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Synod Resolutions

a) From Wessex Synod

Wessex Synod are concerned that Ministers and others working in an official capacity do not have any form of secure photo ID to assure users and to prevent outsiders from posing as accredited officers. At their November meeting the Revd. Tim Meachin, on behalf of the Synod Executive, introduced the matter. Synod resolved to bring the following resolution to Mission Council:

Resolution on Photo ID

In order to ensure a high standard of safeguarding, Mission Council, on behalf of General Assembly, resolves, as a matter of urgency, to request Ministries Committee to identify means by which we can provide secure photo Identification, together with a means for identity to be verified, for Ministers of Word and Sacraments and Church Related Community workers and be available to Accredited Lay Preachers and Elders (both serving and non-serving) and other employees and volunteers who have a current Criminal Records Bureau certificate.

b) From Mersey Synod

Mission Council takes note of the following resolution of Mersey Synod:

The Mersey Synod urges the URC Mission Council to take time to reflect on the number of denominational initiatives it is authorising and “rolling out” to Synods and local churches. We believe that at Synod and local church level there is a serious risk that these are beginning to overwhelm and stifle creativity. Whilst we acknowledge that the intention of these programmes and projects is to assist the church in being more effective, we feel that the number of them within short time scales is beginning to have a serious negative impact on the ability of the church to carry out its work of witness and mission within local communities; in which case the objective of greater effectiveness of the Church is frustrated. The number of initiatives is also placing a heavy workload on those responsible for their implementation at Synod level.