in place of Rt Rev MAJ Burrows (retired 2006)

† in place of Mr N Prins (resigned 2006)

‡ co-opted member

## **MISSION AND RESPONSIBILITY**

The Representative Body, as trustee for the Church, strives to operate within a framework of sound practice based on principles of integrity and accountability. Its historic and primary mission is to serve and support the Church's ministry with full legal accountability for its governance of property and financial assets. Over the long term, the Representative Body seeks to manage investments to obtain the best possible return for present and future beneficiaries and to work for improvements in clergy stipends and pensions.

## **MAIN POINTS**

- The Representative Body's report to General Synod last year made reference to significant increases in the capital values of both General Funds and Specific Trusts held by the RB. This trend of increases continued up to the end of the year 2006. The report of the Executive Committee on page 40 gives details of these amounts together with the increases year on year.
- Both the Clergy Pensions Fund and the Representative Body Staff Pension Fund continue to provide funding challenges in terms of minimum funding standards (on a discontinuance basis) and also in terms of ongoing funding requirements.
- The report of the Church of Ireland Pensions Board (page 89) refers to the need for increased contributions to the Clergy Pensions Fund from January 2008 in order to ensure the long-term survival of the Fund. Proposals relating to these changes will be presented to General Synod in 2007 by the Representative Body, in its capacity as Trustee of the Clergy Pensions Fund, in conjunction with the Church of Ireland Pensions Board.
- Changes have been made, in agreement with the Representative Body's staff, to the RB Staff Pension Fund. These changes mean that, from January 2007 onwards, members of the Staff Pension Fund are obliged to make contributions to their pension fund. The changes to the Fund also included a contribution of some €2.4m to the Staff Pension Fund by the Representative Body.
- At the request of both the House of Bishops and the Standing Committee the Representative Body has agreed to contribute to the funding for the appointment of Child Protection Officers in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. The balance of the funding is being provided by the Dioceses. Appointments are being made to fill these new positions.
- At the end of 2006 the Most Rev Robin Eames retired as Chairman of the Representative Body, a position he had held in his capacity as Primate of All Ireland for some twenty years. Tribute is paid to Archbishop Eames's significant achievement in guiding the affairs of the Representative Body during this period. His contribution has in every way been immeasurably important in terms of both leadership and support to all involved in the affairs of the Representative Body during his Chairmanship. For this contribution to and participation in its work the RCB is most grateful.

## **OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW 2006**

The revenue account shows a surplus of €78,000 for the year compared to a surplus of €4,000 in 2005. The surplus available before allocations is €5.649m (2005 - €4.989m), an increase of €60,000. The charge for 2007 allocations is €5.644m (2005 - €5.055m), an increase of 11.7%.

- **Income**

2006 proved to be an exceptional year for increases in corporate dividends and the portfolios have been well placed to benefit from that. Income overall has increased by €827,000 over 2005, of which €787,000 was increased income derived from invested funds, a rise of 12.3%. It is considered to be improbable that this level of annual improvement in income from investments is sustainable for the future.

Appendix A (page 60) shows charts illustrating the sources and application of all the income and expenditure managed by the Representative Body, including trust incomes and disbursements.

- **Operating expenditures**

Operating expenses show the costs of maintaining the central capability and services managed from Church of Ireland House, offset by income generated and resource recharged to wider church activities.

The cost overall has increased by €134,000, included in which €107,000 relates to inflation-related higher salary costs and €28,000 to an increase in depreciation cost associated primarily with full year charges for the new computer system.

Under the heading 'Costs Recovered' is the category 'Specific Trusts', which shows the amounts generated from the management and administration of the Unit Trusts and the deposits in the care of the Representative Church Body. In particular the increased values and income of directly managed investments and cash have produced an increase of €96,000 in this recovery, which has the impact of reducing net operating costs chargeable.

A sustained level of activity in the property market shows in an increase in legal costs recovered to €231,000 from the already high level of €12,000 in 2005. This net recovery excludes the employment costs of the legal department.

The total of costs recovered in 2006, which is offset against operating costs, is €1.465m (2006 - €1.293m).

## The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

- **Allocations**

Allocations for 2007 are offset against income in 2006 and amount to €5,644,819 (2006 - €5,055,428). For the last of three years the overall charge for allocations to the revenue account is offset by a subvention of €75,000 from the Ministry Fund.

The charge to the revenue account represents an increase of 11.65% over the previous year and just under 1% of this increase can be ascribed to the 2.1% appreciation in the value of sterling against the euro between year end 2005 and year end 2006.

- **Reserves**

The allocations reserve is maintained to provide protection against the possibility of being unable to meet commitments in a particular year. At the year end the euro denominated value of the allocations reserve was €4.544m which represents 79.5% of the gross euro denominated provision for allocations as shown in the Balance Sheet.

At the year end the actuaries of the Staff Pension Fund are required to update the valuation of the fund and at 31 December 2006 the fund showed an actuarially calculated surplus of €39,000 (2005 - €2,812m deficit). The movement over the year is as a result of a one-off payment into the fund of €2.4m and of better than expected investment performance, allied to a slightly more benign economic environment. The Staff Pension Scheme has been closed to new members at 1 January 2007 and has converted to a contributory from a non-contributory scheme. The detail of the movement in the year is shown in note 15 to the audited accounts.

- **Currency translation rates**

Year end sterling balances have been translated into euro a rate of €1 = £0.6715 or £1 = €1.4892 (2005: €1 = £0.6853 or £1 = €1.4592).

### **ALLOCATIONS RECOMMENDED TO THE GENERAL SYNOD 2007**

- The cost of allocations recommended amounts to €3,312,372 (2006 - €3,100,459) and £1,566,238 (2006 - £1,339,740), showing increases of 6.8% and 16.9% respectively over the previous year.
- The liability in the Balance Sheet at €5,719,819 is the gross amount to cover expected allocations needs and is greater than the charge to the revenue account by reason of a subvention of €75,000 from the Ministry Fund which has been applied against the cost of provision of the Clergy Pension Fund.
- The allocations listed below represent net amounts to be allocated after taking into account, where appropriate, income from endowment funds, the episcopal levy paid by all parishes/dioceses and any other sources of funding which offset the costs of financing ministry and other central commitments.

The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

	2007	%	2006	%	2007	%	2006	%
	€		€		£		£	
<b>GROUP A</b>								
Episcopal Stipends and Expenses	1,104,472		1,089,448		629,756		562,414	
less Episcopal Levy	(346,233)		(322,131)		(324,799)		(303,551)	
	<u>758,239</u>		<u>767,317</u>		<u>304,957</u>		<u>258,863</u>	
Deans of Residences/University Chaplains	81,085		77,495		110,815		106,783	
Queen's University, Belfast, Bursar	-		-		12,923		12,422	
C of I in Queen's University, Belfast	-		-		500		500	
C of I in Trinity College, Dublin	2,000		1,500		-		-	
Clerical Relief - Children's Allowances	55,000		57,900		30,000		30,000	
- Discretionary Grants	2,000		2,000		1,500		1,500	
- Central Church Fund	-		35,000		-		-	
Stipends Related Costs	18,421		17,622		-		-	
St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin	10,000		10,000		-		-	
	<u>926,745</u>	28.0	<u>968,834</u>	31.2	<u>460,695</u>	29.4	<u>410,068</u>	30.6
<b>GROUP B</b>								
Clergy Pensions Fund	506,411		460,198		457,552		410,133	
Ministry Fund and Sundry	(75,000)		(75,000)		-		-	
Supplemental Fund Benefits								
- Retired Clergy, Surviving Spouses	97,352		113,165		7,485		9,220	
Discretionary Grants								
- Retired Clergy	-		-		13,000		13,000	
- Surviving Spouses	-		-		8,500		8,500	
	<u>528,763</u>	16.0	<u>498,363</u>	16.1	<u>486,537</u>	31.1	<u>440,853</u>	32.9

The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

	2007	%	2006	%	2007	%	2006	%
	€		€		£		£	
<b>GROUP C</b>								
Training of Ordinands	500,786		349,784		-		-	
Theological College	694,400		668,800		-		-	
Bishops' Selection Conference	32,000		25,000		-		-	
	<u>1,227,186</u>	37.0	<u>1,043,584</u>	33.7	<u>-</u>	0.0	<u>-</u>	0.0
<b>GROUP D</b>								
General Synod/Standing Committee	500,064		482,901		273,707		240,710	
Board of Education	69,275		84,427		96,416		93,244	
Church of Ireland Youth Department	-		-		214,738		150,000	
Mediation Panel Costs and Training	-		1,033		-		-	
Child Protection Officers	34,939		-		26,645		-	
	<u>604,278</u>	18.2	<u>567,328</u>	18.3	<u>611,506</u>	39.0	<u>483,954</u>	36.1
<b>GROUP E</b>								
RCB Library	25,000		21,950		7,500		4,865	
The Church's Ministry of Healing	-		1,600		-		-	
Regular Sunday Services in Irish	400		400		-		-	
	<u>25,400</u>	0.8	<u>22,350</u>	0.7	<u>7,500</u>	0.5	<u>4,865</u>	0.4
	<u>3,312,372</u>	100.0	<u>3,100,459</u>	100.0	<u>1,566,238</u>	100.0	<u>1,339,740</u>	100.0



The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

Summary expressed in euro as per General Fund Revenue Statement:

	2007		2006	
	€	%	€	%
A - Maintenance of the Stipendiary Ministry	1,612,814	28.6	1,567,211	31.0
B - Retired Clergy and Surviving Spouses	1,253,315	22.2	1,141,662	22.6
C - Training of Ordinands	1,227,186	21.7	1,043,584	20.6
D - General Synod Activities	1,514,935	26.8	1,273,521	25.2
E - Miscellaneous	36,569	0.7	29,449	0.6
	<u>5,644,819</u>		<u>5,055,428</u>	

• **Commentary**

Group A - *Maintenance of the Stipendiary Ministry* - €1,612,814

The allocation towards the maintenance of the stipendiary ministry consists largely of the funding of episcopal stipends and expenses. This part of the allocation, 75% of the group total, represents the budgeted costs and estimates for 2007 in respect of stipends, pension funding, employer's state contributions, office, secretarial and travel expenses and also the cost of running and maintaining the see houses of the Church. The net total episcopal cost of €1.212 million is supported by a diocesan levy which is budgeted to realise the equivalent of €330,000, approximately 40.6% (2006 40.6%) of the total gross cost at the 2006 year end exchange rate.

In 2007 the diocesan levy is set at £1,249 and €1,758 per cure (2006 - £1,168 and €1,627) and is 5.35% of the minimum approved stipend.

Other amounts included in group 'A' support the provision of university deans of residence and child and discretionary allowances paid to the clergy.

Group B - *Retired Clergy and Surviving Spouses* - €1,253,315

Allocations towards pension provision and other amounts payable in respect of retired clergy and their spouses are dominated by the contribution towards the Clergy Pension Fund which is a total of €1.188 million for 2007 (2006 – €1.059 million). This is a calculated amount based on a formula approved at General Synod and representing 7.7% of minimum approved stipend. For the third year of three, a subsidy towards this cost of €75,000 is available from the Ministry Fund.

Benefits payable via the Supplemental Fund amount to €108,499 in 2007 (2006 - €126,895). This decline in cost reflects in part a reducing need to supplement the pensions of those who did not have entitlement to the full state benefit.

Group C - *Training of Ordinands* - €1,227,186

For 2007 21.7% of the total value of allocations proposed is in respect of the provision for the training of ordinands (2006 – 20.6%).

## The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

The total amount at €1.227 million (2006 - €1.044 million) is an increase of 17.6% over the previous year, and is directed mainly at improving the provision for the students as planned and announced at the General Synod in 2006. The grant for married students is now €7,000 (€5,810) and the single grant is €4,000 (€2,860). Total grant payable is also affected by the anticipated number of ordinands, which is 28 for 2006/7 (2005/6: 22). Two non-stipendiary clergy are enrolled to transfer to the stipendiary ministry (2005/6: 3).

Extracts from the accounts of the Theological College are included as Appendix B (page 61).

### Group D - *General Synod Activities* - €1,514,935

This allocation includes provision for the General Synod and Standing Committee, the Boards of Education and the Church of Ireland Youth Department. For 2007 it also includes amounts for the centrally funded portion of the costs relating to Child Protection Officers.

The net cost of the Board of Education in the Republic of Ireland is supported by a grant from the Department of Education, which for the academic year 2006/7 shows a substantial increase over the previous year.

The allocation proposed for the Church of Ireland Youth Department is substantially increased over 2006, at £214,738 (2006 - £150,000). The major part of this increase is to enable the launch of a project to provide youth leader development opportunities.

### Group E – *Miscellaneous* - €36,569

The RCB Library allocation comprises grants towards the purchase of new books and provision for the conservation of books, documents and paintings. The running costs of the Library are a component of RCB operating expenses.

## INVESTMENTS AND MARKETS

- The Representative Body continued to have a high weighting in equities in 2006 as it remained positive on this asset class and valuations did not appear stretched.
- Global equity markets rose for the fourth consecutive year in 2006, despite a pause for breath in May as inflationary concerns began to take hold. These concerns sparked fears that interest rates may be raised more than had previously been anticipated, which together with signs of a weakening US housing market led to a sell-off in equity markets. This period of negativity was short-lived, however, and markets began to stage a recovery in late June.
- The oil price was a tale of two halves. During the first half of the year oil and commodity prices continued to rise, with oil prices flirting with \$80 per barrel. The reversal of this upward trend began in mid July and over the remaining 5 months fell 20% to end the year at approximately \$60 per barrel with positive implications for inflation.

The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

- Merger & Acquisition activity remained a dominant theme and contributed to returns. The utility sector, both in the UK and on the Continent, was a beneficiary of this. Ireland was not exempt from M&A either, with Jurys Doyle, Eircom and Viridian being taken over and delisted from the ISEQ during the year.
- Interest rate increases were a feature over the year. The European Central Bank increased rates 5 times in 2006 with the base rate standing at 3.5% at the end of the year. In the UK, inflationary pressures led the Bank of England to raise rates by 25 basis points in August and a further tightening of 25 basis points in November left rates at 5% at the year end. The US Federal Reserve raised rates 4 times in the first half of the year but they remained flat at 5.25% over the second half as data on the housing market remained weak.
- Bond markets were weak over the period as expectations for interest rates were revised upwards creating pressure on fixed interest stocks.
- The Irish economy remains strong and GDP growth for 2006 was in the region of 5.5%. Government finances remain in surplus and house completions rose to approximately 90,000 for the twelve months. There are signs beginning to emerge that the pricing environment in the housing market is weakening slightly and completions are expected to fall modestly in the coming year.
- Valuations of the various portfolios and comparative figures at year end were as follows:

Portfolio	Valuations		Total returns (weighted)	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
<i>General Funds/Reserves</i>				
UK and Foreign	£121,670,493	£110,290,608	14.3%	21.1%
Irish <sup>1</sup>	€4,839,193	€45,571,777	28.8%	19.1%
Allocations Reserve <sup>2</sup>	€4,157,070	€4,011,812	5.9%	3.7%
<i>Clergy Pensions Fund</i>				
Northern Ireland	£43,433,355	£42,203,223	7.0%	16.7%
Republic of Ireland	€67,984,864	€61,732,064	11.3%	19.1%
<i>Specific Trusts</i>				
RB General Unit Trust (RI)	€276,963,933	€227,705,411	22.1%	21.3%
RB General Unit Trust (NI)	£33,145,173	£28,302,507	19.2%	21.5%
UK and Foreign <sup>3</sup>	£140,816	£0	-	-
Irish <sup>3</sup>	€27,990	€151,208	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Valuation at 31 December 2006 is after the withdrawal of €2.4m in respect of the staff pension fund.

<sup>2</sup> During 2006, €1m was invested in the RB General Unit Trust (RI).

<sup>3</sup> The values for Specific Trusts (UK & Foreign and Irish) at 31 December 2005 and 2006 are not directly comparable.

## The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

The market value of the portfolios (expressed in euro) increased over the year from €603m (translated at €1 =£0.6853) to €699m (translated at €1 =£0.6715).

Total return performances of relevant equity markets in 2006 were:

Ireland (ISEQ)	30.5%	DJ Eurostoxx 50	18.9% (net)
US (S&P Composite)	15.8%	UK (FTSE 100)	14.5% (net)

Five year fund performance figures are included as Appendix C (page 63).

- **Unit Trusts**

Extracts from the financial statements of the two RB General Unit Trusts for the year ended 30 June 2006 are included as Appendix D (page 64).

- **Income**

The Representative Body's General Funds/Reserves investment income for 2006 was substantially higher than 2005 due to double digit dividend growth in many companies following a year of exceptional earnings growth.

- **Asset Management**

The UK and Foreign section of the General Funds is managed from London by Lazard Asset Management.

The Clergy Pensions Fund (Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland) is managed by Bank of Ireland Asset Management. Information relating to the investments for the Clergy Pensions Fund may be found in the Financial Statements which form part of the Report of the Church of Ireland Pensions Board.

The RB General Unit Trusts and the Irish portion of the General Funds portfolios are managed by the staff of the Representative Body's investment department reporting to the Investment Committee. General investment policy or strategy is to focus on capital and income growth and to seek to optimise the long term total return for the Representative Body and its trust beneficiaries.

The Investment Committee meets with its external managers on a regular basis to review policy, performance and investment strategy.

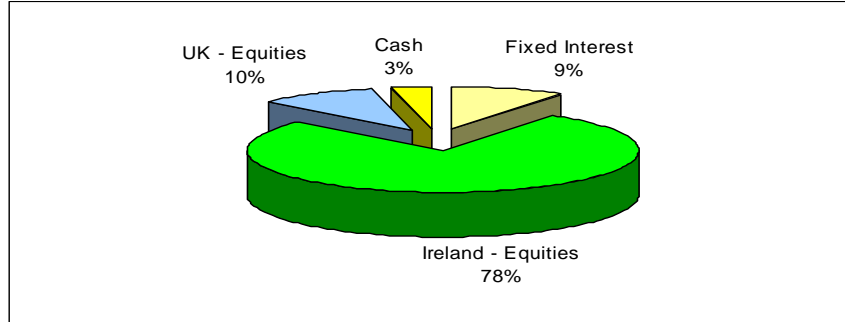
- **Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) Review**

The Investment Committee continues to monitor and carry out an SRI assessment review at least once every year. In December it reported to the Representative Body that it was satisfied that the investment managers are sensitive to the Church's concerns and expectations with regard to ethical and socially responsible investment. The report is included as Appendix E (page 78).

**GENERAL FUNDS PORTFOLIO BY GEOGRAPHICAL AND ASSET CATEGORIES – 31 DECEMBER 2006**

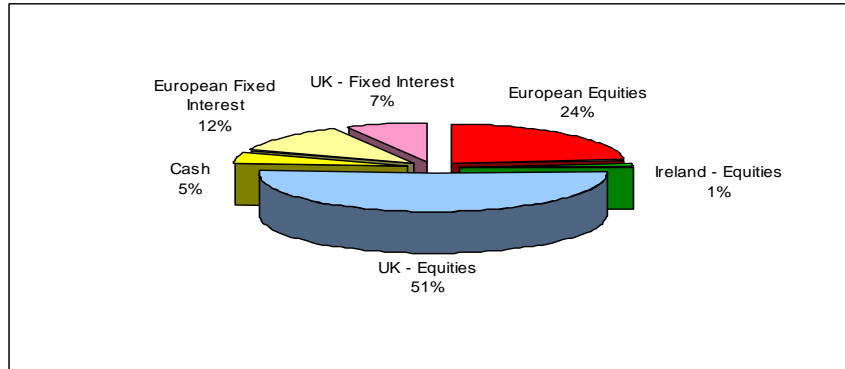
**Under in-house management**

**€54.8m**



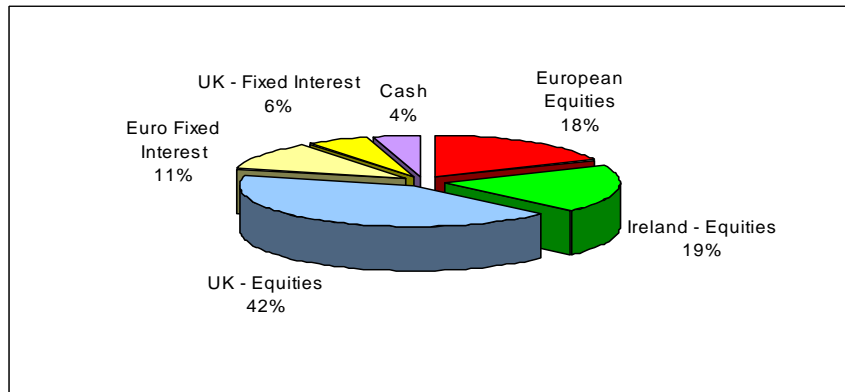
**Under Lazard management**

**£121.7m (€181.2m)**



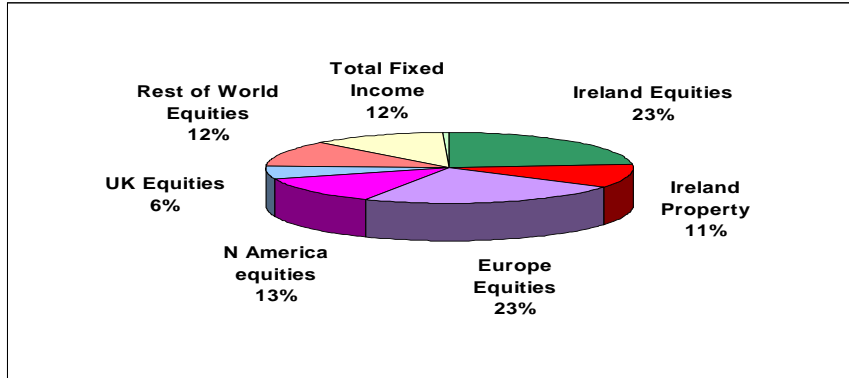
**Combined portfolio**

**€236m**

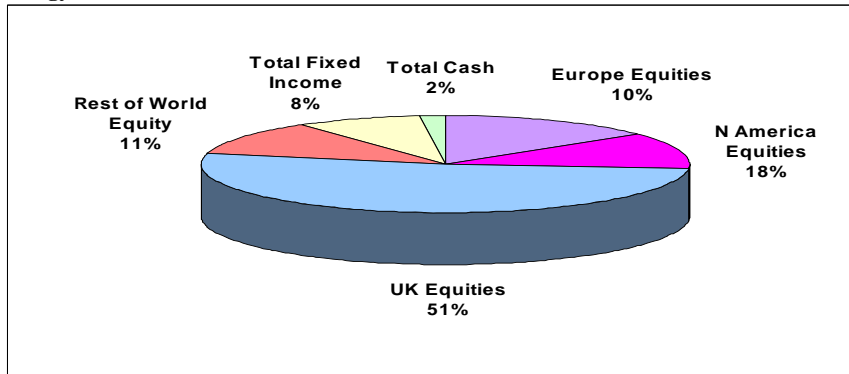


**CLERGY PENSIONS FUND PORTFOLIO BY GEOGRAPHICAL AND ASSET CATEGORIES – 31 DECEMBER 2006**

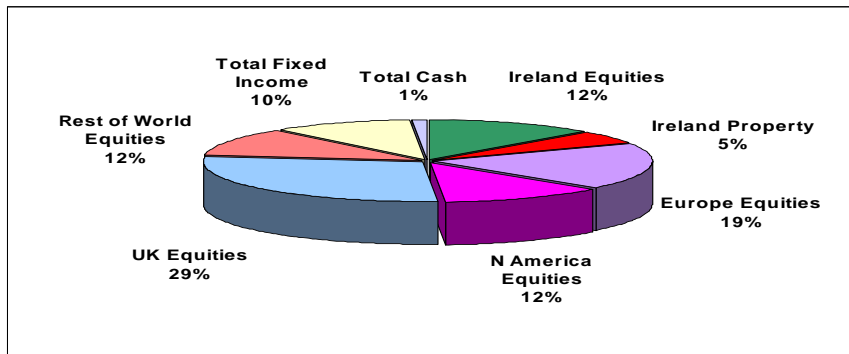
**Clergy Pensions Fund (RI subdivision) €68.0m**



**Clergy Pensions Fund (NI subdivision) £43.4m (€64.7m)**



**Clergy Pensions Fund (RI & NI sub divisions combined) €132.7m**



## CLERGY REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

### • Minimum Approved Stipends – Quinquennial Report

The Constitution of the Church of Ireland requires that the Representative Body report every fifth year on the implementation of section 51 of Chapter IV and whether any amendment is expedient or necessary.

Since the last quinquennial report in 2002 statutory minimum stipends have increased from £19,792 to £23,350 (+17.98%) and from €26,609 to €32,851 (+23.46%). Over the same period headline inflation increased by 12.68% in the UK and by 18.97% in the Republic of Ireland.

While inflation remains an important element in determining annual stipend increases, the Stipends Committee also pays due regard to average earnings growth in comparison with other sectors and takes into account national wage agreements where applicable.

The Representative Body is satisfied that no amendment to the Constitution is expedient or necessary at this time.

### • Minimum Approved Stipends 2008

The following minimum stipends are recommended for approval by the General Synod to take effect from 1 January 2008:

	Current (2007)	New (2008)
Northern Ireland	£23,350	£24,400
Republic of Ireland	€32,851	€34,494

The recommended values represent increases of 5% (Republic of Ireland) and 4.5% (Northern Ireland). The factors influencing the recommended increases are as set out in the immediately preceding section of this report.

### • Locomotory Allowances 2007

The approved pence/cent per mile rates for locomotory allowances are based on public service rates for Northern Ireland and Revenue approved civil service rates for the Republic of Ireland and are as follows:

		Northern Ireland
Per mile:	first 8,500 miles	54.40p
	over 8,500 miles	14.30p
		Republic of Ireland
Per km:	first 6,437 km	78.32c
	over 6,437 km	36.65c

The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

- **Children’s Allowances 2006/2007**

The Children’s Allowances Scheme is designed to assist clergy and surviving spouses with the cost of secondary school education, or higher level education leading to primary qualifications including certificate, diploma and degree.

Grants are paid on a *per capita* basis, without any form of means test, in respect of each child as follows:

	Republic of Ireland	Northern Ireland
Over 11 attending secondary school	€50	£90
Third level students (up to age 23)	€260	£350
Eligible orphans	€50	£350

Grants may be paid in respect of a child under 11 years of age where such child is in residence at a boarding school or, in exceptional cases, in respect of a student who may be over age 23. In either case, grants are at the sole discretion of the Representative Body.

It was agreed by the Representative Body for the academic year starting 1 September 2007 to increase the grant levels to the following:

	Republic of Ireland	Northern Ireland
Over 11 attending secondary school	€600	£100
Third level students (up to age 23)	€300	£400
Eligible orphans	€600	£400

Grants are also available from other sources eg Clergy Sons, Clergy Daughters, Secondary Education Committee (Republic of Ireland only) and Jubilee Fund (under the management of Protestant Aid).

- **Clergy Car Loans**

Car loans for clergy are available from the Representative Body in accordance with the following formula, linked to the statutory Minimum Approved Stipend (MAS):

	New Cars	Used Cars
Maximum loan	MAS x 2/3	MAS x 1/2
Maximum term	4 years	3 years
Interest rate per annum	8%	8%

This ratio of maximum loan to minimum stipend is designed to maintain a reasonable relationship between borrowing capacity and ability to pay. At 31 December 2006 there were 82 loans outstanding with a total value of €0.583m.



## **PROPERTY AND TRUSTS**

- **General**

The property market continued its upward trend during 2006 in the Republic of Ireland despite increases in interest rates. The demand for property remained high largely due to the competitive lending climate and full employment but was also strongly influenced by changing demographics, the main factors being a high birth rate and net immigration. There was also particularly strong growth in property prices in Northern Ireland during the year. The result of the demand in the market was again a high level of activity in church property and some sales achieved record prices during the year, although this was countered to a certain extent by increased building costs and the high cost of acquiring replacement property. There was strong demand for development sites in all areas of the country and also for redundant churches, particularly those within commuting distance of major urban centres.

- **Roles and Responsibilities**

As the legal owner of the vast majority of Church of Ireland properties held in trust for the Church, the Representative Body has both a statutory function as laid down in Chapter X of the Constitution and a general duty of care under the common law. Property transactions by their nature involve strategic, technical and legal issues which must be considered in great detail and processed with accuracy and technical certainty. The procedure for dealing with Church property may appear to be cumbersome and bureaucratic from time to time, given the chain of decision making from Select Vestry through Diocese and finally by the Representative Body in its corporate legal role. However, this is a consistent, careful and transparent process which reflects this duty of care to past, present and future generations and the legal responsibilities of trustees and custodians.

- **Title and Contract Issues**

Timely notification of potential property transactions taking account of the time which can elapse for procedural reasons is always helpful especially where a title, underlying trust, covenant or mapping problem emerges on investigation. It is important, too, that no implied contracts are entered into between local parish representatives and contractors or developers prior to formal approvals being given by the Representative Body and all legal formalities having been observed.

- **Church Fabric Fund**

The Church Fabric Fund (Constitution of the Church of Ireland, Chapter X) is held by the Representative Church Body to make grants to defray 'the costs, in whole or in part, of restoration or repair of the fabric of any church or chapel, if same is vested in it, and it is satisfied that it is in use and certified by the diocesan council to be essential for worship by the Church of Ireland'. The Fund was established in 1930 and has grown from the allocation of a proportion of the net proceeds arising from the majority of churches sold to a capital fund of €4,512,659 and £486,811. Grants of €139,350 and £74,400 were allocated by the Representative Church Body from the income of the Fund on the recommendation of the Primate in 2006. Applications for grants, subject to criteria, are considered in April and November (details from Church of Ireland House, Dublin). A list of grants allocated during 2006 is included as Appendix F (page 79) to this report.

## The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

- **Marshal Beresford Fund**

Grants of €63,500 and £30,050 for repairs to churches were made from the Beresford Fund in 2006. The allocation of the income, in accordance with the trusts, is made by the Archbishop of Armagh who does so in conjunction with his recommendations for grant assistance from the Church Fabric Fund.

- **The See House, Armagh**

Following reviews during recent years as to the adequacy of the Armagh See House property, it was highlighted that the existing house has certain shortcomings in terms of modern day accommodation requirements for the Primacy of the Church of Ireland. Consequently, the Representative Church Body has decided to have plans drawn up for a new house to be constructed on the site of the existing See House at Cathedral Hill, Armagh.

The Archbishop of Armagh will reside in temporary private accommodation provided at The Mall, Armagh, pending the provision of a new See House.

- **The See House, Kilmore, Cavan**

Agreement was reached during 2006 between the Representative Church Body and the Dioceses of Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh to sell the See House, Kilmore, Cavan on a site of approximately 16 acres. It is intended to place the property for sale on the market during spring 2007.

- **The Bishop's House, Kilkenny**

The construction of the new Bishop's House at Kilkenny has been completed on schedule and will be ready for occupation by the Bishop and his family during early February 2007.

- **The Bishop's House, Limerick**

The Representative Church Body reached agreement with the Diocesan Council during the year to build a new Bishop's House on a greenfield site on the outskirts of Limerick City. The project is presently at the pre-planning stage and it is anticipated that a Planning Application will be submitted in respect of the project during 2007.

- **Stained Glass (surveys)**

The professional survey of stained glass windows in the Church of Ireland by Dr David Lawrence, an expert in stained glass, has resulted in surveys in St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, the Dioceses of Cork, Cloyne and Ross (including St Fin Barre's Cathedral), Meath and Kildare, Cashel and Ossory, Ferns, Tuam, Killala and Achonry, Dublin and Glendalough and Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh. The survey in the Dioceses of Limerick, Ardfert, Aghadoe, Killaloe, Clonfert, Kilmacduagh and Emly was completed during 2006. It is planned to complete further survey work in the Dioceses of Meath and Kildare and Cork, Cloyne and Ross during 2007.

## The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

To date funding of €31,100 has been received from the Heritage Council towards the project. The Representative Church Body is grateful for the generous ongoing support of the Heritage Council for this important work and has itself contributed €66,800 towards the project over the past six years.

- **Architectural Heritage Protection for Places of Public Worship (Republic of Ireland) – Guidelines for Planning Authorities**

The text of the Guidelines is available on the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government website at [www.environ.ie](http://www.environ.ie).

- **Churchyard and Graveyard Walls**

Potentially serious financial loss to parishes due to ageing walls surrounding churchyards and graveyards was again evident in 2006. Parishes are strongly advised to inspect walls regularly, to seek technical advice and to carry out preventative maintenance where possible. Parishes should be vigilant when any form of development takes place on adjoining or adjacent sites and ensure that buttresses, foundations and other supporting structures are not interfered with to the detriment of the churchyard or graveyard walls.

- **Insurance**

Where church premises are occupied by a third party under a lease or licence agreement, it is obligatory that parishes obtain written confirmation from the insurance company of the occupant that they have a policy of public liability insurance in place. Parishes should not enter into arrangements with third parties to receive contributions towards public liability insurance costs, unless such arrangement has been discussed with and has received the sanction in writing of their insurance company.

It is imperative that parishes ensure all graveyards in their care are adequately covered by a policy of public liability insurance.

- **Safety and Parish Premises**

The attention of select vestries is drawn to current Health and Safety legislation in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, particularly in relation to the 'occupier's' duty of care to visitors and recreational users of church property. It is imperative that each parish should have a formal Health and Safety Statement and that parish premises should meet the required standards.

### **HISTORIC CHURCHES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The main focus of the Committee during 2006 was on the development of its website and consideration of issues relating to redundant Churches that are protected structures/listed buildings.

## The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

- **Website**

The Committee commissioned a website in order to provide an easily accessible reference guide to the various papers and guidelines which have been compiled by the Committee, including advice on topics such as the Care and Maintenance of Churches. The website will be linked to the Church of Ireland website and other relevant sites such as the Heritage Council and the Council for the Care of Churches. The website is presently in its final stages of development and will be launched during 2007.

- **Redundant Churches**

A meeting was held during the autumn with representatives of the Architecture Committee of the Heritage Council to discuss the maintenance and continued use of redundant churches and how viable alternative uses can be found for the buildings within the constraints imposed by the legislation in respect of protected structures. In many cases alternative uses for redundant churches are greatly restricted due to the proximity of surrounding graveyards. It is hoped there will be further discussion with the Heritage Council as it develops its policy in respect of redundant churches.

- **Guidelines for Memorials in Churches (Appendix G, page 80)**

The Church of Ireland has a considerable and wide-ranging heritage in its memorials. These vary from larger items such as stained glass and wall mounted plaques to much smaller items such as altar linen or kneelers. The Historic Churches Advisory Committee has become aware that there are many issues surrounding not alone the care and maintenance of these items, but also best practice in relation to new memorials. The Committee trusts that the appended guidelines will be of benefit in raising some of the issues which should be considered.

- **Forms of Certificates of Consent to Alterations “Blue Forms”**

No change can be made in the structure, ornament, furnishing or monuments of a church (whether by alteration or removal) without the consent of the Bishop, Incumbent and Select Vestry and until an accurate description or design of the proposed change has been approved. Forms of Certificates of Consent to Alterations must be signed by the Bishop or Ordinary, Incumbent, Select Vestry and Architect (where applicable). The forms are then submitted to the Representative Church Body and the applications are made available to the Committee which is in a position to offer help and advice on the proposals wherever appropriate.

Twenty-seven applications have been received in the past year representing a wide variety of alterations. The form has been updated to ensure that in the case of a Listed Building (Northern Ireland) or Protected Structure (Republic of Ireland) consultation has taken place with the appropriate Local Authority.

## LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

- **Library Staff**

Mrs Jennifer Murphy was appointed Library Assistant in April 2006.

- **Allocations**

The General Synod allocated €10,000 and £7,500 for the purchase of books. This was generously augmented from the following sources:

Armagh diocese (£400); Cashel and Ossory dioceses (€250); Cork, Cloyne and Ross dioceses (€500); Derry and Raphoe dioceses (£500); Down and Dromore dioceses (£250); Dublin and Glendalough dioceses (€1,000); Ferns diocese (€200); Kilmore diocese (€150); Limerick, Killaloe and Ardfert dioceses (€250); Meath and Kildare dioceses (€400); Monkstown (Dublin) parish (€300); St George & St Thomas (Dublin) parish (€50); Tuam, Killala and Achonry dioceses (€500).

- **Accessions**

Books and periodicals which were purchased to meet the requirements of those in training for ministry and the needs of the wider church were augmented by donations from publishers, authors and by selections from the collections of a number of individuals, notably Canon JWR Crawford, Rev B Daly, the late RB Elliott, Canon WS Gibbons, the late Very Rev Brian Harvey, Rev DR Nuzum, and Ven AMA Previt . In addition a selection of books from the former Divinity Hostel library was transferred from the Theological College. Most remarkable of all, however, was the gift by Mrs Patricia Mayes of a copy of the seminal liturgical work, *The Primer of Henry VIII*, published in London in 1546.

The principal archival accessions were records from some 56 parishes, bringing to over 930 the number of parish collections which the Library manages while, with the transfer of the records of St Fin Barre’s Cathedral, Cork, the Library now cares for archives from 20 cathedrals. The minutes of the Standing Committee of the General Synod, 1990-99, and of a number of its committees, were transferred from Church of Ireland House. The Library staff continue to provide an information service for the staff in Church of Ireland House in respect of the records of the General Synod and the Representative Church Body.

A list of accessions of archives and manuscripts to the Library in 2006 is included as Appendix H (page 83).

- **Ministerial Training**

In support of ministerial training, one of the core functions of the Library, induction sessions were provided for ordinands in the Theological College, for those in training for the non-stipendiary ministry (NSM) and for the members of the Archbishop of Dublin’s Course in Theology. On the weekends on which there was NSM training in the Theological College the Library remained open until 7.30pm.

## The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

In order to provide better support for those who are engaged in distance learning the Library staff are currently converting the catalogue of printed books from cards to computer with the intention of making the new catalogue widely available on the internet.

- **Conservation**

Six volumes of architectural drawings of churches in the province of Cashel by the celebrated 19<sup>th</sup> century architect, James Pain, which are increasingly consulted by conservation architects, were rebound, as were 14 volumes of reference works.

- **Church Plate**

Progress continued to be made with the church plate inventory and over 90% of the inventories have been returned and checked. The transfer of plate from local custody continued as parishes reduced the holdings in their safes and removed items from local banks. In 1999 some 290 pieces of plate were held in store by the Representative Body and this has increased, notwithstanding the re-allocation of pieces to other parishes, to 627 pieces. The Committee is anxious for the full cooperation of local clergy and diocesan officers in order to complete this inventory.

- **Episcopal Portraits**

The portrait of William Gore, Bishop of Limerick, 1772-84, was cleaned. Progress was made in identifying a suitable storage system for those episcopal portraits which cannot be hung.

- **Outreach**

The tenth volume in the Library's parish register series, *Register of the parish of Shankill, Belfast, 1745-1761*, edited by Professor Raymond Gillespie and Alison O'Keeffe, was published as was a second edition of the Librarian and Archivist's *Church of Ireland records*.

Lectures on the Library and its resources were given to students on the MA in Local History course in NUI Maynooth and the Master in Urban Building Construction course in UCD while seminars were facilitated for students from the UCD Archives school and the MA in history course in NUI Maynooth. Genealogical presentations were made at the annual conference, in Boston, of the Federation of Genealogical Societies in the USA, to a visiting group from the British Institute of Genealogical & Heraldic Research from Samford University and to the Irish Genealogical Research Society Alumni Group.

## **DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS TO THE CHURCH OF IRELAND**

- **Trustee role of the Representative Church Body**

The Representative Church Body was incorporated by Charter to hold property and funds in trust for the Church. As a permanent trustee body it administers a large number of trusts donated or bequeathed for specific Church purposes, parishes and dioceses.

There is considerable advantage in donating or bequeathing in trust to a permanent trustee body such as the Representative Body (or the Church of Ireland Trustees in Belfast) rather than to local trustees. For instance, with a permanent trustee body there is no need to appoint new trustees from time to time.

Donations and bequests can be in the form of money, stocks and shares, securities, chattels, houses or lands or the whole or part of the residue of an estate. They can be left to the Representative Body in trust:

- for the general purposes of the Church of Ireland; or
- for any particular funds of the Church or any diocese or parish; or
- for any particular Church purpose.

The Representative Body applies funds arising from a specific donation or bequest strictly in accordance with the purposes declared in the trust instrument or Will. However, the Church of Ireland is in great need of unfettered funds to help finance its ongoing responsibilities – training ordinands, providing retirement benefits for clergy and their spouses and maintaining the ministry generally. An unfettered donation or bequest can be given or left to the Representative Body in trust “for such charitable purposes in connection with the Church of Ireland as the Representative Body of the Church of Ireland may from time to time in its absolute discretion approve”, giving the Church the flexibility to finance its most pressing needs from time to time. (Please see overleaf for a suggested Form of Bequest.)

- **Tax relief on charitable donations**

### *Northern Ireland*

The Gift Aid scheme gives tax relief on charitable donations and is available to all taxpayers resident in Northern Ireland. Tax can be reclaimed on donations of any size, as long as the amount reclaimed does not exceed the amount of tax paid by the donor during the tax year. Information on how to avail of Gift Aid is available from Church of Ireland House, Dublin.

The total value of the subscriptions collected under Gift Aid on behalf of parishes in 2006 was £4,620,512 to which the income tax recovered by the Representative Body added £1,303,214 to give a total of £5,923,726 as compared with £5,957,832 in the previous year.

***Republic of Ireland***

Section 45 of the Finance Act 2001 introduced tax relief on donations of €250 or more by individuals and corporate donors to eligible charities and approved bodies. In the case of donors who are PAYE only, tax reclaimable by the charity represents 25% of the original donation for standard rate tax payers and 69% of the original donation for higher rate tax payers. If donors are self assessed for tax purposes, relief is available at the appropriate tax rate against the donation value.

Many parishes and the Bishops' Appeal have benefited greatly from Section 45 and they are utilising the opportunity to maximise the value of parochial and charitable giving. Information on the reclaim process is available from Church of Ireland House, Dublin.

- **Form of Bequest**

The following suggested Form of Bequest grants the Representative Body, as Trustee, permission to invest in any investments or securities at its sole discretion. Circumstances may alter from time to time and this Form of Bequest gives the Trustee freedom to act in the best interests of the parochial or other fund concerned.

The Representative Body also recommends consulting a Solicitor to ensure that any bequests made under Will are valid and satisfy legal requirements.

*“I GIVE, DEVISE AND BEQUEATH ..... [here insert clear particulars of the benefaction ie, a particular sum of money, specific property, a share of the residue etc] to the Representative Body of the Church of Ireland in trust for ..... [here insert clear particulars of the object for which the benefaction is to be applied eg, parochial funds of the parish of ..... in the diocese of ..... or, as a perpetual endowment for the stipend of the incumbent of the parish of ..... in the diocese of ..... or, for such charitable purposes in connection with the Church of Ireland as the Representative Body of the Church of Ireland may from time to time in its absolute discretion approve].*

I direct that any funds received by the Representative Body in pursuance of this my Will may be invested in any investments or securities whatsoever in its sole discretion and in all respects as if it were absolutely and beneficially entitled thereto.”

- **Donations, Bequests and Funds Received**

A full list of funds received by the Representative Body in 2006 on behalf of parishes, dioceses and special trusts is included as Appendix I (page 87).

- **Trusts for Graves**

The Representative Body does not accept any trust for the provision, maintenance or improvement of a tomb, vault, grave, tombstone or other memorial to a deceased person unless a specific benefit will accrue to the parish concerned.



The Representative Church Body – Report 2007

**MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL**

• **Deposit Interest (Rates)**

The rates of interest allowed or charged by the Representative Body are linked to the rates ruling from time to time in the money market. The following rates of interest were applied by the Representative Body in 2006:

QUARTER ENDED	€		£	
	Dr %	Cr %	Dr %	Cr %
31 March	4.70	2.40	4.75	4.40
30 June	4.75	2.60	4.75	4.50
30 September	5.00	2.85	5.00	4.65
31 December	5.50	3.15	5.00	4.75

These rates only apply to revenue balances to credit of diocesan and other accounts and not to permanent capital other than in cases where, for some reason, there may be a delay in making a long term investment (eg proceeds of sales of glebes). Interest is calculated on daily balances and time weighted.

• **Inflation Statistics (5 year review)**

Year on year (December)	UK (RP Index)	Republic of Ireland (CP Index)
2002	2.9%	5.0%
2003	2.8%	1.9%
2004	3.5%	2.6%
2005	2.2%	2.5%
2006	4.4%	4.9%

**RESOLUTIONS RECOMMENDED TO THE GENERAL SYNOD**

The Representative Body recommends that the following resolutions be adopted by the General Synod:

**I. Allocations**

That the General Synod hereby authorises the Representative Body to make the following allocations for 2007 from the balance on the General Funds Revenue Account for the year ended 31 December 2006:

	€
Group A – Maintenance of the Stipendiary Ministry	1,612,814
Group B – Retired Clergy and Surviving Spouses	1,253,315
Group C – Training of Ordinands	1,227,186
Group D – General Synod Activities	1,514,935
Group E – Miscellaneous Financing	36,569
	<hr/>
	5,644,819
	<hr/> <hr/>

**II. Minimum Approved Stipend**

That, in accordance with Section 51 (1) of Chapter IV of the Constitution and with effect from 1 January 2008

- (a) no stipend shall be less than £24,400 per annum in Northern Ireland or €34,494 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) the stipend for a Curate-Assistant shall be in accordance with the following scale:

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