



General Proposal 2 – Resourcing Flourishing Presbyteries

Frequently Asked Questions

What is being proposed?

A proposal for the 39th Synod to create a fair and sustainable way to financially resource Presbyteries across Queensland. Its purpose is to support Presbyteries as they serve congregations and faith communities in mission, ministry, renewal and growth.

The proposed model would bring Presbytery property and financial resources into a more shared approach, with funds pooled, invested and distributed according to need, agreed priorities and available resources.

The proposal is connected to the broader work on Presbytery Capacity, but the two proposals are related rather than dependent on one another.

Would Congregation property decisions be affected?

No. Congregation-related property decisions would remain unchanged where the Congregation is the Responsible Body. The proposal applies only to property and financial assets for which the Presbytery is the Responsible Body.

Why is this being considered?

This work is about strengthening the whole Church for mission. Presbyteries need reliable, equitable and transparent funding to support congregations and faith communities well, now and into the future.

The current approach is becoming harder to sustain, with declining CPMP contributions, uneven reserves across Presbyteries, and different funding arrangements in different places. Some Presbyteries are increasingly drawing down on reserves to operate, which is not sustainable over the long term.

How is the proposal fair?

The proposal seeks to balance resources across all Presbyteries by pooling funds and distributing them according to need, agreed priorities and available resources. This means support would not depend only on the resources held by an individual Presbytery.

Fairness is also supported through shared governance. Allocation decisions would be made by a committee with equal representation from each Presbytery (allowing for additional members from greater regional presbytery to ensure equity between regional and city voices), supported by clear reporting, Synod oversight and compliance with UCA principles.

What is the Combined Presbytery Resourcing Committee?

The Combined Presbytery Resourcing Committee, or CPRC, would be a new committee responsible for overseeing Presbytery property and financial resources under the proposed model. Its role would be to help ensure funding is transparent, equitable and based on need.

How would the CPRC be structured?

Each Presbytery would appoint members to the CPRC. Ex officio members would include the Chair of the Synod's Finance, Investment and Property Board and the General Secretary, or their delegate. Non-voting members would include the Executive Director of Finance, Property and Enterprises. The Chairperson would be elected from among the committee members.

What is the Combined Presbytery Resource Fund?

The Combined Presbytery Resource Fund, or CPRF, would be a long-term capital endowment fund to support Presbyteries. It would be funded through property sales, Presbytery Mission Development Funds and other contributions.

Investments would follow ethical principles, and only part of the earnings would be distributed each year to help protect the long-term sustainability of the fund.

What is the Combined Presbytery Operational Fund?

The Combined Presbytery Operational Fund, or CPOF, would be an annual fund to support Presbytery operations and strategic initiatives. It would draw on CPMP contributions, Presbytery reserves and distributions from the CPRF.

How would accountability and governance be maintained?

The CPRC would operate under Synod oversight, with administrative support from the Synod Office. The Finance, Investment and Property Board would manage the investment strategy for the CPRF, ensuring compliance with UCA Regulations and ethical investment principles.

Clear governance, reporting and decision-making processes would support transparency, accountability and good stewardship.

What would happen to existing Presbytery reserves and Mission Development Funds?

Under the proposal, existing Presbytery reserves and Mission Development Funds would be consolidated into the CPRF to create a shared approach to resources. This would help improve equitable access to funding across all Presbyteries.

How would Presbyteries request funding?

Each Presbytery would submit an annual budget and funding request to the CPRC for operational needs and strategic initiatives. The CPRC would then allocate funds based on those submissions, agreed priorities and available resources.

Has a decision been made?

No. A final decision has not been made. The proposal for consideration by the 39th Synod, draws on the feedback, prayerful reflection and discernment already received. Synod members will then consider the proposal as part of the wider Renewal and Growth journey.