

Paper Y2

Moderator and clerk of Southern Synod
Reviewing financial priorities of
education and learning

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Moderator and clerk of Southern Synod: Reviewing financial priorities of education and learning

Basic Information

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Action required	Mission Council to review financial priorities for the denomination to enable education and learning to a) reinstate EM2 and EM3 grants to levels comparable with funding three years ago b) reinstate refresher courses and c) to find alternative funding source other than EM3 grants for mandatory training.
Draft resolution(s)	Mission Council asks the education and learning and finance committees to confer, and to bring forward recommendations about financial priorities for education and learning that will support the well-being and future vitality of the church's ministry.
Alternative options to consider, if any	

Summary of Content

Subject and aim(s)	For Mission Council to review its priorities for ministerial support and encouragement for the well being and future vitality of the church's ministry.
Main points	<p>The URC Southern Synod wishes to draw Mission Council's attention to the morale of its ministers which has been damaged by the combination of changes concerning training, specifically</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the reduction of EM2 and EM3 funding by 50% acting as a significant discouragement to ministers accessing training courses, and b) the withdrawal of the Refresher Courses offered as a gift to its ministers <p>We also believe that it is neither sensible, nor just, that mandatory training should be paid for out of the reduced EM3 funding available to its ministers.</p> <p>Reduced EM2 and EM3 funding leads to discouragement amongst ministers as training courses are now beyond financial reach of many; significant numbers of ministers are not undergoing any EM3 training; there is a financial impact on Synods to provide finance for mandatory training.</p>

Previous relevant documents	None
Consultation has taken place with...	The Synod Council of the Southern Synod.

Summary of Impact

Financial	Increase in funding available for EM2 and EM3 ministers.
External (e.g. ecumenical)	