

Paper M5

Clerk

Updating Nominations Committee
rubrics

United Church 2017
Church 2017
Reformed Church 2017
Church 2017

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Basic Information

Contact name and email address	Michael Hopkins, clerk@urc.org.uk
Action required	Decision
Draft resolution(s)	Acting on behalf of General Assembly, Mission Council updates the rubrics of the Nominations Committee as set out in paper M5 of Mission Council May 2017

Summary of Content

Subject and aim(s)	Updating rubric
Main points	The rubric was accidentally not updated when the DGS posts were created. An additional rubric is proposed, to clarify the status quo and codify best practice.
Previous relevant documents	GA Record 2016, page 65
Consultation has taken place with...	The General Secretary

Summary of Impact

Financial	nil
External (e.g. ecumenical)	nil

Updating Nominations Committee rubrics

1. The notes at the start of the Nominations Committee table of nominations contain the general principles concerning all appointments.
2. These were, in error, not updated when the DGS posts were created.
3. The first point currently reads:
“The Moderators, the Moderators elect, the immediate past Moderators, and the General Secretary are members *ex officio* of every standing committee.”
4. It is proposed that this be updated to:
“The Moderators, the Moderators elect, the immediate past Moderators, and the General Secretary are members *ex officio* of every standing committee. The 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. The Treasurer and/or the Chief Finance Officer may attend any committee where the business so requires.”
5. At the time of writing, the Moderators, Moderators-elect, and immediate past Moderators, currently work to a pattern of dividing up Committee attendance between at particular points of the cycle of their service. It is not proposed to update the rubric to take account of this, as situations may arise that justify greater attendance than current practice.
6. The question has been asked about whether someone has to be a member of the URC to serve on a Committee, and what staff members, who may or may not be members of the URC, should or should not be able to do. The proposed additional points, which will be numbered in sequence, set this out:
 - a) “Nominations to Assembly committees and their sub-committees, and to advisory and task groups serving Assembly and Mission Council, should be of members of the United Reformed Church, or of Youth representatives who meet the criteria for membership of the General Assembly. A term of service may normally be completed if someone ceases to be a member of the URC during their term.”
 - b) “Nominations of URC representatives to external bodies should either be of members of the United Reformed Church, or of Youth representatives who meet the criteria for membership of the General Assembly, or of staff of the United Reformed Church who have relevant expertise. The nomination of a staff member would automatically lapse if the person concerned ceased to hold a post in the URC.”

