

# Paper H2

## Retired Minister's Housing Society Sub-Committee new Terms of Reference

### Ministries Committee

#### Basic information

<b>Contact name and email address</b>	The Revd Paul Whittle <a href="mailto:moderator@urcscotland.org.uk">moderator@urcscotland.org.uk</a>
<b>Action required</b>	Decision.
<b>Draft resolution(s)</b>	<b>Assembly Executive adopts the new Terms of Reference for the Retired Minister's Housing Society Sub-Committee of the Ministries Committee new Terms of reference.</b>

#### Summary of content

<b>Subject and aim(s)</b>	The paper reflects the changes in RMHS and the role of the sub-committee as the point of liaison between Ministries Committee on behalf of General Assembly and the Retired Ministers Housing Society.
<b>Main points</b>	<p>The committee becomes the point of liaison between Ministries and RMHS on behalf of the URC and tenants ensuring that all eligible member are adequately housed and supported in retirement <b>to</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) raise matters with the RMHS directors in relation to the needs of retired ministers and/or spouses</li><li>b) be responsible for gathering data for projecting future housing requirements for RMHS (URC Minister's Data Privacy Policy 2019)</li><li>c) determine each applicant's eligibility for RMHS housing provision</li><li>d) promote good practice amongst ministers in making provision for retirement including provision for running seminars 10 years before the expected date of retirement and the pre-retirement course</li><li>e) may from time to time as the need requires, seek additional funding by appealing for donations and legacies in the first instance.</li></ul>
<b>Previous relevant documents</b>	None.

<b>Consultation has taken place with...</b>	RMHS.
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## Summary of impact

<b>Financial</b>	
<b>External (e.g. ecumenical)</b>	

### 1. Introduction and purpose

- 1.1 The URC has long recognised its obligation to provide suitable housing for its retired ministers and their spouses, as well as others who have served the church in its mission to the world. The URC carries out this covenant of care through a Community Benefit Society, the URC Retired Ministers' Housing Society (RMHS).
- 1.2 For the avoidance of doubt ministers shall include Ministers of Word and Sacraments (stipendiary service), Church Related Community Workers, Missionaries who serve the URC and individuals who have served in one of the recognized CWM partner churches.
- 1.3 Ministries notes that there are four principle points of interaction that the RMHS Board of Directors has with different aspects of the URC's governance structures:
  - a) With the United Reformed Church Trust
  - b) With the United Reformed Church Ministries Retired Ministers' Housing Subcommittee (particularly in relation to the projection of housing requirements for retired ministers)
  - c) With the United Reformed Church Finance Committee
  - d) With the Human Resources department at Church House.
- 1.4 The role of the Ministries Retired Minister's Housing Sub-committee is to be the point of liaison between Ministries Committee on behalf of General Assembly and the Retired Ministers Housing Society.

### 2. Terms of Reference

Ministries Retired Minister's Housing Sub-committee shall:

- 2.1 be the point of liaison between Ministries and RMHS on behalf of the URC and tenants ensuring that all eligible member are adequately housed and supported in retirement.
- 2.2 raise matters with the RMHS directors in relation to the needs of retired ministers and/or spouses.
- 2.3 be responsible for gathering data for projecting future housing requirements for RMHS (URC Minister's Data Privacy Policy 2019).
- 2.4 determine each applicant's eligibility for RMHS housing provision.
- 2.5 promote good practice amongst ministers in making provision for retirement, including:
  - a) a seminar ten years before the expected date of retirement and
  - b) pre-retirement course.

- 2.6 seek additional funding support from URC synods and synod trust companies through URC General Assembly resolutions.
- 2.7 appeal for donations and legacies from URC local churches and church members, through appeals based on resolutions to the URC General Assembly.
- 2.8 appeal for RMHS Volunteer Overseers from the URC membership through General Assembly or synod meetings.
- 2.9 undertake anything else General Assembly instructs it to do.

### **3. Membership**

- 3.1 The Committee shall consist of:
  - Convener
  - Secretary: Secretary for Ministries
  - Two members nominated by Nominations Committee
  - One tenant
  - One director of RMHS.
- 3.2 The Convener shall be a member of the Ministries Committee;
- 3.3 Terms of service shall be for four years with the possibility of a further term of four years
- 3.4 The Subcommittee shall normally meet three times a year, two weeks before the RMHS Board meets; one of the meetings shall be with the Board.