

Paper A1

Assembly arrangements committee
Report

United Church 2014
Church 2014
Reformed
Church 2014
Church

Paper A1



Assembly arrangements committee: Report

Basic Information

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|--|---|
| Contact name and email address | Michael Hopkins, Convenor (at the time of writing!) minister@farnhamurc.org.uk |
| Action required | Note |
| Draft resolution(s) | None |
| Alternative options to consider, if any | n/a |

Summary of Content

| | |
|---|---|
| Subject and aim(s) | Update on responses to feedback from General Assembly 2014. |
| Main points | Concerns have been heard, and are being addressed. A full report will be brought to Mission Council in May 2015. |
| Previous relevant documents | n/a |
| Consultation has taken place with... | Many people around the church have offered feedback. |

Summary of Impact

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|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Financial | Not yet known. |
| External (e.g. ecumenical) | n/a |

Assembly arrangements committee report

1. A number of concerns have been expressed, from a broad cross section of the church, about a variety of practical and financial aspects of the organisation of General Assembly.
2. The Assembly arrangements committee wishes to re-assure Mission Council that these concerns have been heard loud and clear. However, the convenor, and any new convenor (if the nominations committee are able to bring a name for appointment by Mission Council) wish to re-assure Mission Council they have an ever open ear to continue to receive feedback.
3. Despite the fact that the Assembly arrangements committee was simply implementing the arrangements directed by Mission Council, within the reduced budget set by General Assembly, we are fully seized that all was not well, and much needs to be addressed before the 2016 General Assembly.
4. We received 111 feedback forms after Assembly (there were 329 members of Assembly, but a number of people were members of Assembly in more than one capacity), all of which have been read several times. We have also received feedback from synod moderators, from other officers of synods, and from a number of individuals. We appreciate all of this, which is most helpful.
5. Mission Council will understand that it is not yet possible to produce detailed, thought out, and costed plans for doing anything that needs to be done differently in 2016. The Assembly arrangements committee was not able to meet until 30 October, and there simply has not been time to do all the work that is obviously needed.
6. Therefore, the Assembly arrangements committee plans to bring a major report to Mission Council in May 2015, hoping that it may be a more helpful use of Mission Council's time to bring a considered response, with options and costings.
7. Should Mission Council so direct, we are in a position to make sensible contingency plans for any possible recall of General Assembly in 2015.

