

Resolution 42:

General Secretary and Clerk

Next meeting of Mission Council

Basic Information

Contact address	General Secretary: john.proctor@urc.org.uk Assembly Clerk: michael.hopkins@urc.org.uk
Action required	Decision
Draft resolution(s)	Mission Council, acting in the name of General Assembly, authorises the Officers of Assembly to take such steps as may be needed to arrange the next meeting of Mission Council, as either a virtual or a physical meeting.

1. We have booked a Mission Council meeting at The Hayes, Swanwick, on 20-22 November. However, the progress of the Covid emergency is not predictable, and we cannot presently be confident of gathering in our usual way at that time.
2. However, until the July meeting of Mission Council is over, we shall not know all of the benefits and difficulties involved in meeting virtually.
3. Therefore a decision will be needed, at a time after our July meeting, about what to do in November.
4. The Officers of Assembly as a group have the power to take urgent decisions in the name of the United Reformed Church. Sometimes urgent issues arise unexpectedly. This, by contrast, is one that we can foresee, and it is proper to consult Mission Council about the trust they may wish to place in the Officers.
5. The six Officers are the two Moderators, Clerk, Treasurer, General Secretary and Business Convenor. After 11 July these six people will be Clare Downing, Peter Pay, Michael Hopkins, Ian Hardie, John Bradbury and Adrian Bulley.
6. The Officers will be concerned for the safety of all who belong to Mission Council. We have urged local churches to be responsible in the face of Covid, and the wider Church will aim to be responsible too.
7. Should the Officers decide to hold a virtual meeting, they may well call this for the weekend we already have in our diaries, but for 20 and 21 November only, without needing to use the Sunday.