

# Questions and Answers 2009 Synod

19 October 2009

## 1. Financial status of the Endowment of the See

Dr Robert Mackay to ask –

Given the intended requirement for the Appropriations & Allocations Ordinance to take up certain Bishops' expenses, previously funded entirely by the Endowment of the See, and the resultant diminution of regional outlays for parish-based initiatives, would the Archbishop please advise the Synod as to the financial status of the Endowment of the See, with regard to –

- (a) 31/12/2008 and current balance sheet positions,
- (b) financial performance for the year ended 31/12/2008 and during 2009,
- (c) the financial/investment strategy going forward?

To which the President replied –

I am informed the answer is as follows –

- (a) The EOS Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2008 comprised Total Assets of \$81.4 million, Liabilities of \$9.6 million and Net Assets of \$71.8 million. The Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2009 comprised Total Assets of \$71.1 million, Liabilities of \$1.5 million and Net Assets of \$69.6 million.
- (b) Over recent years the EOS has achieved a cash income of \$4 million to \$5 million per annum. In 2008 the global financial crisis led to a sharp decline in the value of both its listed investments and its direct property holdings. Due to this impact and some other underlying issues, the total income in 2008 was only \$2.5 million, and projections for the next few years remain around that level.
- (c) The EOS has therefore taken steps to reduce its expenses accordingly. The largest expense is the stipends/wages and related expenses for staff (Bishops, Archdeacons and support staff) and that is where the bulk of the savings will need to be made. The key elements of the restructure of the EOS are spelt out in the Strategic Directions 2010-2012 document and the EOS is committed to addressing these issues, as demonstrated by the cost reductions recently announced. It is expected that work will continue over the coming months with the objective of achieving a sustainable future for the real value of the EOS.

2. **Duties of Area Deans**

The Rev Robert Denham to ask –

Concerning the duties of an Area Dean as outlined in clause 9.10 of the First Schedule to the Parish Administration Ordinance, in the past two years –

- (a) In how many parishes has any Area Dean carried out those duties?
- (b) Has the Archbishop or any Assistant Bishop asked an Area Dean about the results of such duties?
- (c) Has the Archbishop or any Assistant Bishop directly instructed an Area Dean to carry out such duties?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) This information is not available.
- (b) No
- (c) No

3. **Assistant Bishop for the Georges River Region**

The Rev Robert Denham to ask –

At which point of the recovery from the Global Financial Crisis will the Archbishop consider it appropriate to appoint an Assistant Bishop with regional responsibility for the Georges River Region?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The financial pressures confronting the Endowment of the See, which pays for the stipend and expenses of Bishops, are much more complex than simply the Global Financial Crisis. Financial projections provided by SDS indicate that there is no likelihood in the next few years at least of being able to provide for five bishops rather than four.

4. **Diocesan Clergy Superannuation Fund**

Mr Justice David Lloyd to ask –

- (a) Can a comparison be prepared, preferably in the form of a graph, showing the performance of the Diocesan Clergy Superannuation Fund since the current stewardship took over the administration of that Fund from the Glebe Administration Board, with that of the Endowment of the See administered by the Glebe Board for the same period?
- (b) If so, can and will this information be made available in time for the debate on motion 16.6?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) It is not possible to answer the question as it contains a number of factual errors. The Glebe Administration Board has never had stewardship of the Sydney Diocesan Superannuation Fund. The fund was managed by its own Board. The Glebe Administration Board is also not responsible for administering the Endowment of the See. The Property Trust is the trustee of the property of the Endowment of the See.
- (b) Question (b) therefore lapses.

## 5. Leased property of Sydney Diocesan Secretariat

Mr Ian Cousins to ask –

With respect to item 15 Commitments – premises rental of the 2008 Audited Accounts of the Sydney Diocesan Secretariat –

- (a) What property was newly acquired in 2008 and current year 2009 that is rented/leased and where is the location of these properties?
- (b) What are the terms of the leases/agreements in respect to CPI or/and market review and outgoing in respect to these properties?
- (c) Are there any leases/rental agreements that have a time frame greater than 5 years as at 31 December 2008 and as at 30 June 2009. What are these lease/rental commitments?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The Secretariat occupies office space in some parts of levels 1 & 2 of St Andrew's House. No additional office space was leased by the Secretariat in 2008 or 2009. The lease commitments detailed in note 15 (i) of the Secretariat accounts increased from \$1m in 2007 to \$3.3m in 2008 due to the signing of leases to occupy the office space.
- (b) The leases for levels 1 & 2 in St Andrew's House include provision for a fixed annual rental increase of 3% from the base rent. In respect of outgoings the leases require SDS to reimburse St Andrew's House Corporation (the landlord) for increases in outgoings over a base year of 2006.
- (c) The leases for levels 1 & 2 in St Andrew's House are for a term of 15 years from commencement of occupancy in April and August 2007 respectively. There are no other leases / rental commitments that have a time frame greater than 5 years.

As noted in the annual report, staffing numbers have declined from 74.5 in December 2008 to 62 in September 2009. In light of this the Secretariat is actively pursuing opportunities to sub lease some of the excess space. The Secretariat expects to have a transaction finalised in the very near future.

6. **Pay-roll tax assessment**

Mr Ian Cousins to ask –

What is the update of the Secretariat on its objection to the Pay-roll tax assessment as detailed in Note 16 on page 347?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

On 8 May 2009 the Office of State Revenue made a favourable determination in relation to the payroll tax status of the Secretariat.

Subsequently, Secretariat staff and its legal advisors have been in extensive dialogue with the OSR to finalise the calculation of the assessments for 2004 – 2007. The Secretariat staff expect that no amount of the contingent liability detailed in note 16 on page 347 will be payable when the assessments are finalised.

7. **Kingsdene Special School**

Deaconess Margaret Rodgers to ask –

- (a) When will the Anglicare Council inform the Synod of the results of consultation into Kingsdene Special School?
- (b) What are the decisions about Kingsdene's future role and ministry?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The Council of ANGLICARE will receive a report on a stakeholder consultation regarding the future of Kingsdene's role and ministry at its November meeting. They will then consider the available options for Kingsdene, make a decision and inform Synod in 2010. The stakeholder consultation was based on the 2008-09 formal review of Kingsdene by Dr Jacqueline Roberts (University of Sydney). Stakeholders included staff, parents, guardians, families and caregivers along with all relevant funding bodies who have been kept informed regularly throughout this process.
- (b) No decisions about the future of Kingsdene's role and ministry have yet been made. The school and residential program will continue as normal for the 2010 school year.

## 8. Establishment of new Anglican school

Ms Alicia Watson to ask –

- (a) Is the President able to confirm that land has been purchased or is about to be purchased in the new Oran Park Town development in Sydney's South West Growth Corridor for the purpose of the Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation establishing a new Anglican Kindergarten to Year 12 co-educational school?
- (b) If a new Anglican school is to be established in this development –
  - (i) When are the building works proposed to commence and when is it planned for the school to open?
  - (ii) Is it the case that the proposed site for this new Anglican school is within walking distance, no more than four (4) kilometres, from an existing Anglican K-12 school?
  - (iii) Is it also the case that the proposed fee structure per student for the new school is approximately \$8,000 per annum for the primary years, almost identical to the fee structure of the existing school down the road?
  - (iv) Has the SASC commissioned a detailed demographic study of the area, if so by whom and when, examining the viability of establishing a new school in this area considering that there are already five (5) Anglican schools drawing students from this area, another three (3) Christian schools, at least five (5) Catholic schools and more already planned?
  - (v) Has the SASC commissioned a detailed study, if so by who and when, examining the short, medium and long term financial viability of establishing a new school in this development as well as the ongoing financial impact such a new school would have on the three (3) closest existing Anglican Schools operating within the same drawing area?
  - (vi) If reports mentioned above were conducted, are the results, or a précis thereof, available for public access and/or comment and are the results still considered relevant in light of the impact the global economic crisis has had on the population in the south west of Sydney?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) A critical part of the mission of the Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation is to establish new strategically placed Anglican schools offering quality education in the developing areas of the Diocese of Sydney. The South West Growth Corridor is expected to see an influx of between 250,000 and 300,000 people in the next 20-25 years. The Corporation has been charged with this mission by the Synod and it would be negligent if it did not seek a number of school sites in this growth corridor. This future growth will present the Anglican Church as a whole with a series of Gospel and Kingdom opportunities.

The Oran Park Town development is the first major area to be developed in that growth corridor. The Corporation has been in discussions with the principal developer, LandCom, for a number of years. LandCom has also had direct discussions and/or negotiations with a number of other educational providers as well as Macarthur Anglican School, the nearest existing Anglican school.

During this time representatives of the Corporation have also had a series of discussions with representatives of Macarthur Anglican School. During these discussions various co-operative models have been explored as Macarthur considered but decided against undertaking any development in Oran Park themselves. It is prayerfully hoped that future discussion may continue in a spirit of co-operation.

Recently the Corporation has finally reached a commercial agreement for the purchase of a suitable school site adjacent to the Oran Park Town Centre. The proposed school site is part of what is hoped will be an Anglican precinct which will

also include an Anglicare retirement village and a new Anglican Church on a site to be purchased by the Mission Property Committee.

- (b) (i) It is proposed that construction would commence no later than 3 months after the vendor has notified the Corporation that contracts for the sale of at least 350 residential lots have been exchanged.
- (ii) Yes, Macarthur Anglican School is within that distance.
- (iii) Financial modelling has been performed on a number of school fee structures. The school fees ultimately charged will be highly dependent on the socio-economic status (SES) of the surrounding area. If the advertised school fees are too high then it is likely that insufficient enrolments will be achieved to ensure long-term financial viability.
- (iv) A detailed study of current demographics in the area has not been commissioned as the enrolments in this future school are dependent upon the future population and not the current population. As explained earlier the South West Growth Corridor is expected to see substantial growth in the next 20-25 years. There are a number of new schools, particularly state schools, planned for within the Oran Park Town development. It is understood that only one independent school is envisaged and that is the site being offered for an Anglican school.
- (iv) The Corporation has completed its own internal financial viability studies. It is not possible to predict the effect on any existing schools given the significant expected increase in population in the schools' natural catchment area. However Macarthur Anglican School has advised the Corporation that their current ideal maximum enrolment is no more than 1,000 K-12 students. The school's most recent available Annual Report indicates that it had a K-12 enrolment of 912 in 2008, leaving a current growth capacity of only 88 students. Given the expected growth in the South West Corridor and the nearest Anglican school is close to being at ideal capacity then there is an opportunity for the establishment of several more Anglican schools in this developing area.
- (vi) The impact of the current global economic crisis is uncertain, but as construction of the proposed new school will only commence after the vendor has notified the Corporation that contracts for the sale of at least 350 residential lots have been exchanged, then it is likely that any ongoing negative effect of the global economic crisis will delay the commencement of the new school.

9. **GAB Board Risk and Compliance Management Committee**

The Rev David Clarke to ask –

During 2008 who were the members of the GAB Board Risk and Compliance Management Committee? How many times did they meet? Has the membership of this committee changed during 2009, and if so, who are the current members?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Information on the Board and its committees is contained in the GAB Audited Accounts (Pages 358- 361). This provides the following information for each of the committees -

- Functions of Committee
- Names of Members
- Number of meetings attended

To date there have been no changes in the membership of the committee in 2009.

10. **Nominations for Board of Anglican Retirement Villages**

Dr Stephen Judd to ask –

My question is prompted by a letter received last Friday by synod members from Anglican Retirement Villages (ARV), in which it was stated that “ARV has adopted a governance model consistent with established governance principles”.

- (a) Is it appropriate for a diocesan organisation to “run a ticket” for its own Board and in doing so make negative judgments on other qualified nominations?
- (b) Does this campaigning against other qualified nominees by ARV’s Board constitute interference in the election processes of the Synod?
- (c) Is such campaigning by incumbent diocesan boards deemed best practice?
- (d) Given ARV’s Board stated concern for best practice governance, why is ARV almost alone among Anglican bodies not to have its statutory accounts and annual reports freely available on its website or sent to Synod members – and is this practice in breach of Resolution 20/07 of Synod?
- (e) As the abovementioned letter was sent to all 700 Synod members via expensive Express Post what was the cost of this mailing?
- (f) Finally, has any ARV Board member who has served in the past three years received remuneration or any other benefit from the organisation and, if so, has the required approval from the Minister been sought and received in accordance with s.48 of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (which section does apply to religious organisations exempt under s.7 of that Act to hold an authority to fundraise)?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

This question is out of order under business rules 6.3(4)(a),(b), (c) and (d). It contains a number of assertions, expresses an opinion, offers an argument and makes inferences.

## 11. Archbishop's Liturgical Group

The Rev Philip Griffin to ask –

Pursuant to Resolution 14/08 of the 2008 session of Synod –

- (a) What missional plant experiences has the Archbishop's Liturgical Group taken into account in preparing a new range of templates for Christian Assembly? Has any of these missional plants included –
  - (i) a congregation with low literacy levels?
  - (ii) a congregation in which the majority of members have a Roman Catholic or Eastern Orthodox background?
  - (iii) a congregation whose membership is largely not Anglo-saxon, and where English is not the native language of many of the members?
  - (iv) a congregation with any other distinctive feature?
- (b) Has there been any theological assessment of the statement that the role of the service leader is, according to the "bettergatherings" website 'The responsibility is to lead others to encounter God.'? If not, what is the process for expressing concerns about the theology expressed in this and other statements on this website?
- (c) Has there been any theological assessment of the two versions of the prayer of humble access drawn from Sunday Services and Common Worship also on this website?
- (d) Has this Synod ever approved the liturgy known as Common Worship?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The Archbishop's Liturgical Panel, consisting of Bishop Forsyth (Chairman), the Rev Dr David Peterson, the Rev Dr Andrew Shead, the Rev Dr Michael Stead, Dr Greg Clarke, the Rev Alan Lukabyo, the Rev Chris Allan and the Rev Peter Tong, sees itself as having a long task in working to provide assistance to the churches of the Diocese and beyond to create better gatherings which both serve the needs of the people and honour God. So far, the panel has produced three simple templates for use in a range of congregations which are on the [bettergatherings.com](http://bettergatherings.com) website. There is much more to be done and as yet the Panel has not been able explicitly to focus upon missional plant experience mentioned in the question - although it could be said that the first three iterations of the Book of Common Prayer were indeed especially written for congregations the majority of whose members were ex-Roman Catholics.
- (b) The statement in the [bettergatherings.com](http://bettergatherings.com) website that the responsibility of the leader is to lead others to encounter God is exactly what the Panel believes should occur when we meet with each other in the Christian assembly, as we let the word of Christ dwell richly among us and as we lift our hearts to the Lord.

The Panel is aware how difficult it can be at times to truly 'to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul.' This is why the panel aims to equip service leaders to craft meetings that by their shape, their contents and their tone proclaim the gospel of Christ, build his body in the unity of the Spirit, and bring honour and glory to God.

There is a place on the [bettergatherings.com](http://bettergatherings.com) website for expressing concerns about the theology or any other issue of relevance.

- (c) There has been theological assessment of all the resources on the [bettergatherings.com](http://bettergatherings.com) website, and Panel members are satisfied that they do not contravene any principle of doctrine or worship of the Book of Common Prayer and the Thirty-Nine Articles. The two prayers of humble access referred to in the question, are believed to be simply various translations of the original prayer from the Book of Common Prayer.

- (d) The Panel believes that the only canonically authorised liturgies in this Diocese are the Book of Common Prayer of 1662 and An Australian Prayer Book of 1978. The [bettergatherings.com](http://bettergatherings.com) website does not include liturgies from Common Worship from the Church of England but does occasionally provide resources from it and other liturgical resources which are consistent with the principles of the doctrine and worship of this Church.

12. **Audited Accounts of the Endowment of the See**

Mr John Paul to ask –

This question relates to both the Standing Committee's report and the Strategic Directions 2010-2012 documents. Both documents refer to the Endowment of the See experiencing losses as well as the Diocesan Endowment –

- (a) Will copies of the audited accounts for this Endowment of the See be made available to Synod noting that the Endowment of the See's financial reports are provided to Standing Committee, which in turn is a Committee of Synod?
- (b) If not, why not?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows -

Consistent with previous years, the audited accounts for the EOS have been tabled at Standing Committee and Synod, and are available for inspection by any member.

### 13. Harvest Living Investment Review

Mrs Jane Strickland to ask –

In referring to paragraph 4.25 of the 2009 Report of the Standing Committee (page 16 of the 2009 Session of Synod Book) regarding a summary of the Harvest Living Investment Review –

- (a) What was the monetary value of the investment loss to the Glebe Administration Board (GAB) in the Harvest Living group of companies?
- (b) What are the changes that have been made to investment policies and procedures of the GAB that will not allow any investment of a similar nature to be made in the future?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The total losses from the Harvest investments were approximately \$10.5m and all were fully written off or provisioned by December 2007.
- (b) The Committee that reviewed investment processes in the light of the Harvest Living losses found that investment policies and procedures had changed in a number of significant ways since those investments were made. The GAB no longer invests in small unlisted entities which have any one or more of the following characteristics –
  - we would have a large percentage holding
  - there are linkages between the entities invested in, or
  - there is potential for us to have active involvement in the management of the companies.

The investment process now involves external funds managers and we no longer engage in “stock picking”.

#### 14. Diocesan Endowment audited accounts

Ms Lyn Bannerman to ask –

This question refers to the Diocesan Endowment (DE) audited accounts for 2008 –

- (a) The five year financial summary at pages 362-363 of the Annual Report states that the total liabilities to net assets ratio of the DE for 2008 was nearly 200% (195.8%), up from 139.3% in 2007. Noting that all bank debt was repaid, could you please advise Synod what the liabilities of \$205.4 million consist of?
- (b) What was the projected liabilities to net asset ratios for the years 2009 and 2010?
- (c) What do the Glebe Administration Board and Standing committee consider to be an appropriate ratio for the DE?
- (d) Are there strategies in place to reduce the current liabilities to net asset ratio? If so what are they?
- (e) P.397 of the Annual Report refers to “Doubtful Debts” over \$1 million. What are these?
- (f) Referring to pages 333 and 401 of the annual report, please explain to Synod, in laypersons language, what “impairment of investments” means? Which investments fall into this category? On what is \$1.7 million for this purpose being spent?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The liabilities of \$205.4m consist of the following items –
  - Glebe Income Account deposits \$154.5m
  - Bank loan \$14.0m
  - External investors share of Glebe Equities Trusts investments \$23.9m
  - Provision for distribution to Synod \$10.7m
  - Interest and other payables \$2.3m

The details of these amounts maybe found in notes 16 – 19 of the GAB audited accounts on pages 403 – 406 of the Synod book. The bank loan was repaid in April 2009.

- (b) The projected liabilities to net asset ratios for the years 2009 and 2010 are 179% and 156% respectively.
- (c) The Board’s focus is to manage liabilities by matching the Glebe Income Account deposits with cash and loans. Currently no GIA deposits are invested in growth assets.
- (d) The Board has in place a range of strategies to manage the liabilities to net assets ratio including matching deposits with cash and loans and allocating a proportion of capital to loans.
- (e) The provision for doubtful debts referred to on page 397 of the annual report relates to an intercompany transaction between the Diocesan Endowment and one of its subsidiaries. At a consolidated level this provision has no effect on the net assets of the group.
- (f) Impairment of investments refers to a charge against income reflecting a decision to write down the value of an asset. This arises when the carrying value of an asset exceeds its realisable value. The provision for impairment on page 401 relates to a write down of the Diocesan Endowment’s investment in a wholly owned subsidiary, Glebe Australia Limited. At a consolidated level this provision has no effect on the net assets of the group.

## 15. Clergy discipline

The Rev Gwilym Henry-Edwards to ask –

Concerning three General Synod 2007 canons aimed at providing a nationally coherent and consistent policy in matters concerning professional standards and clergy discipline; namely the National Register Canon 2007; the Special Tribunal Canon 2007; and the Offences Canon Amendment Canon 2007 –

- (a) What is their status in the Sydney Diocese?
- (b) Did Sydney representatives oppose the passing of these canons at the 2007 General Synod?
- (c) Is it true that Sydney Standing Committee has declared that these canons affect the order and good government of the church within the diocese of Sydney?
- (d) If so, why was the declaration made?
- (e) What flows from that declaration, and what effect does that declaration have on the promotion of a nationally consistent scheme for clergy disciplinary matters?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Strictly speaking parts of this question, namely, the assertion at the beginning and parts (a) and (e), express opinions or seek a legal opinion and are out of order under business rules 6.3(4)(b) and (f). Nonetheless I am able to provide the following information –

- (a) Canons of the General Synod which affect the order and good government of the church within a diocese do not have force and effect in that diocese unless and until the Synod of that diocese adopts the canon by ordinance. The National Register Canon 2007 was adopted by our Synod in 2008. A canon to adopt the Offences Canon Amendment Canon 2007 is before the Synod this year for its consideration. At this stage the Standing Committee does not propose to recommend to the Synod that it adopt the Special Tribunal Canon 2007.
- (b) This is not known. No record is kept of how Sydney representatives on the General Synod vote on any issue.
- (c) Yes.
- (d) There is no record as to how the individual members of the Standing Committee voted or as to why those who supported the declaration voted the way they did. It has been proposed that the sub-committee of the Standing Committee which recommended that the declaration be made prepare a submission in support of the declaration for the benefit of the Standing Committee of the General Synod.
- (e) The implications of the declaration are governed by section 30 of the 1961 Constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia.

There is no national scheme for clergy discipline. Clergy discipline is principally a matter for each diocese to determine. For example it is understood that Faithfulness in Service has not been adopted by all diocesan synods and that many of the diocesan synods that have adopted it have made their own amendments to it.

16. **Connect09.com**

The Rev Greg Olliffe to ask –

How many unique visits to the Connect09.com site have there been each month since its inception to the end of September 2009?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

In 2008 connect09.com was the internal (and only) web-site.

From 22 January 2009, connect09.com became the "public" site designed to interface with the distribution of resources. It has received 7,781 unique visits year to date (an average of 31 unique visits per day).

The former connect09.com site was relocated to

connect09.sydneyanglicans.net

to make way for the new site whilst continuing its role of communicating, networking and informing. Year to date, this "internal" site has received 10,900 unique visits (an average of 43 unique visits per day).

The month by month break down (as requested) for both sites will be posted on the notice board in the foyer.

**Connect09.com External site (went on-line on January 22)**

January 09	644	
February 09	2,405	
March 09	1,199	
April 09	606	
May 09	598	
June 09	436	
July 09	462	
August 09	475	
September 09	682	
<b>TOTAL to end of September</b>	<b>7,507</b>	
<i>Average unique visitors/day</i>	31	
October 09	274	(to 20 <sup>th</sup> )
<b>TOTAL for year to date</b>	<b>7,781</b>	

**Connect09.sydneyanglicans.net Internal site**

January 09	1,586	
February 09	2,039	
March 09	1,266	
April 09	1,071	
May 09	1,084	
June 09	891	
July 09	823	
August 09	814	
September 09	894	
<b>TOTAL to end of September</b>	<b>10,468</b>	
<i>Average unique visitors/day</i>	43	
October 09	432	(to 20 <sup>th</sup> )
<b>TOTAL for year to date</b>	<b>10,900</b>	

## 17. Discontinuance of Synod funding

Ms Caroline Bowyer to ask –

My question refers to the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009 –

- (a) What are the reasons for the discontinuation of all funding for the following –
  - (i) the Primate's Assistant (para 63 of the Ordinance)?
  - (ii) The Anglican Consultative Council (para 65)?
  - (iii) The Australian Defence Force Board (para 66)?
  - (iv) The NSW Ecumenical Council (para 68)?
- (b) Noting that these items are small in the overall budget, why were they not reduced by some percentage, as many other budget items were, rather than discontinued?
- (c) Is there an intention to reinstate funding to any or all of these items in the future, as finances allow? If not, why not?
- (d) In the context of these decisions, and in view of the need for fiscal constraint in 2010, why is funding in 2010 for the NSW Council of Churches –
  - (i) to be continued at all?
  - (ii) continued with a significantly increased allocation (p.314 of the Annual Report)?
- (e) In view of the proposed discontinuation of funding for the NSW Ecumenical Council, what is the policy of this Diocese towards ecumenism?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

It is not possible to answer this question, other than to refer the questioner to the Strategic Directions document, as the Synod has not yet made determinations on these matters. The question has been drawn to the attention of those moving the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009.

18. **Sale of shares by Glebe Administration Board**

The Rev Gavin Poole to ask –

- (a) What was the total amount of money realised from the sale of shares sold by the Glebe Board between 15 September 2008 and 31 December 2008?
- (b) What independent professional advice was obtained by the Glebe Board prior to selling those shares?
- (c) What was the total value of those same shares on the Sydney Stock Exchange on 1 March 2008?
- (d) What was the total value of those same shares on the Sydney Stock Exchange on 15 October 2009?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) Between 15 September 2008 and 31 December 2008 the Board sold \$76m of Australian Equities.
- (b) Paragraphs 32 to 39 of the GAB Annual Report sets out the advice taken from various parties over the period leading up to and including 2008. While the GAB regularly considers economic and market reports from a range of sources, no specific external advice was taken on the sale of the shares during the December 2008 quarter.
- (c) The total value of the Australian Equities sold was \$111m on 1 March 2008.
- (d) The total value of the Australian Equities sold was \$102m on 15 October 2009.

19. **Cross Cultural Ministry**

The Rev David O'Mara to ask –

- (a) What is the current practice and future plans of Moore Theological College to equip Anglican ordination candidates for cross-cultural ministry in the Diocese of Sydney?
- (b) What is the current practice and future plans of Moore Theological College to develop and equip its theological staff to prepare Anglican ordination candidates for the unique challenges of cross-cultural ministry in the Diocese of Sydney?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The whole program at Moore College aims to provide the proper Biblical world view and understanding of the gospel to “make disciples of all nations.” Particular emphases worth mentioning include –
  - 1. All students undertake a compulsory unit in Ministry in each year of their BD course. Those units contain modules on relating ministry to the culture of the hearers, especially in the area of preaching.
  - 2. Other subjects equip students to engage with contemporary world-views.
  - 3. As a result of a review presently being undertaken, commencing in 2010, new subjects will be introduced to the BD which will further strengthen training for ministry in a multi-cultural context. This will include further attention to world religions, in particular Buddhism and Islam, and cross-cultural communication in a mission context.
  - 4. At least one College Mission each year is planned to involve outreach to Muslims in Sydney. There is also usually at least one Mission team that goes to an overseas setting and/or a very different context in Australia.
  - 5. Each week there is a ‘Ministry and Missions Hour’ in which students learn of ministry in a particular context directly from practitioners.
  - 6. Each year there is a Missions Week in which representatives of various mission agencies spend a week at the College engaging in various ways with the College community.
- (b) Since the late 1990s the Faculty of the College has included a Head of the Missions Department, who is a person with cross-cultural missions experience and training.

Over recent years progressively more Faculty members have availed themselves of invitations to engage in and gain exposure to ministry in cross-cultural contexts. Over half have now had that privilege.

Considerable effort has also gone into assembling a curriculum within the MA (Theology) for engagement with Islam and Faculty members have teamed with visiting specialists to learn more. Other specialists have been invited for the future. As experience is gained through these courses, many other aspects of the College program are enhanced to strengthen engagement with the contemporary multi-cultural context of ministry.

20. **Synod funding for Moore College and under Policy 1**

The Rev Philip Bradford to ask –

This question refers to several items in the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009 –

- (a) \$35,000 has been allocated in 2010 under Policy 1a for spiritual renewal through prayer (p. 308 of the Annual report). Please advise –
  - (i) How this estimate has been derived?
  - (ii) What are the costed components that make up this allocation?
- (b) Para 49 of the proposed Ordinance states that: “Synod provides as much funding as possible for Moore Theological College”. In view of the cuts to funding across the board, including some previous budget lines being allocation \$0 for 2010 –
  - (i) What does “as much funding as possible” actually mean?
  - (ii) Is there an intention to allocate more to the College than the budget contained in the Ordinance before Synod currently specifies?
  - (iii) Is Synod being asked to endorse an open ended amount for the College?
- (c) \$288,000 has been allocated under Policy 1b, to the “Work Outside the Diocese Committee”. The only item mentioned at para 30 of the Ordinance in respect of this item is GAFCON.
  - (i) Does this mean that all the allocation of \$288,000 is to support the Diocese’s involvement in GAFCON?
  - (ii) If not, how much of these funds will be GAFCON related and what other activities will be funded under this line?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) (i) Over the past few years the amount allocated to Policy 1a has been 0.5% of the total allocations. In making a recommendation for 2010, the use of the money in the past was taken into account, for example Bishop Reg Piper’s former responsibility for this area and his preparation of ‘40 Days with the Risen Lord’ etc, and more recently the promotion of prayer through Connect09.

While the recommended allocation is only a small amount, the strategic directions document makes the comment “It would be too easy to make this a perfunctory element of the mission when it is really the heart of the matter.”
- (ii) As also stated in that document “the emphasis on prayer must be continued. The essence of this policy remains as important now as ever. The Archbishop commits Episcopal leadership to implement Policy 1.”
- (b) The line “as much funding as possible for Moore College” is a statement of principle that guided the allocations. The amount is not open ended and is limited to the allocation in the ordinance. The committee in allocating the finances sought to invest in the future leaders and their theological development; hence the priority of the College. Note that Moore College is accepting costs for the Social Issues Executive which appears as a zero in policy 4.
- (c) (i) No
- (ii) Approximately \$40,000.

Based on previous experience, it is expected that the Committee will provide support to several other dioceses inside Australia, and for a large variety of projects in overseas countries including theological education, provision of PTC etc.

21. **Pastoral support and professional development of clergy**

Professor Jocelyn Chey to ask –

This question refers to the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009 and the Strategic Directions paper –

- (a) What provision has been made in 2010 to meet the Diocese's obligation to ensure pastoral support and professional development to its clergy?
- (b) Is it true that the cost of such support (see paras 33 and 47 of the Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance) will be dependent on fund raising by parishes?
- (c) What will the Diocese do to assist clergy if such fund raising is not adequate?
- (d) Who will provide pastoral support to clergy, given that the new structures proposed in the Strategic Directions paper appears to eliminate the traditional roles of Archdeacons and Deaneries, and given that Assistant Bishops will have increased workloads implementing policies in the Strategic Directions?

To which the President replied –

- (a) Almost all of the existing provision will remain in place, including that provided by bishops, the Archdeacon for Women and by Ministry Training and Development, and this will be complemented by training in each mission area.
- (b) No. Fund raising in paragraph 33 of the Ordinance refers to administrative assistance to bishops.
- (c) Not applicable.
- (d) The pastoral care and professional development of clergy is a matter in which I have a specific ongoing interest. Naturally, therefore, the bishops and others have been consulted about any necessary changes which need to be made in our new circumstances to keep pastoral care in place and to improve what we do as a Diocese.

22. **Numbers of ordained priests**

The Rev Martin Robinson to ask –

- (a) How many ordained priests were in active service in the Diocese in 2001?
- (b) How many are there in 2009?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) An approximate figure from the records available is 400.
- (b) 374

23. **Inter-Church Commission on Religious Education in Schools**

The Rev Martin Robinson to ask –

Is it the case that the Diocese has withdrawn from ICCOREIS (the Inter-Church Commission on Religious Education in Schools)? If so –

- (a) When was this decision taken?
- (b) How and when was it drawn to the attention of the Diocese at large?
- (c) Why was this action taken?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

After careful consideration of the matter, the Anglican Education Commission, on behalf of the Diocese, made a strategic decision towards the end of 2008 that it could play a more significant and politically effective advocacy role on behalf of Bible-believing teachers of Anglican and Protestant SRE (Scripture) by engaging personally and directly with the Department of Education and Training and the Ministry of Education than through the maintenance of its membership of the Inter-Church Commission on Religious Education in Schools.

As a consequence, the Diocese has been given representation on the Director-General's Consultative Committee on Religious Education, is consulted directly on matters of policy and has had the opportunity to offer policy advice on matters affecting the teaching of religious education in schools.

The thousands of dollars and time that would have been expended in 2009 by two senior persons attending frequent meetings of the Inter-Church Commission on Religious Education has been used so far:

- to strengthen the promotion and support of Anglican SRE throughout the Diocese,
- to upgrade the quality of training programs for new SRE teachers,
- to troubleshoot and resolve quickly problems arising between SRE teachers and schools, and
- to provide support to Christian principals and teachers in Government primary and secondary schools of a kind never previously provided by the Anglican church.

None of this could have been achieved, especially in the light of reduced budgets, had the Diocese continued its membership of ICCOREIS.

ICCOREIS was informed of this decision late last year.

## 20 October 2009

### 24. Regional Council funding for 2010 and beyond

The Rev Bob Cameron to ask –

- (a) What were the total amounts that each Regional Council had undertaken to distribute to parishes by way of funding grants in 2010 and 2011?
- (b) Had any undertakings been given by any Regional Council with regard to funding grants beyond 2011?
- (c) What steps have been taken, if any, to consult with parishes who had received such undertakings, as to their capacity to still fund the relevant ministry in the event of no longer receiving the funding grant or of a reduction of the same?
- (d) Have any parishes been asked or offered to voluntarily reduce or withdraw their applications for funding grants in 2010 or later, and if they have, what percentage of approved grants do the consequent reductions in total applications represent?
- (e) Prior to the investment losses sustained by the Diocese in 2008, what other diocesan organisations or bodies had received specific undertakings by the Standing Committee or the Synod as to funding in 2010, 2011, or later?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

#### Question (a)

*Western Region*

None

*Georges River*

None

*Wollongong Region*

In March 2009 all Rectors in the region were informed that due to reduced funding in 2010 there would be no grant allocations other than those allocated by the Regional Council to ongoing projects. In July 2009 seven parishes received a total commitment of \$255,000 for 2010.

*Northern Region*

2010	\$282,500
2011	\$225,300

The question relates to undertakings to distribute to parishes, which is different from undertakings to parishes to distribute grants. However, the Northern Regional Council also undertook to provide \$66,000 for a cross cultural consultant, MU chaplaincy and for TAFE ministries in 2010, and \$32,000 for a cross-cultural consultant in 2011.

*South Sydney Region*

2010	\$225,292
2011	\$106,000

#### Question (b)

*Western Region*

No

*Georges River*

No

*Wollongong Region*

Yes – three grants totalling \$80,000

*Northern Region*

Undertakings for 2012 amount to \$30,000 for a parish Chinese ministry and \$35,000 for a cross-cultural consultant.

*South Sydney Region*

Yes - \$31,000

Question (c)

*Western Region*

Not applicable

*Georges River*

Not applicable.

*Wollongong Region*

At the beginning of September the six parishes were contacted to discuss the implications of no funding being allocated to the Wollongong Region and the need for the Region to fund ministries from its own resources.

*Northern Region*

Archdeacon Dein made contact with all parishes explaining the financial restraints upon synod funding and the consequentially diminished allocations to regional councils. Conversations were had as to how ministry might be funded from other sources.

*South Sydney Region*

The Regional Council's policy is to grant funding on a 3-year reducing basis. All commitments in place as at the end of 2009 will, God willing, be funded from Council's reserves and whatever income it receives in 2010 and 2011.

Question (d)

*Western Region*

Not applicable.

*Georges River*

Not applicable.

*Wollongong Region*

Of the 7 parishes in relation to which commitments were made, 3 are receiving reduced funding, these being Minto and Nowra for Indigenous ministry, and the Berkeley Church Plant. The remaining four are receiving no funding.

*Northern Region*

Following the conversations with parishes by Archdeacon Dein, Bishop Davies had a second round of conversations and in the process of these talks, a number of parishes indicated that they would be prepared to sacrifice their funding from the Regional Council, so that other parishes might be able to receive some funding. The agreed reductions of grant funding for 2010 is approximately 33%.

*South Sydney Region*

No.

Question (e)

None.

25. **Reduction of Regional Council funding**

The Rev Bob Cameron to ask –

- (a) What criteria, other than strategic considerations, did the Mission Board and the Standing Committee take into account in forming their recommendation to significantly reduce funding to Regional Councils in the 2010-12 triennium?
- (b) In particular, were any moral principles taken into consideration and, if so, what were they?
- (c) On what grounds has the Standing Committee rejected, even as a short-term measure, the possibility of increasing parish assessments in 2010 and 2011 in order to enable existing commitments to be met?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Questions (a) and (b).

The Strategic Directions document acknowledges that the redirection in funding facing our Diocese necessitates difficult decision making, and that good things we funded in the past cannot continue to be funded. To quote from the document –

“In the relative abundance of the past, some central funding was well used as seed funding for new ministries and pastoral staff through regional grants under Policy 2. However, in the changed conditions, central funding must consolidate around Policy 3, and local projects will need to be funded through local fundraising.”

Question (c). See paragraph (b) on page 2 of the Strategic Directions document, noting that there is currently no assessment on parishes.

26. **Impact of financial crisis on Finance and Loans Board**

The Rev Antony Barraclough to ask –

How has the Finance and Loans Board (FLB) been affected by the diocesan financial situation? In particular –

- (a) What losses the FLB may or may not have had in the last 12 months?
- (b) What resources the FLB may still have for lending to parishes?
- (c) What changes the FLB may have taken or may expect to take to their lending practices as a result of the diocesan financial crisis?
- (d) As a result of the answer to part (c) what new risks those parishes with FLB loans may now be exposed to?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The Finance and Loans Board's only investments are deposits with GIA and Loans to parishes. The Board has not had any investment losses in the last twelve months and there have been no bad debts with parishes. In 2008 the Board recorded a surplus of \$697,800.
- (b) At 30 September 2009 the Board had approximately \$3 million available to lend to parishes. Detailed enquiries by various parishes indicate that about half of that may be committed within the next few months.
- (c) The Board has made no change to its long-standing policy of supporting parishes with the Diocesan mission. The Board anticipates that interest rates on loans will be raised soon in accordance with its interest rate policy to move rates "with the market"
- (d) It is unlikely that Parishes will be asked to increase loan repayments immediately, as most parishes maintained higher than necessary payments during the period of low interest rates.

27. **Impact of financial crisis on website hosting services**

The Rev Antony Barraclough to ask –

How will the current 'website hosting' services to the parishes be affected by the diocesan financial crisis if at all?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

SDS expects to continue providing website hosting services to those parishes who choose to use them.

28. **Cross-cultural and ethnic ministry**

The Rev Shane Rogerson to ask –

Given the importance and priority of targeting cross-cultural and ethnic ministry as emphasised in both the Presidential Address and Strategic Directions document –

- (a) Is there a line of funding specific to this mission priority in the 2010-2012 budget?
- (b) Will Regional Councils be responsible for this mission priority and, if so, how much of their budget is to be directed to it?
- (c) What accountabilities will be in place to ensure this strategic area is acted upon?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The line item “Regional Councils – general allocations (including support of ethnic and cross-cultural ministry and administration support” refers to this matter.
- (b) They will be principally responsible. Regional Councils are encouraged to make the continued support of ethnic, cross-cultural ministries a priority when determining the grants they provide. Discussions between the Regions as to how and how much are well advanced. As noted in the Presidential Address, Bruce Hall will also provide advice and leadership in this area in conjunction with Evangelism Ministries.
- (c) As stated on page 13 of the Strategic Directions 2010-2012 document in paragraph (j) “we aim to give greater emphasis to organisations accounting for the performances against objectives and organisations established in Strategic Directions 2010-2012 (meaning outputs and outcomes rather than inputs)”. The relevant Policy Committee will work with the Regional Councils on this matter.

29. **Allocating funding between the Regions**

Mr Geoff Kyngdon to ask –

With reference to the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009 Schedule page 309 Synod book: Policy 2 Expand and Plant and Support congregations, Regional Councils etc, how will the allocated amounts be split equitably between the Regions for 2010-2012?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

It is intended that, as in the past with block grants to the Regional Councils, the Assistant Bishops and their Regional Councils will work together to agree on the cross-cultural (and administrative support) spending of the general allocation for the regions, taking into account demographics, current ethnic costs and future challenges. I am further informed this collaboration has already commenced.

30. **Funding for Indigenous ministry**

Mr Garry Allen to ask –

- (a) What indigenous ministry is currently funded by Regional Councils?
- (b) What is the current total value of this funding?
- (c) How long have these ministries been funded by Regional Councils?
- (d) If Regional Council funding is withdrawn, what alternate sources of funding do they have?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The Wollongong Regional Council funds the Minto Indigenous Ministry under the leadership of Pastor Michael Duckett and the Nowra Indigenous ministry under the leadership of Rev Jonathan Lilley.

The South Sydney Regional Council funds 1 part-time ministry position in the parish of South Sydney

No indigenous ministry is funded by Regional Councils in the Western, Georges River and Northern regions.

- (b) \$110,000

- (c) The Minto Indigenous ministry has been funded since 2000.

The Nowra ministry has been funded since its beginning in 2008.

The South Sydney Regional Council has funded the position at the parish of South Sydney since 1996.

- (d) The Wollongong Regional Council will continue to provide funding with reduced grants totalling \$50,000. It is expected that funding will also be made available from donation income and grants from the Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee.

South Sydney Regional Council is considering other possibilities for structuring and funding Indigenous ministry beyond 2010 but these are yet to be agreed to and will take some time to put in place.

In 1997 Synod passed the Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Ordinance. This ordinance set up a fund of \$1m to be administered by the Property Trust on behalf of the Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples Ministry Committee. The fund receives 1% of the annual distributions to the synod from the Diocesan Endowment and some donations both of which are capitalised. Annual distributions from the investments of the fund amount to about \$120,000 and are substantially used to fulfill the responsibilities of the Ministry Committee under the Ordinance to initiate and support gospel ministry and ministry training of indigenous people. There are more opportunities for such financial support than funds available. The questioner is referred to the Annual Report of the SAIPMC.

31. **The Edge Project**

Mr Garry Allen to ask –

- (a) What was the Edge Project and what was it meant to achieve (Notes 8, 12 SDS Income Statement, page 328 of the blue Synod book)?
- (b) Why was it written off?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The Edge Project involved the replacement of 2 core software systems used by SDS to service its clients. The first was the general ledger used for the accounting records and financial management of the funds administered by SDS. The second was a property management system used to administer commercial and parish property and to facilitate risk management activities.

The Edge Project was designed to enhance the capability of the Secretariat to service its clients. Another key driver was risk mitigation as the provider of the previous general ledger system had become insolvent.

- (b) The Board of SDS resolved to proceed with this project in February 2007 at a time when it was expected that SDS could recover the project's costs from its clients over time. For this reason the cost of the project was originally treated as an asset.

As a result of the global financial crisis and the DE investment losses the capacity of many of SDS's clients to pay fees was reduced. It was therefore decided that the costs should be treated as a current expense.

32. **“Big Day In”**

Mrs Jean Marlow to ask –

With regard to “Big Day In” –

- (a) How many parishes participated in the live broadcast of “Big Day In” in February?
- (b) Was the total service made available on DVD or by download?
- (c) If so, how was its availability communicated and how many parishes took advantage of this option?
- (d) What was the total cost of “Big Day In”?
- (e) Of this cost, what proportion was related to the cost of producing the event and what proportion was due to the requirement to broadcast the service “live”?
- (f) Is it anticipated that there will be future “Big Days In”?
- (g) If so, will the producers consider pre-recording the service and making it available in the form of DVD or download so that parishes can run it at a time appropriate to their needs?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) 188 parishes registered formally to receive the Big Day In live, however, given it was so easily accessible on digital TV, we understand that (at least) 200 sites participated live on the day.
- (b) Yes, the total service was made available on DVD for those who could not record the digital broadcast locally. The Archbishop's address was downloadable.
- (c) Local recording was encouraged as the preferred option for all who could not participate live. For those within the digital TV footprint, this was by far the easiest and most effective (and cheapest) option. 35 DVDs were provided on request to parishes who did not, or could not, record the event locally.
- (d) Total cost was \$41, 619.52.
- (e) Live broadcast contributed approximately \$11,000 of the total cost. However, the broadcast to a nationwide digital TV audience brought with it sponsorship of \$5,000. The net extra cost of the live broadcast was thus approx. \$6,000.
- (f) The committee will consider this question.
- (g) Yes, we would consider all possibilities.

33. **Lambeth Conference in 2008**

Mrs Pamela Shaw to ask –

In the spirit of Connect09 what action has been taken, or will be taken, to heal the hurt caused to the Anglican community both within Australia and within the world-wide Anglican community, by our Diocese not being represented at the Lambeth Conference in 2008?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

This question is out of order under business rules 6.3(4)(a) and (c) as it contains a number of assertions and offers an argument.

34. **Mission Property Fund**

Mr Alan Höhne to ask –

Mission Property Fund: How many members of the Mission Committee were employees of a parish for which a so-called brownfields development grant was approved from the Mission Property Fund at the time the grant was considered and what processes were followed by them to avoid conflict of interest?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The Mission Property Committee makes recommendations to the Mission Board as to the projects that it considers should be declared as prioritised projects under clause 5C of the Mission Property Ordinance 2002. The Mission Property Committee's proposed recommendations were subject to critical appraisal by the Mission Board before being issued in final form. The Mission Board adopted the recommendations of the Mission Property Committee and declared a total of 9 projects as 'prioritised projects'.

None of the members of the Mission Property Committee were employees of parishes that received funding at the time the Committee made recommendations to the Mission Board.

Although not employees of parishes, two rectors of parishes that received funding were members of the Mission Board at the time the decision was made. They both left the room when the matter was debated and took no part in the Mission Board's decision.

35. **Theological training for ordination**

Mr Alan Höhne to ask –

- (a) What is the publicly stated theological training required for ordination to the diaconate in this Diocese and how many persons have been ordained to the diaconate over the past seven years who did not meet that requirement?
- (b) What is the publicly stated theological training required for ordination to the presbyterate in this Diocese and how many persons have been ordained to the presbyterate over the past seven years who did not meet that requirement?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The requirements for theological training for Ordination are set out in the booklet “Full Time Paid Ministry in the Diocese of Sydney” as a four-year program undertaken at Moore Theological College. In certain circumstances, eg for prospective children’s ministers, that could be a one-year course at Moore College or a two-year program at Youthworks College together with supervision as a student minister. In other circumstances variations can be made. Recommendations for ordination are made by a panel to the Archbishop. Over the past seven years all of those ordained met the requirements.
- (b) The theological training required for Ordination as a Presbyter is also outlined in that same booklet. The usual program involves the four-year Bachelor of Divinity course at Moore Theological College, although variations are possible in certain circumstances. Over the past seven years, all of those ordained to the Presbyterate have met the requirements.

36. **Ordained leadership**

The Rev Raj Gupta to ask –

Considering the importance of leadership for our future –

- (a) How many ordained ministers are due to retire in the next 5 years?
- (b) How many ordinands are currently studying at MTC?
- (c) What is the expected first year intake at MTC in 2010?
- (d) What is the expected first-year intake into AYW College Diploma courses in 2010?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows -

- (a) 60
- (b) 109. In addition, there are 7 more at Youthworks College and 12 who are currently in lay ministry, making a total of 128. It should also be noted that the ordination next February is expected to be the largest ever.
- (c) It is too early to tell first year enrolments for 2010. In recent years October and November are peak application months and this year there is the added variable of part-time enrolment being available for the first year program. At this early stage the College is encouraged that enrolments for 2010 seem to be ahead of this year's number of 87. The College asks all synod members to pray for at least 100.
- (d) 35

### 37. Indigenous and tertiary ministry funding

The Rev Ian Millican to ask –

In respect of the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Attachment #1, can the Archbishop please advise –

- (a) The balance of the Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Fund as at 31 December 2008, and details of any movements in that Fund during either 2008 or 2009? and
- (b) How much of the proposed \$300,000 allocated in 2010 to the Tertiary Ministry Oversight Committee, is proposed to be spent on TAFE Ministry, and the details of how that amount is proposed to be spent?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (b) The market value of the balance of the Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Fund at 31 December 2008 was \$1,697,893.

During 2008 the Fund received interest and distributions from its investments, paid trust management fees and made distributions to cover the stipends and expenses of a number of Indigenous ministries. In 2008 the Fund also suffered a diminution in the market value of its investment held in the Property Trust's Long Term Pooled Fund.

In 2009 Fund has continued to receive interest and distributions from its investments, pay trust management fees and make distributions to cover the stipends and expenses of a number of Indigenous ministries. The value of the Fund's investment in the Long Term Pooled Fund has increased this year, and the market value of the balance of the Fund at 18 October 2009 was \$1,934,850.

- (c) The bill for the Synod Appropriations and Allocations Ordinance 2009 proposes that \$300,000 be allocated to the Tertiary Ministry Oversight Committee.

At its meeting on 28 September 2009 the Standing Committee received a report from the Interim Tertiary Ministry Oversight Committee containing the recommendation that there be no change in the distribution of funding for tertiary ministries for 2010, and Standing Committee agreed to the allocations being recommended.

The details of how the funds are proposed to be allocated for 2010 are as follows –

Macquarie Uni (Robert Menzies) .....	20,000
University of Sydney (Broadway).....	39,000
University of NSW (Unichurch) .....	45,000
University of Technology Sydney (Broadway) .....	45,000
UWS – Penrith (Kingswood) .....	35,000
UWS – Parramatta (Carlingford).....	45,000
UWS / TAFE – Hawkesbury (ICCF).....	9,000
UWS / TAFE – Nirimba (ICCF) .....	5,000
University of Wollongong (AFES / ECU Wollongong).....	25,000
Northern Region TAFEs (ICCF) .....	17,000
Western Region TAFEs (ICCF) .....	15,000

38. **Stipends survey**

The Rev Ian Millican to ask –

Can the Archbishop please advise the results to date of the recent survey accompanying the 2010 “Stipends, Allowances and Benefits” recommendations?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The results of the survey will be posted on the notice board in the foyer (copy attached).

SURVEY FORM

2010 Minimum Stipend

*Do you think it was appropriate for Standing Committee to apply a 0% increase to the 2010 minimum stipend ...*

Yes	28	45.90%
No	31	50.82%
No Response	2	3.28%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Ministry Staff Remuneration

*Do you believe that the Diocesan minimum stipend rates and recommended allowances are -*

	Too High	Fair	Too Low	Not Sure
Ministers	5 8%	44 72%	12 20%	0 0%
Assistant Ministers & Lay Ministers	4 7%	41 67%	8 13%	6 10%
Youth & Children Ministers (Theological Degree)	4 7%	39 64%	7 11%	8 13%
Youth & Children Ministers (Diploma)	5 8%	35 57%	8 13%	10 16%

*Does your parish pay above the minimum stipend for any of your ministry staff?*

Yes	26	43%
No	34	56%
No Response	1	1.64%

## Basis for setting the minimum stipend

Attachment to Q38 (Stipends Survey)

On what basis do you think stipends should be set?

	Yes	No	Not sure
Percentage of Average Weekly Earnings in NSW	41 67%	7 11%	7 11%
Linked to the Consumer Price Index in Sydney	22 36%	21 34%	10 16%
With reference to another occupation (e.g., teachers)	10 16%	29 48%	15 25%
Determined by each parish	11 18%	40 66%	4 7%
By a Synod Committee that is independent of Standing Committee	25 41%	19 31%	11 18%
Other Benchmark	Comments below		

## The Remuneration Guidelines

Please consider the following and provide your response in the box opposite.

	Very Good	Good	Poor	Very Poor
Information	25 41%	35 57%	0 0%	0 0%
Readability	26 43%	35 57%	0 0%	0 0%
Overall design	22 36%	37 61%	2 3%	0 0%
Navigation & Intuitiveness	18 30%	36 59%	4 7%	1 2%

What position do you hold in the parish?

Clergy	31
Lay ministry staff	1
Warden / Parish Councillor	22
Treasurer	11
Other	1

NOTE: Some respondents hold the position of Warden and Treasurer.

## 21 October 2009

### 39. Endowment of the See and the Diocesan Endowment

The Rev David Clarke to ask –

Could a brief historical background be made available to members of Synod with regards to the establishment of the Endowment of the See and the Diocesan Endowment in particular covering why two separate funds were originally established, and what was to be paid for from each fund?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The colonial government granted five estates (or glebes) to the Church of England in the mid 1800's for the purpose of providing an income to the colonial Church to fund its activities. Each of the glebes, with one exception, was associated with a particular church. The fifth glebe, which became known as Bishopthorpe, was given for the maintenance of the Bishop of Australia and his successors. The Archbishop of Sydney was declared by legislation to be successor to the Bishop of Australia.

Much of the glebe land was subdivided and leased on long term leases for the construction of residential accommodation. The leases provided poor returns due to an absence of rent review provisions. The Glebe Administration Board was created in 1930 for the purpose of managing the glebe property more efficiently.

The ground leases began expiring in the 1950's and the Glebe Board redeveloped and sold off significant portions of the glebe land in the 1960s and 70s. These sale proceeds formed the corpus of the Diocesan Endowment. The investment income from the endowment was used for general diocesan purposes such as evangelism, education and social welfare, much as it is today.

It is understood that the fund now known as the Endowment of the See was derived from the sale of the Bishopthorpe glebe and the Archbishop's portion of the Moorebank Estate, bequeathed by Thomas Moore. In the 1970's, as a result of the passing of a number of ordinances, the assets of the Endowment of the See were vested in three different trustees - the Glebe Board, the Property Trust and the St Andrew's House Corporation. The Standing Committee decided that the assets should be consolidated with trusteeship vested in the Property Trust. It was also decided that a committee should be formed for the purpose of managing the assets of the Endowment of the See and consulting with the Archbishop as to how the investment income should be applied. To this end the Endowment of the See Ordinance was passed in 1977.

40. **Financial contributions to AEC**

The Rev Ian Millican to ask –

Can the Archbishop please advise which schools contributed financially to the work of the Anglican Education Commission during 2008, and how much each of those schools contributed?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Anglican schools were asked to commit to contributing a minimum of 0.1 of 1% of the income from tuition fees to the work of the AEC. Many schools gave that commitment, while others have given a donation. A list of the schools that did contribute financially to the work of AEC in 2008 will be given to the questioner and posted on the notice board in the foyer (copy attached).

**Anglican Education Commission - 2008 School Contributions**

<b>School</b>	<b>2008 Contribution Received</b>
Abbotsleigh	\$22,500
Arden Anglican School	\$5,100
Bankstown Grammar School	\$3,700
Barker College	\$5,000
Blue Mountains Grammar School	\$6,000
Broughton Anglican College	\$5,000
Macarthur Anglican School	\$6,600
Mosman Church of England Prep School	\$4,300
Northholm Grammar School	\$5,600
Shore School	\$20,900
St Andrew's Cathedral School	\$16,000
St Catherine's School	\$11,600
St Peter's Anglican Primary School	\$1,800
Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation	\$189,000
Tara Anglican School for Girls	\$12,800
The Illawarra Grammar School	\$8,500
The King's School	\$15,000
Trinity Grammar School	\$30,100
William Clarke College	\$4,700

41. **Western Sydney and Georges River Regions grants**

The Rev Richard Blight to ask –

Would you provide a list of grants by the Western Sydney and Georges River Regions to parishes and other ministries for the period of their last report to Synod in the same format as that provided by the other regions?

Would you encourage all the Regional Councils to include this information in their future annual reports to Synod in order to improve communication with parishes and Synod and to facilitate research?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Given the complexity of the data, the breakdown of grants by the Western Sydney and Georges River regions will be provided to the questioner and posted on the notice board in the foyer (copy attached).

The Archdeacons for each of the aforementioned regions have indicated that they are prepared to seek inclusion of the breakdown of grant monies in the annual reports of their Regional Councils. It is noted that the Archdeacons gave a similar undertaking in an answer to the same question last year and they apologise for the omission this year.

<b>WESTERN REGION 2008 MINISTRY GRANTS</b>		
<b>NAME</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>Amount \$</b>
Auburn St Thomas	Chinese	25,000
Blacktown	Sudanese	10,000
Cherrybrook	Youth	10,000
Cranebrook	Assistant	32,000
Dundas/Telopea	Youthworks scholarship	7,500
Dural District	Youth	20,000
Dural District	Assistant	13,000
Glenmore Park	Children	10,000
Glenmore Park	Women	5,000
Glenmore Park	Young adults	20,000
Katoomba	Family	10,000
Kellyville	Children	15,000
Kurrajong	Children	10,000
Mt Drutt	Youth	30,000
Mt Drutt	Children & family	30,000
Northmead/Winston Hills	Assistant	20,000
Parramatta	Persian	15,000
Parramatta	Chinese	15,000
Quakers Hill	Children & Youth	10,000
Richmond	Children	3,000
Rouse Hill	Children & Youth	20,000
Seven Hills	African	20,000
South Penrith	Children & youth	8,702
St Marys	Assistant	20,000
Springwood	Youthworks scholarship	7,500
UWS Hawkesbury	Chaplain	9,000
UWS Parramatta	Chaplain	35,000
UWS Nirimba	Church Plant	5,000
UWS Nirimba	Chaplain	5,000
UWS Penrith	Chaplain	35,000
Wentworthville	Dinka Minister	27,500
Westmead	Children	15,000
Wilberforce	Church Planter	15,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>533,202</b>

**GEORGES RIVER REGIONAL COUNCIL GRANTS  
FOR 2008**

<b>Parish/Organisation</b>	<b>Ministry to be Funded</b>	<b>Grant 2008</b>
Beverly Hills-Kingsgrove	Children & Youth (C&Y)	10,000
Beverly Hills-Kingsgrove	Church Planting MTS	36,000
Blakehurst	MTS worker	10,000
Blakehurst	C&Y	790
Brighton-Rockdale	Asian ministry	35,500
Campsie	Mandarin ministry	10,000
Earlwood	C&Y	5,000
Earlwood	Rent assistance	12,000
Fairfield	C&Y	15,000
Fairfield	Assistant Minister	40,000
Georges Hall	C&Y	2,000
Hoxton Park	Assistant Minister	17,000
Hurstville	ABC minister	42,000
Hurstville	MTS worker	10,000
Kogarah	Chinese lay assistant	15,000
Kogarah	ABC - C&Y	10,000
Kogarah	Student minister - Mandarin	6,000
Liverpool South	South-Asian ministry	11,000
Liverpool South	C&Y	790
Lugarno	C&Y	10,000
Padstow	C&Y	10,000
Regents Park	Vietnamese ministry	33,000
Riverwood	C&Y	6,000
Sadleir	C&Y	10,000
Sadleir	Minister	25,000
South Carlton	Assistant Minister	5,000
Smithfield Rd	C&Y	20,790
St George North	Asian Pastor	5,000
St George North	C&Y	11,580
St George North	MTS workers (2)	20,000
<u>Regional Council</u>		
ESL Coordinator		27,000
C&Y Coordinator		10,000
Arabic Minister		75,000
Administration & Property		4,290
<b>Total</b>		<b>560,740</b>

42. **Mission Leaders**

Dr Robert Mackay to ask –

With regard to the appointment of Mission Leaders as outlined in the document Strategic Directions 2010-2012 and its appendix –

- (a) What is envisaged as the respective input of the Archbishop, Mission Board and others in the appointment process?
- (b) What might be the criteria used in this appointment process?
- (c) What is the anticipated appointment period?
- (d) Notwithstanding the “desired outcomes”, is it intended there be a more formal appraisal process? If so, by whom?

To which the President replied –

- (a) The final appointments are made by me. As indicated in the document, I will certainly take advice from people such as the Assistant Bishops, the Mission Board and local rectors before making those appointments.
- (b) I would consider various criteria, including experience, gifts and abilities, and the willingness and initiative in working with fellow clergy.
- (c) The initial appointments will probably be for 3 years.
- (d) As these are my appointments, I would, in consultation with Bishop Ivan Lee, assess the effectiveness of the program with advice from the Mission Board

43. **Freemasonry booklet**

The Rev Glenn Farrell to ask –

My question relates to the resolution 8.4 on page 33 of the Report of the Standing Committee. In resolution 25/03 –

Synod requested that we undertake the preparation for the production and distribution of a clear and an unambiguous booklet suitable for wide distribution, examining the key rights (sic), teachings and beliefs of Freemasonry and explaining why they differ from Christianity and explaining why it is wrong for a Christian to belong to the Lodge.

The report of Standing Committee notes that the Principal of Moore Theological College has been asked to arrange for the College to prepare, in consultation with the Archbishop, the booklet referred to in Synod resolution 25/03.

My question is in two parts –

- (a) Why has it taken five years for this resolution to be acted upon the Standing Committee?
- (b) Would an outline of key milestone dates be provided for the preparation, publication and distribution of this booklet?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) My answer to a question at last year's Synod indicated that I commissioned a well-known author to prepare a booklet. Preliminary work was undertaken and a large amount of material was examined. However, after consultation and consideration, it was realised that there are already a number of publications available which cover the issues, and that the time, effort and finance involved in producing a new publication may not be a priority, and that I was happy to refer the matter back to Standing Committee for its advice. Standing Committee then decided to ask the Principal of Moore Theological College to arrange for a booklet to be prepared, which he has agreed to do.
- (b) It is hoped that the booklet will be available for distribution by the next session of Synod.

#### 44. **St James Ethics Centre**

Dr Sara Denize to ask –

- (a) What has been, and will be, the Diocesan response (with particular reference to the actions that have been taken or which are planned by various Diocesan bodies, such as the Anglican Education Commission, Anglican Youthworks and the Social Issues Executive) to the continuing and persistent efforts of the St James Ethics Centre to develop and pilot a secular ethics curriculum which is proposed as an alternative to SRE in State Public Primary Schools?
- (b) Given that most State School SRE programs are delivered by joint-denominational teams, and in light of claims by the St James Ethics Centre that “many of the faith-based groups with whom the Centre consulted welcomed the possibility of an ethics-based course”, will this response take into account the views of the other Christian churches who share with us in the SRE program?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (d) The Diocesan position on the provision of Religious Education in Government schools is outlined in the Diocesan Education Policy, adopted by Synod in 2007. Every student in a Government Primary School is entitled to General Religious Education (GRE) taught by the regular teacher. The teaching and modeling of ethics occurs on a daily basis in every primary classroom in every school, though it is not necessarily labelled as ethics. Sadly GRE has declined in recent years and the whole community is the poorer.

The Diocese remains committed to the teaching of Special Religious Education (SRE) by voluntary and paid representatives of the approved churches/denominations to the children whose parents have agreed to their being taught by such representatives. The Diocese regrets that a large number of students in many schools are denied SRE because the churches (including our own) have not been able to provide trained and authorised personnel to deliver the lessons. We continue to work to remedy this situation.

I have written to the NSW Minister for Education and Training concerning the proposal by the St James Ethics Centre seeking the opportunity for a personal conversation. So far I have not received a reply. I will follow up on this matter.

It is noted that according to its website, St James Ethics Centre is a fully independent, not-for-profit organisation with no political or religious affiliations.

- (b) I have also begun consulting with other Christian denominations about these proposals. We will also ask the NSW Council of Churches to discuss the matter and respond.

45. **Inspiring People DVDs**

The Rev James Rogers to ask –

Are there any plans to produce full DVDs of the recent *Inspiring People* panel discussions?

If so, how and when will they be made available?

If there are presently no plans, would the relevant body or bodies consider producing full DVDs of the discussions and making them available to churches as tools for their ongoing evangelistic efforts?

To which the President replied –

I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Anglican Media plans to produce a DVD containing highlights of the recent Inspiring People events. It will include some complete panels, as well as numerous short clips of panellists. The DVD will be available early next year.

In the meantime, four short clips have been sent to all parishes on the October edition on SX Digital, the audio of some panels will be posted on [sydneyanglicans.net](http://sydneyanglicans.net) over the coming weeks, and the clip shown in synod will be included on November's SX Digital (as will the full Presidential Address).