

Paper J1

Report to General Assembly 2021

Nominations Committee

Basic information

Contact name and email address	The Revd Ray Adams: ray.adams12@btinternet.com Mr George Faris: nominations.secretary@urc.org.uk
Action required	Decision.
Draft resolution(s)	Resolution 37 General Assembly appoints committees and representatives of the Church as set out on page 174 of the Book of Reports, subject to the additions and corrections contained in the supplementary report to Assembly.

Summary of content

Subject and aim(s)	To appoint members of various committees.
Main points	As above.
Previous relevant documents	N/A
Consultation has taken place with...	Wide consultation with synods, local churches and the committees and groups where appointments are needed.

Summary of impact

Financial	None.
External (e.g. ecumenical)	None.

Introduction

This committee brings to General Assembly for authorisation the names of people to serve as convenors and secretaries of Assembly committees, or as members of those committees for set periods. It also suggests names of people to represent the United Reformed Church on other bodies, and those who make up appointment and review groups for synod moderators and Assembly-appointed staff. Every synod is represented on the Nominations Committee, whose members serve for as long as their synod determines.

Convenor: The Revd Ray Adams (until 2021 General Assembly)

Convenor-elect: Mrs Helen Lidgett (convenor from 2021 General Assembly)

Secretary: Mr George Faris (until 2022 General Assembly)

Synod representatives:

1. Mrs Melanie Campbell
2. The Revd Brian Jolly
3. Mrs Rita Griffiths
4. Mr Tim Crossley
5. Mrs Helen Lidgett / the Revd Camilla Veitch
6. Mr Richard Lockley
7. The Revd Paul Whittle / Mr Keir Hounsome
8. The Revd Douglas Burnett
9. Mrs Sue Brown / Ms Karen Bell
10. Mr Simon Fairnington
11. The Revd Derrick Dzandu-Hedidor / The Revd Russell Furley-Smith
12. The Revd Adrian Bulley
13. Miss Morag Donaldson / Mr John Collings

We are also greatly helped by the presence and experience of a former moderator of General Assembly, the General Secretary, the Secretary for Global and Intercultural Ministries and a representative of the Equalities Committee.

Current work

- 1.1 So that Assembly committees can support the work and mission of the United Reformed Church, Nominations Committee relies on the willingness and commitment of members of the United Reformed Church who generously give their time to serve. It is a challenge to identify new people with relevant skills and experience, but this is done in several ways:
 - i. The committee members, through consulting their own synod networks, bring names of people who are then considered, approached, and if they agree, are nominated for Assembly (or Mission Council) to appoint as vacancies occur in Assembly committees and groups.
 - ii. An annual letter listing forthcoming vacancies is usually sent to the synods for their consultation.
 - iii. Assembly committees are welcome to make suggestions, where appropriate, recognizing that often they have the clearest understanding of their own needs.
 - iv. Individuals are welcome to send their details to the secretary, indicating in which area of the Assembly's work they have an interest.
- 1.2 The Committee seeks to ensure that all committees are represented by lay and ordained members, male and female, black and minority ethnic, and younger people.

- 1.3 The number and range of church committees and groups is decided by General Assembly and Mission Council, and our Committee's role is to serve the requirements of the Church. We are challenged, however, to maintain the size and number of committees on a regular basis and welcome any initiative by General Assembly to review their structures.

Monitoring

- 2.1 Those invited to serve on the Church's committees and working groups are asked to complete a monitoring form. The results are shared with the Equalities Committee.
- 2.2 26 acceptances were received between August 2020 and April 2021. The ordained/lay and male/female figures are:

Ordained	15	58%
Lay	11	42%

Male	15	58%
Female	11	42%

- 2.3 An analysis of 21 responses providing monitoring data shows this age spread:

Under 26	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65
1	0	0	7	8	5
5%	0%	0%	33%	38%	24%

- 2.4 21 responses gave ethnic origin:

BAME	Non-BAME
6	15
29%	71%

Thanks to all who serve on Assembly Committees and Groups

- 3.1 The Church continues to be blessed by many willing members who give their time and gifts to serve on its committees, panels and working groups, or who represent it on outside bodies. The formal acceptance of this report and the long list of names that follows is offered with a real sense of gratitude for all who serve in this way.

Nominations Committee membership

- 4.1 The list of those who have served on the Nominations Committee (above) reflects the change of synod representatives since the last General Assembly. Thanks are due to all, particularly those who have recently relinquished their place on the Committee.
- 4.2 At this Assembly the Revd Ray Adams completes his term of service as convenor. He will be succeeded by Mrs Helen Lidgett. The committee and the wider church have benefitted greatly over the past four years from Ray's wide experience across the United Reformed Church.

Those to be appointed or re-appointed

5.1 General Assembly is invited to appoint or re-appoint those listed below for the indicated period.

Key: ** = new appointment, † = extension of term of service, †† = further term of service

Ref	Committee/Group	Name	Role	Years
2.2.1	Panel for General Assembly Appointments	The Revd Reginald Mudenda (11)	Member**	5
2.2.1	Panel for General Assembly Appointments	The Revd Mark Robinson (9)	Member**	5
2.2.1	Panel for General Assembly Appointments	Mrs Darnette Whitby-Reid (10)	Member**	5
2.2.1	Panel for General Assembly Appointments	Mrs Pat Poinen (1)	Member**	5
2.4	Disciplinary Process Commission Panel	The Revd Nigel Adkinson (5)	Member†	5
2.4	Disciplinary Process Commission Panel	Mr Ian Corless (9)	Member†	5
2.4	Disciplinary Process Commission Panel	Dr David N Jones (5)	Deputy Convenor†	5
2.4	Disciplinary Process Commission Panel	Dr David N Jones (5)	Member†	5
2.4	Disciplinary Process Commission Panel	The Revd David M Miller (6)	Member†	5
2.4	Disciplinary Process Commission Panel	The Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe (2)	Member†	5
2.4	Disciplinary Process Commission Panel	Mrs Janet Virr (4)	Member†	5
4.1	Ministries Committee	Chris Kellett	Member**	4
4.1	Ministries Committee	The Revd Lesley Moseley	Member**	4
4.1.2	Maintenance of Ministry Subcommittee	The Revd Dr George Kalu	Member**	4
4.3	Children's and Youth Work Committee	The Revd Julian Sanders	Member**	4
5.3	Equalities Committee	The Revd David Salsbury	Secretary†	2
5.4	Finance Committee	Mr Vaughan Griffiths	Deputy Treasurer**	4
5.4	Finance Committee	The Revd Simon Copley	Member**	4
5.4	Finance Committee	Mr Gordon Wanless	Member††	4
8.1	Methodist/URC Liaison Group	The Revd Geoffrey Clarke	Co-Convenor**	5
8.1	Methodist/URC Liaison Group	Mr Tim Hopley	Member**	4
9.1	Northern College	Mrs Sheila Davies	Governor†	4
9.1	Northern College	Mr Willie Duncan	Governor†	4
11.4	Congregational Memorial Hall Trust	Mr Philip Bonnier	Representative†	4
11.4	Congregational Memorial Hall Trust	The Revd Derek Wales	Representative†	4

Assembly committees and other appointments

Notes:

- General Assembly Moderators, Assembly Moderators-elect, the Immediate-past Assembly Moderators and the General Secretary are members ex officio of every standing committee. Deputy General Secretaries are members ex officio of every standing committee within their department. Any ex officio member may arrange for an appropriate deputy, such as any Deputy General Secretary or an officer of Assembly, to attend on their behalf. Any committee may invite other Assembly officers (or their deputies) or staff members to attend in a non-voting capacity where the business so requires.
- Symbols have been used as follows: ** denotes those whom General Assembly is invited to appoint for the first time; † denotes those who have been invited to extend their periods of service; †† denotes those returning after a break.
- Numbers in round brackets following names indicate the member's synod: (1) Northern, (2) North Western, (3) Mersey, (4) Yorkshire, (5) East Midlands, (6) West Midlands, (7) Eastern, (8) South Western, (9) Wessex, (10) Thames North,

(11) Southern, (12) Wales, (13) Scotland. This numbering is not shown where it is not relevant.

4. When a member of a committee is there as a representative of another body or a particular category this is indicated in round brackets following the name.
5. Committee membership is normally for a period of four years, though this may sometimes exceptionally be renewable. Committee convenors serve an additional preliminary year as convenor-elect. In sections one to four of the report, appointments with a different term are noted.
6. Dates in square brackets following names indicate the date of retirement, assuming a full term.
7. In accordance with the decision of General Assembly 2000, some nominations are made directly by the National Synods of Wales and Scotland.
8. In years when General Assembly meets, new committee members normally take up their roles at the conclusion of Assembly.
9. Nominations to Assembly committees and their subcommittees, and to advisory and task groups serving Assembly and Mission Council, should be of members of the United Reformed Church, or youth representatives who meet the criteria for membership of Assembly. A term of service may normally be completed if someone ceases to be a member of the URC during their term.
10. Nominations of URC representatives to external bodies should either be URC members, or youth representatives who meet the criteria for membership of Assembly, or URC staff who have relevant expertise. The nomination of a staff member would automatically lapse if the person concerned ceased to hold a URC post.

1. Mission Council

Mission Council acts on behalf of General Assembly. It consists of the officers of Assembly, the immediate past and elect Assembly Moderators, the deputies to the General Secretary and treasurer, four representatives from each synod, normally, but not necessarily, including the moderator and the synod clerk, together with the convenors of Assembly committees, the chair of the United Reformed Church Trust and three members for URC Youth, including the URC Youth Moderator. In attendance are staff secretaries, Assembly Moderators' chaplain and others as appropriate.

1.1 Human resources advisory group

Convenor: Mr Geoff Shaw [2023]

General Secretary

Deputy General Secretary (Administration and Resources)

Nominated members:

Mrs Bridget Fosten [2022]

Mrs Barbara Ellis [2024]

Vacancy

1.2 Law and polity advisory group

Convenor: Ms Morag McLintock [2024]

Secretary: Mr Neil Mackenzie [2022]

General Secretary
Clerk of General Assembly Assistant Clerk of General Assembly
Synod Clerk representative: Mrs Melanie Campbell [2025]**
Property, legal and trust officers' representative: Ms Muna Levan-Harris**
Nominated members:
Ms Denise FitzPatrick [2022] The Revd Steven Manders [2025]
In attendance: Legal Adviser

1.3 Listed buildings advisory group

Convenor: The Revd Dr James Mather [2022] (nominated by the group)

Secretary: Mr Geoff Milnes [2022] (nominated by the group)

General Secretary

The Revd Ray Anglesea (1)

Mr Michael Williams (2)

Ms Alison Lee (3)

Mr David Figures (4)

Mrs Judith Booth (5)

Mrs Rachel Wakeman (6)

Mr Peter West (7)

Mr Roger James (8)

Mr Gerry Prosser (9)

Mr Christopher Buckwell (10)

Mr Guy Morfett (11)

1.4 Resource sharing task group

Convenor: The Revd Steve Faber [2024] (Synod Moderator)

Secretary: Mr Chris Atherton

Treasurer: The Revd Dick Gray

Miss Margaret Atkinson

Mr Mike Gould

URC Treasurer

1.5 Environmental task group

Convenor: The Revd Rob Weston

The Revd David Coleman

Ms Alison Greaves

The Revd Trevor Jamison

Mr Tom Veitch

The Revd Dr Rosalind Selby

2. General Secretariat

2.1 Faith and order committee

The convenor and nominated members normally serve for six years.

Convenor: The Revd Dr Robert Pope [2026]

Secretary: Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

General Secretary

Nominated members:

The Revd Samuel Silungwe [2023]

The Revd Sue McCoan [2026]

Ms Diana Paulding [2026]

The Revd Kristin Ofstad [2026]

The Revd Tessa Henry-Robinson [2027]

2.2 Nominations committee

Synods appoint and decide terms for their representation.

Convenor: Mrs Helen Lidgett [2025]

Secretary: Mr George Faris [2022]

Mrs Melanie Campbell (1)

The Revd Brian Jolly (2)

Mrs Rita Griffiths (3)

Mr Tim Crossley (4)

The Revd Camilla Veitch (5)

Mr Richard Lockley (6)

Mr Keir Hounsome (7)

The Revd Dougie Burnett (8)

Ms Karen Bell (9)

Mr Simon Fairington (10)

The Revd Russell Furley-Smith (11)
Mr John Collings (13)**
A past Moderator of General Assembly
General Secretary
In attendance:

Secretary for Global and Intercultural Ministries
Equalities Committee representative

The Revd Adrian Bulley (12)

2.2.1 Panel for General Assembly appointments

Members usually serve for five years as training is required.

Retiring 2022

Mr John Ellis (11)

The Revd Mary Irish (7)

Retiring 2023

Mrs Barbara Ellis (3)
The Revd Alison Hall (3)
Dr Jim Merrilees (13)
The Revd Ruth Whitehead (8)

The Revd Hugh Graham (10)
Mrs Helen Lidgett (5)
Ms Helen Stenson (12)
Mrs Sheila Davies (3)

Retiring 2024

The Revd Jan Adamson (13)
Dr Paul Ashitey (10)
Mr Matthew Barkley (9)
The Revd Lucy Brierley (9)
Mr David Gartside (3)
Ms Pippa Hodgson (5)
The Revd Paul Robinson (12)
Mr Alex Walker (4)

The Revd Tessa Henry-Robinson (9)
Ms Victoria Paulding (5)
Mr Reuben Watt (11)
The Revd Sal Bateman (10)
The Revd Peter Henderson (8)
The Revd George Mwaura (5)
Mr Patrick Sheard (1)

Retiring 2026

The Revd Reginald Mudenda (11)**
Mrs Darnette Whitby-Reid (10)**

The Revd Mark Robinson (9)**
Mrs Pat Poinen (1)**

2.3 Ministerial incapacity and discipline (Mind) advisory group

Convenor: Ms Michelle Howard [2024]

Secretary: The Revd Chris Copley [2022]

Synod Moderator: Vacancy

Convenor of the Assembly commission

Secretary of the Assembly commission

Convenor of the review commission of the incapacity procedure

Secretary of the review commission of the incapacity procedure

Consultant for ministers and CRCWs: The Revd Dominic Grant [2024]

Consultant for mandated groups: The Revd Ian Kirby [2023]

Training coordinator: The Revd Andy Braunston [2024]

General Secretary; Clerk of General Assembly; Secretary for Ministries; legal adviser

2.4 Disciplinary process – commission panel

Members serve for five years as regular training is required. They may be invited to continue serving beyond this as experience is especially valuable on this panel.

Convenor: The Revd Dr Janet Tollington (7) [2025]

Deputy convenor: Dr David N Jones [2026]†

Secretary: Mr Philip Laws [2022]

Members:

Retiring 2022

Mr Alan Kirby (11)

Mrs Cathy Glazier (11)

The Revd Craig Muir (6)

Mr Alastair Forsyth (4)

The Revd Ian Kirby (12)

Mrs Mary Kelly (1)

The Revd Jane Campbell (13)

Retiring 2023

Mrs Wendy Dunnett (9)

The Revd Alan McGougan (13)

Ms Mary Slater (11)

The Revd Bill Bowman (11)

Retiring 2024

The Revd Debbie Brown (3)

Mrs Barbara Goom (8)

The Revd Sue McCoan (6)

The Revd Sarah Moore (2)

The Revd Wendy Swan (11)

The Revd Peter Flint (11)

The Revd Naison Hove (11)

The Revd Deborah McVey (7)

Mrs Pat Poinen (1)

Retiring 2025

The Revd Martha McInnes (12)

The Revd Wilbert Sayimani (9)

The Revd Dr Janet Tollington (7)

The Revd Andy Braunston (13)

The Revd Rachel Poolman (1)

The Revd Dr Peter Stevenson (5)

Mrs Vivien Andrew (10)

Retiring 2026

The Revd Nigel Adkinson (5)[†]

Dr David N Jones (5)[†]

The Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe (2)[†]

Mr Ian Corless (9)[†]

The Revd David M Miller (6)[†]

Mrs Janet Virr (4)[†]

2.5 Standing panel for the incapacity procedure

This panel is normally convened by the member with legal experience.

Members serve one or two five-year terms.

Secretary: Dr Augur Pearce [2022]

Synod Moderator: The Revd Simon Walkling [2023]

Past Moderator of General Assembly: The Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe [2022]

Commission officer for the incapacity procedure: The Revd Roy Lowes [2023]

Mr David Nash (legal experience) [2023] Dr Ewen Harley (GP) [2023]

2.6 Pastoral reference and welfare committee

Convenor: The Revd David Grosch-Miller [2023]

Secretary: Deputy General Secretary (Discipleship)

Synod Moderator: The Revd Brian Jolly [2024]

The Revd Dr Irene John [2024]

Professor Malcolm Johnson [2022]

The Revd Bridget Powell [2023]

URC Deputy Treasurer

General Secretary

2.7 Safeguarding advisory group

Convenor: Deputy General Secretary (Discipleship)

Secretary: URC Safeguarding Adviser

Head of Children's and Youth Work

Secretary for Ministries

Nominated Members – maximum of three, serving one or two three-year terms:

Vacancy

Mr Paul Smillie [2022]

Mrs Jane Dowdell [2023]

Co-opted members – maximum of two, co-opted for appropriate terms of service:

Education and Learning Programme Officer

3. Mission department

3.1 Mission committee

Convenor: Sarah Lane Cawte [2024]

Secretary: Deputy General Secretary (Mission)

Vacancy (1)

Mrs Angela Bogg (2) [2022]

The Revd Murray George (3) [2024]

The Revd Clare Davison (4) [2024]

The Revd Robert Bushby (5) [2023]

Mr John Davey (6) [2022]

Ms Lindsey Brown (7) [2022]

The Revd Robert Jordan (8) [2022]

Vacancy (9)

Mr Simon Fairington (10) [2023]

The Revd Alex Mabbs (11) [2023]

The Revd Branwen Rees (12) [2022]

Vacancy (13)

3.1.1 International exchange reference group

Convenor: The Revd Dr Ana Gobledale [2024]

Synod Moderator: The Revd Paul Whittle [2022]

Secretary for Global and Intercultural Ministries

Nominated member:

The Revd Ros Lyle [2023]

3.1.2 Commitment for Life (CfL) reference group

Convenor: Mr Richard Lewney [2024]

At least two CfL advocates

Representative of mission team

Representative of mission committee

Representative from Christian Aid

Representative of Global Justice Now

Programme Officer for Global Justice and Partnerships

3.1.3 Interfaith enabling group

Convenor: The Revd Tracey Lewis [2023]

Secretary: The Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

Ecumenical and Interfaith Officer for the National Synod of Scotland

Ecumenical and Interfaith Officer for the National Synod of Wales

Nominated members:

Ms Victoria Turner [2025]

Mr Andy Lie [2023]

Co-opted members:

The Revd Dr Graham Adams [2024]

The Revd Dr Mark Godin [2024]

The Revd Dr John Parry

3.1.4 Joint Public Issues Team strategy and policy group

Deputy General Secretary (Mission)

The Revd Steve Faber

3.1.5 Rural strategy group (United Reformed Church/Methodist)

Co-chair: The Revd Steve Faber (Synod Moderator) [2022]

Two vacancies

4. Discipleship department

4.1 Ministries committee

Convenor: The Revd Dr Marion Tugwood [2025]

Secretary: Secretary for Ministries

Leadership in worship advocate: Vacancy

Synod Moderator: The Revd Jamie Kissack [2024]

Convenor of the Assessment Board

Nominated members:

The Revd Stuart Scott [2023]

The Revd Sally Willett [2023]

Mrs Gill Bates [2024]

Chris Kellett [2025]**

The Revd Lesley Moseley [2025]**

4.1.1 Accreditations (CRCW and SCM) Subcommittee

Convenor: The Revd Dr Paul Dean [2025]

Joint Secretaries:

Secretary for Ministries [2022]

Development Worker (CRCW & SCM) [2022]

Convenor of the Assessment Board

Representatives:

Synod moderators:

The Revd David Herbert [2024]

SCMs:

The Revd Tim Clarke [2024]

CRCWs:

Ms Ann Honey [2022]

Nominated Members:

Mr Rob Moverley [2022]

Two vacancies

Co-opted CRCW:

Ms Marie Trubic [2022] (not to be replaced)

4.1.2 Ministries – maintenance of ministry subcommittee

Convenor: The Revd David Coote [2022]

Mr David Gartside [2022]

Mrs Jean Wyber [2022]

The Revd Dr George Kalu [2025]**

Vacancy

Pensions committee convenor

4.1.3 Ministries – retired ministers' housing subcommittee – under review

Members normally serve four years, but appointments may be extended for two more years.

Convenor: The Revd Anne Bedford

Secretary: Secretary of Retired Ministers' Housing Society Ltd

Mr Peter West

Mr Malcolm Lindo

The Revd Ken Summers

The Revd Simon Walkling (Synod Moderator)

ex-officio: URC Treasurer

Properties are managed by a company, Retired Ministers' Housing Society Ltd.

Details of the members of its board etc may be obtained from the Company Secretary at Church House.

4.1.4 Assessment board

Members usually serve for five years as training is required.

Convenor: Professor Bill Gould [2024]

Retiring 2022

Mrs Bridget Akinyombo (10)

The Revd Jamie Kissack (4)

The Revd Lis Mullen (2)

Mr Keith Reading (3)

Retiring 2023

The Revd John Danso (10)

Mr Dan Morrell (4)

Retiring 2024

The Revd Jan Adamson (13)

The Revd Gerald England (8)

Mr Mark Tubby (7)

Retiring 2025

Ms Mercy Nimako

Ms Liz Sharples

The Revd Samuel Silungwe

4.2 Education and learning committee

Convenor: Mr Alan Yates [2023]

Secretary: Secretary for Education and Learning

Nominated Members: (nominated by the Nominations Committee)

Ms Adella Pritchard [2022]

The Revd Martin Truscott [2022]

Mrs Margaret Marshall [2024]

The Revd Tim Meachin [2024]

Ex-officio members:

a General Assembly moderator (current, past or elect)

General Secretary

Deputy General Secretary (Discipleship)

Representative Members: (nominated by the appropriate group)

RCL Principals:

The Revd Dr Rosalind Selby [2022]

Synod Training and Development Officers:

The Revd Mary Thomas

CYDOs and other Children and Youth Work officers

EM1 students

Non-voting members: (nominated by the appropriate group)

Synod Moderator:

The Revd David Herbert [2022]

RCL Principals:

The Revd Samantha White

The Revd Dr John McNeil Scott

Secretary for Ministries

Methodist Church Representative

4.2.1 Education and learning finance subcommittee

Chair: Mr Alan Yates

Minutes Secretary: Secretary for Education and Learning

Co-opted Member: The Revd Edward Sanniez

Ex-officio: URC Treasurer, Deputy General Secretary (Discipleship),

Convenor of the education and learning committee

Staff in attendance: Chief Finance Officer

The chair and member are appointed by the education and learning committee.

4.2.2 Stepwise development group

Convenor: The Revd Alison Davis**

Administrator: Stepwise Programme Assistant

Secretary for Education and Learning

Stepwise Programme Manager

Education and Learning Instructional Designer

Education and Learning Programme Officer (by invitation)

Project Manager for *Walking the Way*

Convenor of the Stepwise Learning Standards Board**

Representatives – serving appropriate terms of service:

Children's and youth work committee:

Mr Leo Roberts

Synod mission enablers network:

The Revd Stuart Radcliffe

Synod training and development officers:

Vacancy

Resource Centres for Learning:

a tutor

Together Ethnic and Minority URC:

The Revd Zaidie Orr

Co-opted Members:

The Revd Simon Goddard (Fresh Expressions)**

The Revd Peter Henderson**

Mr Iain Johnston (Faith in Community Scotland)

The convenor and the co-opted members are appointed by the education and learning committee.

4.3 Children's and youth work committee

Convenor: The Revd Paul Robinson [2024]

Secretary: Head of Children's and Youth Work

URC Youth Moderator

URC Youth Moderator-elect

Convenor of the Pilots subcommittee

Pilots representative

Nominated members:

Mr Matthew Barkley [2023]

Mr Reuben Watt [2023]

The Revd Janine Atkinson [2024]

The Revd Samantha Sheehan [2024]

The Reverend Julian Sanders [2025]**

4.3.1 Pilots subcommittee

Convenor: Mr Derek Goodyear

Members:

Resources:

Ms Liz Harrison**

Synod Pilot officers:

Mr Alan Kendall**

Vacancy

Representatives:

Children and Youth Development Officer and team: Ms Lorraine Downer [2023]**

URC Youth Pilots: Vacancy

Pilots company / Friends On Faith Adventures group: Two to four vacancies

Co-opted:

Resources:

Ms Sandra Ackroyd

Members are nominated by the children's and youth work committee and serve one or two two-year terms.

4.4 Walking the Way steering group

Co-Chairs: Deputy General Secretary (Mission) and Deputy General Secretary (Disc)

Secretary: Project Manager for *Walking the Way*

Stepwise Programme Manager

Head of Communications

Communications Officer

Representatives:

Children's and Youth Work:

Ms Ruth White

Global and Intercultural Ministries:

Revd Bachelard Kaze Yemtsa [2023]

Education and Learning Committee:

Mr Alan Yates

Resource Centres for Learning:

The Revd Peter Ball

Training and Development Officers:

The Revd Dr Jim Coleman

Mission Committee:

Mr John Collings

Mission Enablers:

Mr Martin Hayward

General Members:

The Revd Colin Bones [2023]

The Revd Caroline Andrews [2024]

4.5 Worship Reference Group

Convenor: The Revd Sam Silungwe [2024]

Secretary: The Revd Elizabeth Gray-King [2024]

Deputy General Secretary (Discipleship)

Nominated Members:

The Revd Dr Anna Gobledale [2024]

The Revd Dr Matthew Prevett [2024]

5. Administration and resources department

5.1 Business Committee

Convenor: The Revd Adrian Bulley [2024]

Secretary: General Secretary

Moderators of General Assembly

Moderator-elect and Immediate-past Moderators of General Assembly

Clerk of General Assembly

Assistant Clerk of General Assembly

URC Treasurer

Nominated members:

Ms Ella Lemon [2022]

Mrs Darnette Whitby-Reid [2025]

5.2 Communications

Convenor: The Revd Dr Peter Stevenson [2023]

Secretary: Head of Communications

Mr Stan Hazell [2022]

The Revd Ian Fosten [2022]

The Revd Tim Lowe [2023]

Mr Dan Morell [2023]

The Revd Heather Whyte [2023]

Ms Joy Aldred [2024]

5.3 Equalities committee

Convenor: The Revd Anne Lewitt [2022]

Convenor-Elect: vacancy

Secretary: The Revd David Salsbury [2023][†]

URC Youth representative: URC Youth Equalities and Diversity Representative

Nominated members:

The Revd Naison Hove [2023]

The Revd Jayne Taylor [2023]

The Revd Jo Clare-Young [2024]

Mrs Rosie Martin [2024]

The Revd Mhari McLintock [2024]

Ms Judy Rogers [2024]

Dr Ruth Shepherd [2024]

5.4 Finance committee

Convenor: URC Treasurer

Deputy Treasurer: Mr Vaughan Griffiths [2025]**

Chief Finance Officer

Chair of the URC Trust

Nominated members:

Mr Frank Liddell [2022]

Mrs Jane Humphreys [2023]

Ms Joana Marfoh [2023]

The Revd Wilbert Sayimani [2023]

Ms Denise Harman [2024]

The Revd Simon Copley [2025]**

Mr Gordon Wanless [2025]^{††}

5.4.1 Pensions committee

Convenor: Mr Richard Nunn [2022]

Secretary: Pensions Manager

Nominated Members:

Ms Joana Marfoh [2024] Vacancy
Co-opted members, maximum of three:
Mr David Martin
Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer Convenor of the Investment Committee
Convenor of the Maintenance of Ministry Subcommittee
Deputy General Secretary (Administration and Resources)
In attendance:
Chief Finance Officer
Secretary for Ministries (for Ministers' Pension Fund matters)

5.5 United Reformed Church Trust

Members normally serve for four years and may only serve a maximum of two terms (eight years). The directors of the Trust appoint new directors from those appointed as members. The members of the Trust elect the chair from among their own number and appoint a secretary and deputy secretary.

Chair: Mrs Val Morrison

Secretary: Ms Sandi Hallam-Jones

Deputy Secretary: Mr John Samson

Members:

Group one (synods 1, 2, 3, 4, 13):

The Revd Nick Mark (13) [2024]

Mrs Val Morrison (4) [2022]

Group two (synods 5, 6, 7, 8, 12):

Ms Catriona Wheeler (5) [2022]

Mr David Lathbury (6) [2022]

Mrs Margaret Thompson (7) [2022]

Mr Clifford Patten (7) [2024]

Mr David Greatorex (5) [2024]

The Revd James Breslin (5) [2024]

Group three (synods 9,10,11):

Vacancy (to be filled from any synod)

None

URC Youth appointee: vacancy

Moderators of General Assembly, Clerk of General Assembly, URC Treasurer

General Secretary

In attendance:

Convenor of the investment committee minute secretary

Chief Finance Officer

5.5.1 Church House management group

Convenor: Deputy General Secretary (Administration and Resources)

General Secretary

Chief Finance Officer

Nominated members:

Mr Robert Buss [2022]

Dr Ian Harrison [2024]

Mr Adam Lester [2024]

vacancy

5.5.2 Remuneration committee

Convenor: Mr William McVey

Secretary: Deputy General Secretary (Administration and Resources)

Ms Sushila Jetha (Methodist HR)

URC Treasurer

In attendance: Chief Finance Officer

5.6 The United Reformed Church Ministers' Pension Trust Ltd

Terms run until the AGM in September. The directors of the Trust appoint new directors from those appointed as members. The board members elect the chair from among their own number and appoint the company secretary.

Chair: Mrs Bridget Micklem [2023]

Deputy chair: Mr Richard Nunn [2022]

Secretary: Ms Sandi Hallam-Jones

URC Deputy Treasurer

Convenor of the maintenance of ministry subcommittee

Convenor of the investment committee

Members of the URC:

Mr Lyndon Thomas [2022]

Mr Colin MacBean [2024]

Members of fund appointed by members of fund:

The Revd Dr Janet Tollington [2023]

The Revd Paul Bedford [2022]

The Revd Caroline Vodden [2022]

The Revd Daniel Cheyne [2022]

5.7 Investment committee

Convenor: The Revd Dick Gray [2022]

Convenor-Elect: vacancy

Secretary: Ms Sandi Hallam-Jones

Members:

Mrs Jean Hudson [2023]

Mr Lyndon Thomas [2024]

Mr David Martin [2022]

Dame Katharine Barker [2023]

URC Treasurer

convenor, pensions committee

chair of United Reformed Church Trust or another director

chair of United Reformed Church Ministers' Pension Trust or another director

Treasurer, Westminster College

In attendance: Chief Finance Officer

6. Representatives to meetings of sister Churches

6.1	General Synod of Church of England	The Revd Tim Meadows
6.2	Methodist Conference	The Revd Roy Fowler
6.3	Congregational Federation	Mission Committee Nomination
6.4	Church of Scotland	Assembly Moderator and synod representative
6.5	United Free Church of Scotland	Synod nomination
6.6	Scottish Assembly of the Congregational Federation	Synod nomination
6.7	Scottish Episcopal Church	Synod nomination
6.8	Methodist Church in Scotland	Synod nomination
6.9	Baptist Union of Scotland	Synod nomination
6.10	Presbyterian Church of Wales	Assembly Moderator
6.11	Union of Welsh Independents	Synod nomination
6.12	Covenanted Baptists	Synod nomination
6.13	Church in Wales Governing Board	Synod nomination
6.14	Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church	Mission Committee Nomination

7. Representatives on ecumenical Church bodies

The following have been nominated as United Reformed Church representatives at the major gatherings of the ecumenical bodies listed.

7.1 World Council of Churches 2022 Assembly

Delegate: The Revd Sarah Moore

7.2 Council for World Mission Assembly

Representatives will be appointed in 2023 for the 2024 CWM Assembly.

7.3 World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC) General Council

Representatives are appointed for each meeting of the Council.

7.4 Conference of European Churches Assembly

Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations and one other

7.5 The Disciples Ecumenical Consultative Council

The Revd Rowena Francis

The Revd Professor David Thompson

Secretary for Global and Intercultural Ministries

7.6 Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI)

7.6.1 CTBI Church leaders' meeting

General Secretary

7.6.2 CTBI senior representatives' forum

General Secretary

Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

7.6.3 CTBI environmental issues network

The Revd Mike Shrubsole

7.6.4 CTBI stewardship network

Mrs Faith Paulding

7.6.5 CTBI consultative group on ministry amongst children (CGMC)

Head of Children's and Youth Work and one other

7.6.6 CTBI interreligious network

Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

7.6.7 CTBI China forum

The Revd John Scott

7.6.8 CTBI Korea group

The Revd David Grosch-Miller

7.6.9 CTBI Middle East contact group

Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

7.6.10 CTBI Churches' refugee network

The Revd Fleur Houston

7.7 Churches Together in England (CTE)

7.7.1 CTE enabling group

Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

7.7.2 CTE group for evangelisation

Deputy General Secretary (Mission)

7.8 Action of Churches Together in Scotland (Acts) members meeting

Appointed by the National Synod of Scotland

7.9 National Sponsoring Body for Scotland

Appointed by the National Synod of Scotland

7.10 Churches Together in Wales (CYTUN)

Appointed by the National Synod of Wales

7.11 Commission of Covenanted Churches in Wales

Appointed by the National Synod of Wales

7.12 Free Church education committee

Professor Graham Handscomb

Mrs Gillian Kingston

7.13 European Churches' environmental network

The Revd David Coleman

7.14 Churches' committee on funerals and crematoria

The Revd Sally Thomas

7.15 Churches' forum for safeguarding

URC Safeguarding Adviser

7.16 Churches' network for nonviolence

Head of Children's and Youth Work

7.17 Churches Visitor and Tourism Association

Mrs Valerie Jenkins

7.18 Joint liturgical group

The Revd Dr Ana Gobledale

8. Representatives on formal bilateral and multilateral committees

8.1 Methodist / United Reformed Church liaison group

Co-convenor: The Revd Geoffrey Clarke (Synod Moderator) (five-year term) [2026]**

Co-secretary: Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

Ecumenical and Interfaith Officer for the National Synod of Scotland

Ecumenical and Interfaith Officer for the National Synod of Wales

Nominated Members – serving one or two four-year terms:

The Revd Tim Richards [2024]

Mr Tim Hopley [2025]**

8.1.1 Methodist/ United Reformed Church strategic oversight group

General Secretary

A General Assembly Moderator

Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

8.2 Church of England - United Reformed Church Contact Group

Co-Chair: The Revd Ruth Whitehead [2024]

Co-Secretary: Secretary for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

The Revd Dr Susan Durber [2024]

Mr John Ellis [2024]

The Revd Tim Meadows [2024]

8.3 EMU Partnership (Scottish Episcopal Church, the Methodist Church in Scotland and the United Reformed Church National Synod of Scotland)

[see note 7]

Appointed by the National Synod of Scotland

8.4 Conversations between the Community of Protestant Churches in Europe and the Anglican Communion

The Revd Julian Templeton

8.5 Roman Catholic / United Reformed Church Dialogue Group

Co-chair: The Revd Dr John Bradbury

Co-secretary: The Revd Philip Brooks

Members:

Mr John Cornell

The Revd Dr Sarah Hall

The Revd Jason McCullagh

The Revd Lindsey Sanderson

9. Representatives on governing bodies of theological colleges, etc

9.1 Northern College

The Revd Mark Bates [2022]

Mrs Rosie Buxton [2022]

The Revd Raymond Singh [2023]

Mr Willie Duncan [2025][†]

Two vacancies

In attendance: Secretary for Education and Learning

9.2 Westminster College: board of governors

Governors serve six-year terms, which may be renewed.

Convenor: The Revd Nigel Uden [2026]

Clerk to the governors: Mr Chris Wright [2022]

Honorary treasurer (Westminster College): Mr Andrew Grimwade [2022]

Principal: The Revd Samantha White

Mr Mark Hayes [2022]

Mr John Ellis [2023]

The Revd Jan Adamson [2024]

Mrs Darnette Whitby-Reid [2025]

The Revd Stuart Scott from 1 Sep 2020 to 31 Aug 2021

Note 1: A further six governors are appointed by the Cambridge Theological Federation, the University of Cambridge, Anglia Ruskin University, the college's teaching staff, its students and the Cheshunt Foundation.

Note 2: The Secretary for Education and Learning and the URC Treasurer are normally in attendance.

9.2.1 The Cheshunt Foundation

Mr Guy Morfett

9.2.2 Cambridge Theological Federation

Convenor, Westminster College governors

10. Governors of colleges and schools with which the United Reformed Church is associated

10.1 Caterham School

Southern Synod Moderator

10.2 Eltham College

Mr Martin Fosten

10.3 Walthamstow Hall

Mrs Isabel Heald

10.4 Milton Mount Foundation

Mr Ray Dunnett [2024]

The Revd June Colley [2022]

The Revd Derek Lindfield [2022]

Governors serve four-year terms, which may be renewed.

The Revd Kevin Swaine [2024]

The Revd Carole Elphick [2022]

Mrs Daphne Bembridge [2023]

10.5 Silcoates School

The Revd Jason McCullagh [2023]

Governors serve three-year terms.

Vacancy

10.6 Taunton School

Baptist governor at present

10.7 Bishops Stortford College

Mr Richard Harrison

11. Miscellaneous

The United Reformed Church is represented on a variety of other national organisations and committees as follows:

11.1 Arthur Rank Centre

The Revd Elizabeth Caswell

11.2 Churches Legislation Advisory Service

Ms Muna Levan Harris [2023]

General Secretary

11.3 Congregational Fund Board

Mr Anthony Bayley [2023]

The Revd Janine Atkinson [2023]

Mr Mike Hart [2024]

The Revd Geoffrey Roper [2023]

Mrs Mary Steele [2023]

11.4 Congregational Memorial Hall Trust

Mr John Ellis [2023]

The Revd Melanie Smith [2023]

Mr Philip Bonnier [2025][†]

Representatives serve four-year terms which may be renewed.

Mr Simon Fairington [2023]

Mrs Margaret Thompson [2024]

The Revd Derek Wales [2025][†]

11.5 Historic England Places of Worship Forum

Convenor of the listed buildings advisory group

11.6 Lord Wharton's Charity

The Revd Derek Lindfield

11.7 Retired ministers' and widows' fund

The Revd Julian Macro

Ms Liz Sharples

Mr Anthony Bayley

11.8 Roots for Churches Ltd

The Revd Nicola Furley-Smith [2024]

11.9 Samuel Robinson's Charities

Mr Tony Alderman

11.10 Scout Association – URC faith adviser

The Revd David Marshall-Jones

11.11 United Reformed Church History Society

The Revd Dr Michael Jagessar [2024] Mrs Jean Wyber [2022]

The Revd Dr Kirsty Thorpe [2023]

Council Members serve five-year terms which may be renewed.

11.12 World Day of Prayer

England, Wales and Northern Ireland: The Revd Dr Ana Gobledale [2022]

Scotland: Synod appointment.

11.13 Westhill Endowment Trust

Mrs Julie Grove MBE [2022]

The Revd Leonora Jagessar-Visser 't Hooft [2023]

Note: this list will be superseded in July 2021. The latest list approved by General Assembly or Mission Council on its behalf is available at: bit.ly/URCNom.