

Paper C

Update on the Yearbook 2014

Communications & Editorial Committee





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Communications & Editorial Committee: Update on the Yearbook 2014

Basic Information

Contact name and email address	The Revd John Humphreys jhumphreys@urcscotland.org.uk
Action required	None – for information
Draft resolution(s)	n/a
Alternative options to consider, if any	n/a

Summary of Content

Subject and aim(s)	Update on the United Reformed Church Yearbook 2014
Main points	The October meeting of communications & editorial reversed the previous decision to cancel the print version of the Yearbook. Printed versions will be offered in 2014 & 2015. The online Yearbook project is near completion and will be available by the end of 2013. A full consultation about the future of the printed Yearbook is planned at some point in the next 18 months.
Previous relevant documents	None
Consultation has taken place with...	The communications and editorial committee, Church House staff working in the communications and ministries departments. Also feedback from people across the Church who received notice that the printed Yearbook was to be discontinued.

Summary of Impact

Financial	In previous years the Yearbook has made a small profit, thus we are not expecting a negative financial impact to flow from this decision.
External (e.g. ecumenical)	n/a

Update on the United Reformed Church Yearbook 2014

Some, but not all, members of Mission Council will have heard that a decision had been taken to cancel the 2014 (and all subsequent) print versions of the Yearbook and move to an online version only. When this decision was discussed at the communication & editorial committee meeting on 9 October 2013, it was reversed. There *will* be a print copy of the 2014 Yearbook.

Reversing the decision at such a late stage of the year means that we are not able to produce the 2014 Year Book in time for January 2014. Those involved in the production of the 2014 Yearbook have now met and agreed a production schedule – and we are all working to produce the Yearbook by Easter.

At the time of writing order forms were being prepared and a mail out was being planned. A verbal update can be given during Mission Council if necessary.

Work on stage one of the online version is near completion and will be available before the end of this year. As soon as we have a confirmed launch date for that we will let you know.

The committee decision was to commit to a printed Year Book for 2014 (delivered by Easter 2014) and 2015 (to be delivered in January 2015). No decisions were made beyond that **but** at some point in the next 18 months (dates and details to be confirmed) we will run a full consultation across the denomination asking for comments and feedback on both the online Year Book and the printed version. The results of this consultation will be reported to Mission Council and Mission Council will be asked to decide whether or not we continue with a printed Year Book for 2016 and beyond. *Celebrated Lives*, the book of obituaries, will be included in the 2014 and 2015 hard copy Yearbook.

The communications and editorial committee is to undertake a thorough review of the work undertaken in the department and the management of that work and is grateful for Gill Nichol's willingness to be the interim director for at least a 10 month period.

