



Placements Commission Report to Synod 2020

Committee Members

<i>Chairperson</i>	Rev Hannes Halgryn
<i>General Secretary</i>	Rev David de Kock
<i>Moderator (Visitor)</i>	Rev Steve Francis
<i>Member elected by Synod</i>	Rev Andrew Broadbrent
<i>Member elected by Synod</i>	Rev Lesley de Grussa
<i>Member elected by Synod</i>	Vacant
<i>Member from PRC</i>	John Boon
<i>Member form PRC</i>	Rev Ivan Clark
<i>Co-opted by SSC from Ministerial Benefit Committee</i>	Vicki Ross
<i>Placements Commission (non-voting)</i>	Rev Mark Illingworth

INTRODUCTION

The following report is based on the current movements and happenings in relation to the Placements Commission for the period 1 August 2019 – 31 July 2020.

STRUCTURE AND OPERATION OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission orders its business and ministry under the mandate set out at Reg. 3.7.4.2(b) of the Constitution and Regulations and also operate according to Bylaw S 3.1 which was approved by the Synod Standing Committee on 12 June 2017. Our primary role is

- to keep updated lists of all placements, number and distribution of placements;
- exercise an overview of the placements having regard for the best interest of the Church;
- making sure that ministers are deployed to meet the suitability of all parties;
- initiate a Placement priority if required;
- supply relevant information to those with calling a minister;
- negotiate with other Synods regarding transfer of ministers and recommend names to Joint Nominating Committees for placement.

ADMINISTRATION

Rev Mark Illingworth resources the Placements Commission as the Placements Secretary (non-voting).

KEY FOCUS AREAS

- The relationship between the Advisory Committee on Ministerial Placement (Placements Committee) and the Presbytery Standing Committee and Pastoral Relations Committee.
- By invitation the Synod People and Culture team continue to provide assistance to the processes associated with Congregation staffing including ordained, lay pastors and lay administration roles. This has resulted in increasing clarity of role and relationship between the various people and committees involved and ensuring that correct and appropriate terms of placement or appointment are used.
- Strengthening the relationship with the Schools and Agencies around ordained and Ministry of Pastor Chaplaincy placements.



KEY CHALLENGES

- Understanding and responding to the ebb and flow of available ministers and placements, particularly around minister retirements and reduced capacity of congregations to afford a placements.
- Ensuring that the process of employment of lay people in Congregations includes early involvement of People and Culture to provide advice and assistance.

PLAN OF ACTION

- Regularly reviewing Placement start dates and possible end dates particular with respect to retirements and 10 year process.
- Advise congregations when considering any employment of lay people that they contact the Church Office early in the process for guidance as to what is necessary to employ someone.

ADDRESSING THE WA UNITING CHURCH STRATEGIC PLAN

1. Open Communication: PC invites members of other committees in person for fixed orders of business to reduce miscommunication.
2. Faith Formation and Faith Sharing: PC committed to supporting new initiatives such as the new Kalgoorlie Bush Chaplain role.
3. Ministry Leadership: PC reviews position descriptions to ensure they are a good reflection of what is required, have sufficient budget and can be distributed to potential people.
4. Community Engagement: PC is working together with the Executive Officer for Schools and Colleges to identify opportunities to strengthen the relationships (e.g. placement process, professional standards, shared learning).

Vacant Placements approved

- Presbytery Officer 1 FTE – approved 17th September 2019
- Presbytery Minister (Uniting Generations) – approved 17th September 2019 – subsequently withdrawn by PSC 10th October 2019
- Tranby College Chaplain 0.6 FTE – approved 17th September 2019
- Penrhos College Chaplain 0.6FTE – approved 17th September 2019
- South Perth Uniting 1FTE – approved 17th September 2019
- Kalamunda Uniting 1FTE – approved 17th September 2019
- Rural Resource Minister 0.3FTE – approved 15th October 2019
- Presbytery Minister (Formation and Discipleship) 1FTE – approved 15th October 2019
- Northway Uniting 1FTE – approved 5th May 2020

Start of Placement (by date)

- Presbytery Minister (Pastoral) (1FTE) – Rev Alan Jeffery from 1 August 2019
- St Peter and Emmaus (1FTE) – Rev Margaret Beach from 1 October 2019 (Anglican)
- Tranby College Chaplain (0.6FTE) – Lynn Portman from 1 October 2019
- Presbytery Minister (Formation and Discipleship) (1FTE) – Rev Dr Christine Sorensen from 1 January 2020
- Godfields Bush Chaplain (1FTE) – Lindsay Ginn from 1 January 2020
- South Perth Uniting (1FTE) – Rev Mark Illingworth from 1 January 2020
- Presbytery Officer (1FTE) – Rev Dr David Ferguson from 1 February 2020
- Kalamunda Uniting (1FTE) – Rev Sophie Lizares from 1 February 2020
- Penrhos College Chaplain (0.6FTE) – Term 1 probation period only
- Rural Ministry – Rev Gordon Scantlebury from 1 March 2020
- Northway Uniting (1FTE) – Rev Sonny Rajamoney

Conclusion of Placement (by date)

- Rev Emma Matthews concluded as 0.5FTE Presbytery Minister (Formation and Discipleship) on 23 October 2019
- Rev Stephen Larkin concluded as 1FTE Nedlands Uniting Minister on 31 December 2019
- Rev Mark Illingworth concluded as 1FTE Synod Deputy General Secretary on 31 December 2019
- Rev John McKane concluded as 1FTE Merredin Uniting Minister 31 January 2020
- Rev Andrew Morris concluded as 0.5FTE South Mandurah Uniting 30 April 2020.
- Rev Ken Devereux concluded as 1FTE Royal Perth Chaplain 30 April 2020

RETIREMENTS (by date)

- Rev Caroline Gepp retired 31 December 2019
- Rev Rod Marsh retired 31 December 2019
- Rev Lesley de Grussa retired 29 February 2020
- Rev David Tressler retired 31 March 2020
- Rev Ken Devereux retired 31 May 2020
- Rev Lorraine Stokes will retire 31 December 2020

INTER-SYNOD TRANSFERS (alphabetical)

- Rev Craig Collas to Vic/Tas Synod
- Rev Narelle Collas to Vic/Tas Synod
- Rev Dr David Ferguson from Queensland Synod
- Rev Stephen Larkin to NSW/ACT Synod
- Rev John McKane to NSW/ACT Synod
- Rev Dr Christine Sorrensen from NSW/ACT Synod

DESIGNATION OF MINISTERS (Regulation 2.6.1)

(A list is maintained for the use of the Placements Commission)

MINISTERS ELIGIBLE FOR CALL (Regulation 2.6.2)

(A list is maintained for the use of the Placements Commission)

ADMISSION OF MINISTERS TO THE UNITING CHURCH WA

- Rev Stephen van Schalkwyk
- Rev Manie Strydom

SUMMARY

July 2020 Summary of Ministry Agents UCAWA	MOW/ Deacon	Non or Commissioned Pastor / Community Minister
Congregation	25	6
Synod	2	0
Presbytery	6	1
Chaplain (Hospital)	1	0
Chaplain (Patrol)	2	2
Chaplain (Prison)	0	1
Chaplain (School)	6	1
Chaplain (Agency)	0	0
Active Service (not in placement)	5	-
Active Retired (Supply)	3	-
Awaiting Placement	2	-
On Leave of Absence + Not Available	1	-
Candidate for Ministry	-	1
Total	53	12

CONCLUSION

We endeavour to keep up the close relationships with the Presbytery of WA Pastoral Relations Committee and all the other Commissions, Boards and Committees.

We also urge ministers to regularly refer to the Ministry Handbook. We are updating the Handbooks so that information relevant to ministry remains current.

Rev Hannes Halgryn
Chairperson

Rev Mark Illingworth
Placement Secretary