

Paper Y1

Moderator and clerk of North Western Synod
General Assembly



Paper Y1



Moderator and clerk of North Western Synod: General Assembly

Basic Information

Contact name and email address	Andy Braunston clerk@nwsynod.org.uk Richard Church moderator@nwsynod.org.uk
Action required	Mission Council asks the Assembly arrangements committee to consider aspects of the programme and accommodation of General Assembly and to consider changes.
Draft resolution(s)	<p>Because much concern was expressed by representatives attending the 2014 General Assembly regarding three issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the amount of time that was spent at Assembly discussing detailed procedural matters, many of which should, and could, have been resolved before Assembly; b) the pastoral and other issues arising from the way in which Assembly operated Consensus Decision Making and; c) the dispersed accommodation meant a lack of informal opportunities for fellowship (and more work for the Synod in arranging this itself), <p>Mission Council therefore asks the Assembly Arrangements Committee to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) whether some procedural matters should be dealt with by Mission Council even during the year of a General Assembly, just because that is a better forum for that sort of technical discussion; b) whether, in the absence of genuine consensus, the final stage of consensus decision making should always be a decision by majority voting – in order to provide clarity, to avoid the bullying of a minority, and to ensure that a decision is taken; c) whether the Assembly arrangements committee should make a block booking for, at least, bed and breakfast for all those at General Assembly.

Alternative options to consider, if any	
--	--

Summary of Content

Subject and aim(s)	Aim is to ask AAC to review three aspects of GA this year which impacted, negatively, on how we operated.
Main points	AAC to consider: ensuring that many procedural matters are resolved by Mission Council rather than General Assembly; the pastoral issues arising from the way in which consensus decision making was used; the dispersed accommodation and its effect on both the lack of time for informal fellowship and the extra work involved for Synods.
Previous relevant documents	None
Consultation has taken place with...	GA representatives of North Western Synod and officers of North Western Synod.

Summary of Impact

Financial	We anticipate this being cost neutral.
External (e.g. ecumenical)	None

