



Presbytery Capacity & Resourcing Proposals

**Townhall Meetings
September 2026**

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QUEENSLAND SYNOD

“The Presbytery...perform all the acts of oversight necessary to the life and mission of the Church in the area for which it is responsible, except for those agencies which are directly responsible to the Synod or Assembly. It will in particular exercise oversight over the congregations within its bounds, encouraging them to strengthen one another’s faith, to bear one another’s burdens, and exhorting them to fulfil their high calling in Christ Jesus.”

(Basis of Union, para 15)

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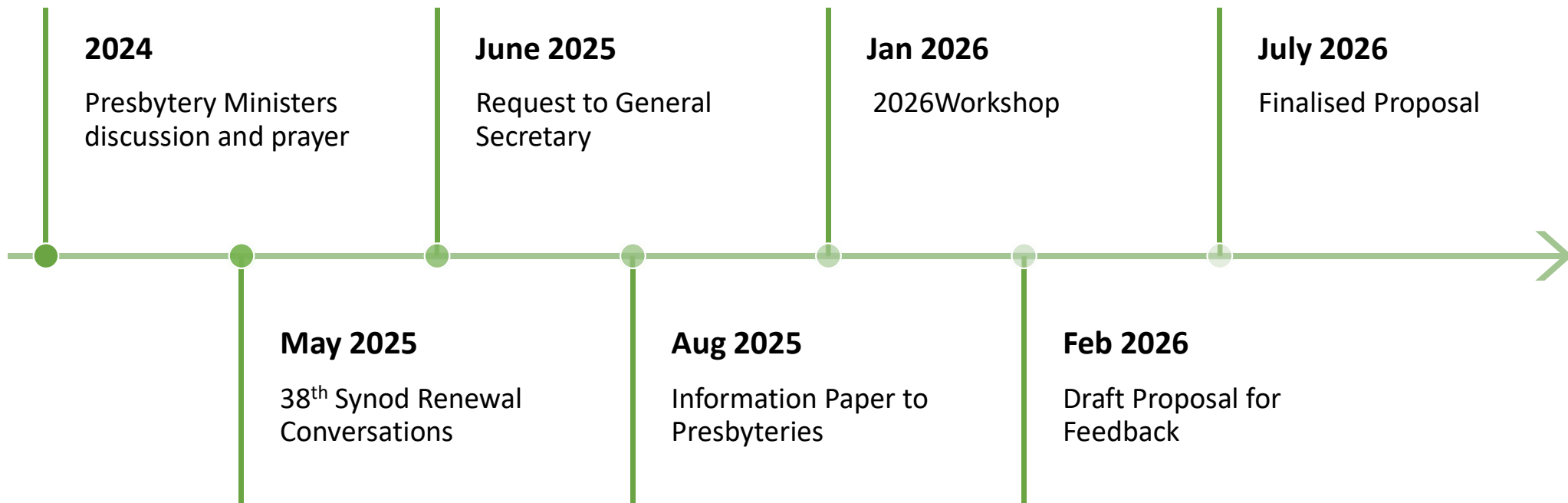
1. Presbytery Capacity

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Where has this Proposal Come From?

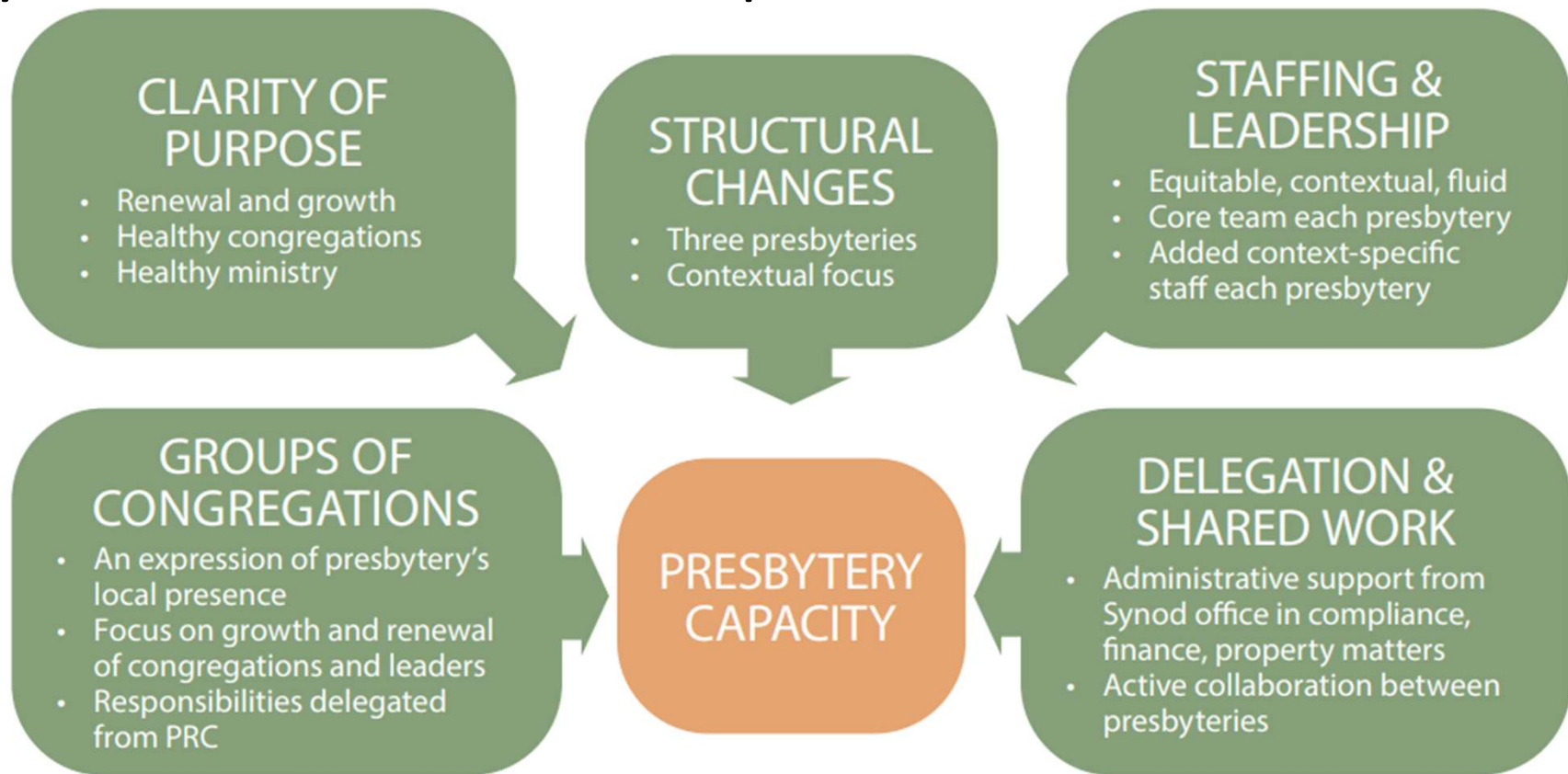


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Key Elements of the Proposed Model



A. Clarity of purpose

“...exhorting them to fulfil their high calling in Christ Jesus.”

(Basis of Union, para 15)



Renewal and Growth

Consistent with Synod strategy

Guides presbytery activity



Healthy congregations

Planning

Planting

Growing healthy



Healthy ministry

Pastoral care

Formation

Leadership development

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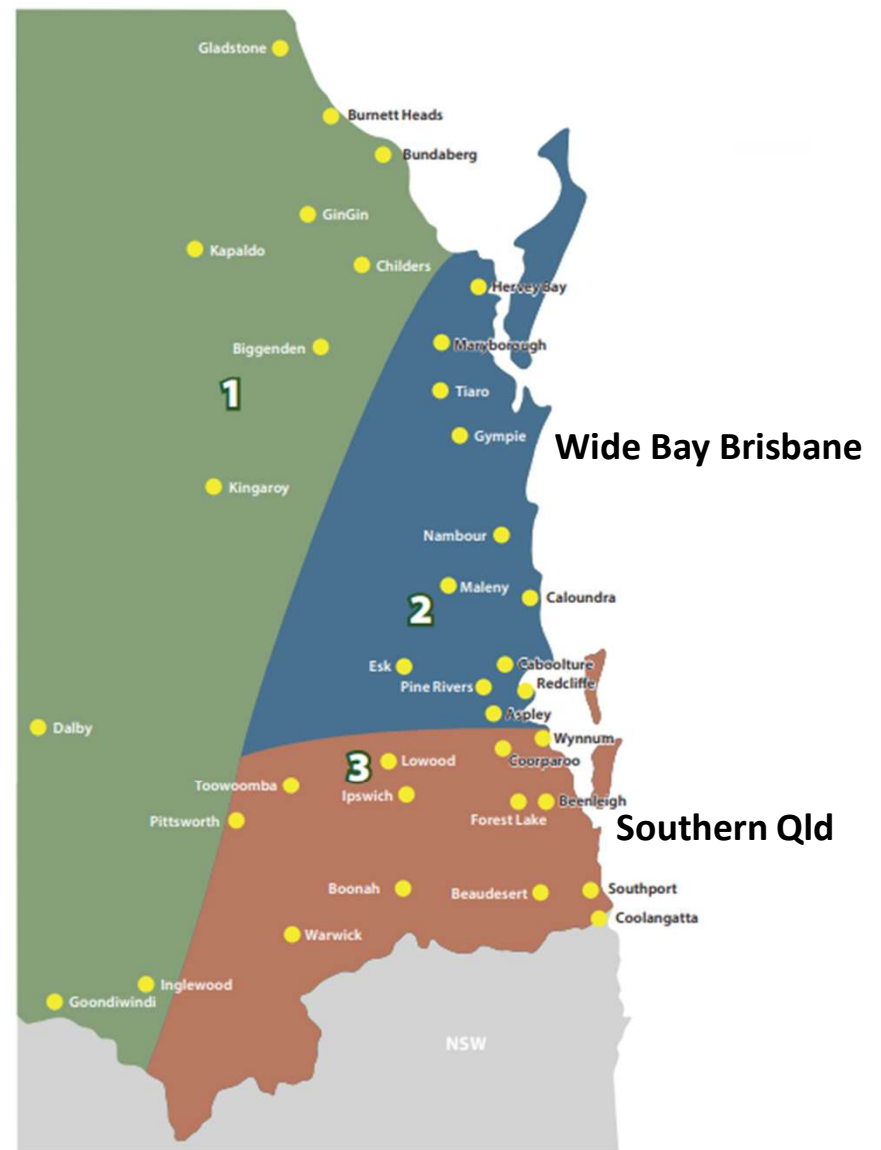
B. Presbytery structure & boundaries



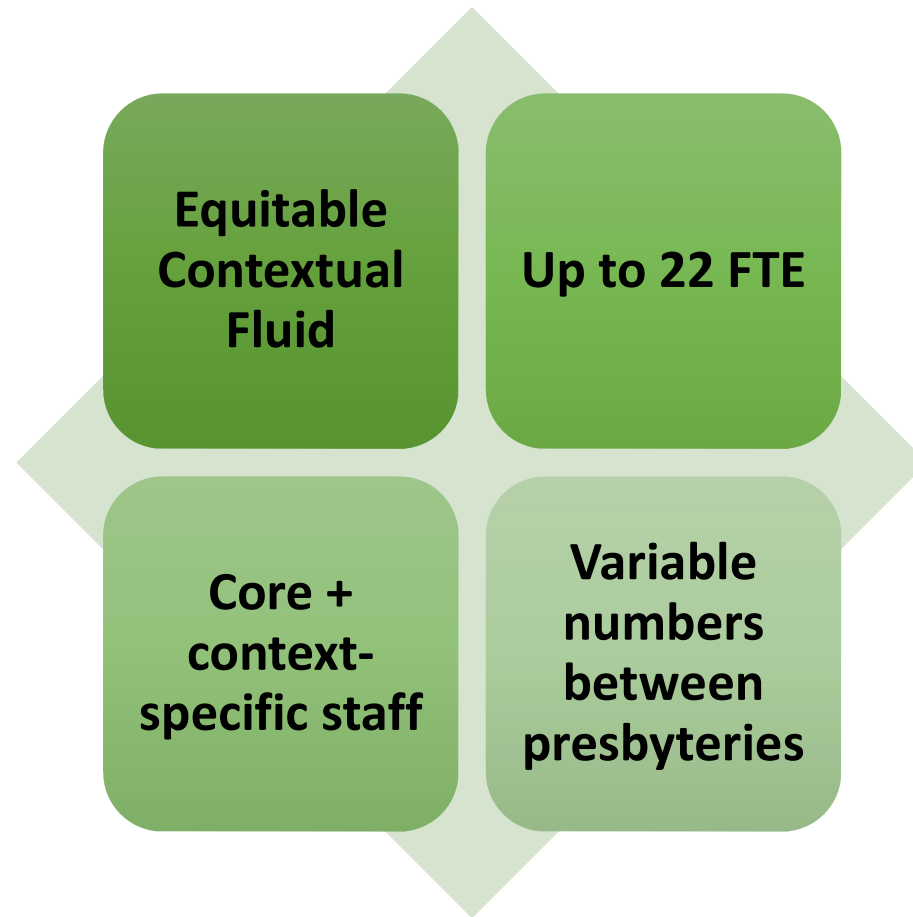
3 new Presbyteries: each will ensure missional integrity and relational networks of those closest to the new Presbytery borders are encouraged.



Focus, staffing, expertise in contexts, better serve congregations for renewal and leaders for healthy ministry



C. Staffing



D. Groups of Congregations

“An expression of the presbytery’s local presence, delegated responsibilities by the Pastoral Relations Committee”

and precise function a Presbytery decision

Group Coordinator important for effective function

E: Delegation and Shared Work



Implement: Insurance; legal support & advice; contracts & leases; redress (oversight); Placements Committee; compliance; safeguarding; Code of Ethics database; Blue Card database

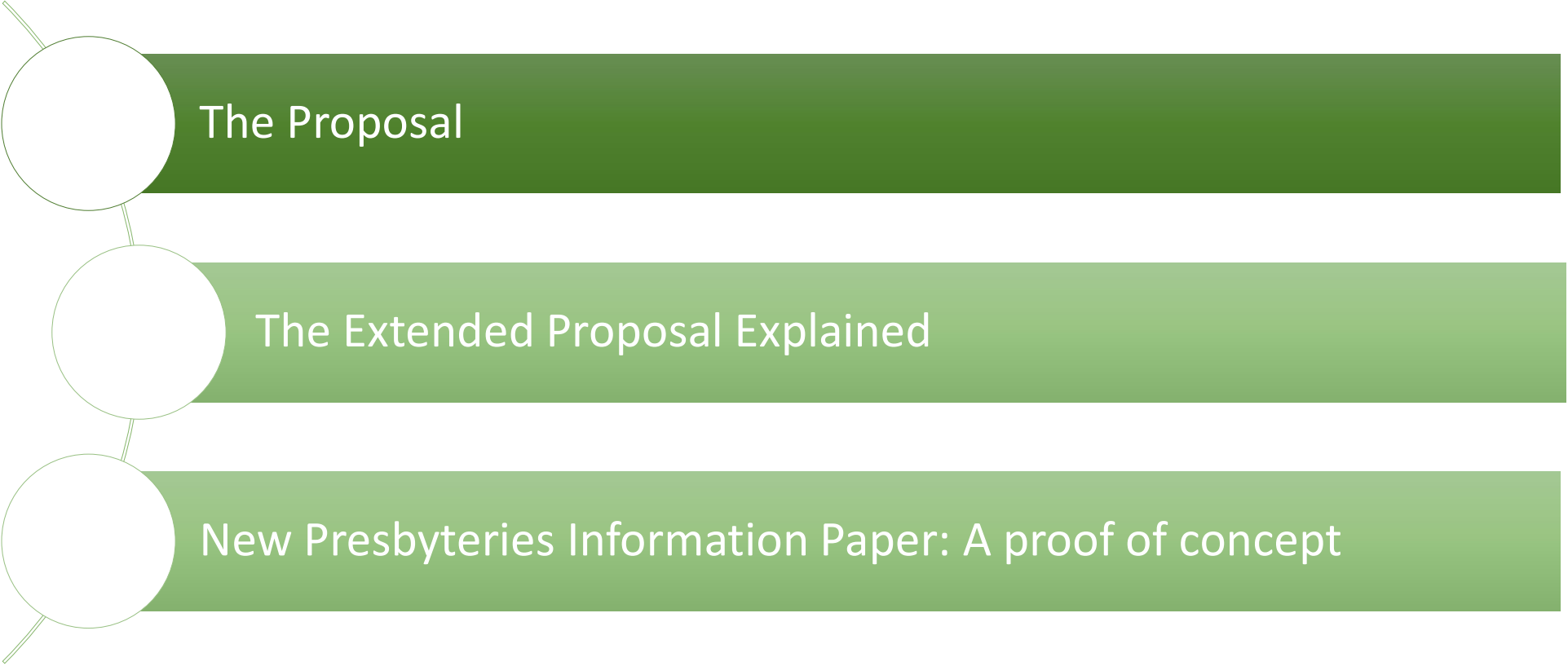


Explore: Finance (bookkeeping & processes); incident and risk management; conflict management; technology support; property management; HR; WH&S; complaints management; and legislative, regulations & policy changes/updates; discipline support



Assess: Existing delegations as part of transition/implementation work

Proposal Documents



The Proposal

The Extended Proposal Explained

New Presbyteries Information Paper: A proof of concept

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The model: summary of what would change

What stays the same?

- Presbytery as council, exercising regulated responsibilities in oversight of life and witness of congregations within its bounds
- Presbytery governance bodies including Standing Committee, Pastoral Relations Committee, Property/Resourcing Committee
- Focus of presbytery on facilitating growth and renewal within congregations

What is different?

- The number and composition of presbyteries
- Higher capacity to fulfil their responsibilities and support congregations and faith communities
- Staffing of presbyteries
- Potential use of groups of congregations
- Delegated and shared work between presbyteries and Synod/Synod office or other bodies

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The Recommendations: Presbytery Capacity

1. Establishes the three new presbyteries
2. Dissolves the existing seven presbyteries
3. Sets up first meeting of each new presbytery
4. Empowers General Secretary to establish all other basic requirements, including interim staffing
5. SSC to review appointment processes of other bodies
6. SSC to review terms of reference for Muth arrak
7. Commends New Presbyteries Information Paper

2. Resourcing Flourishing Presbyteries

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Developing the Proposal



The 'Why'

- **To create a sustainable future for Presbyteries** by reducing reliance on declining income sources and building a stronger long-term funding base.
- **To share resources more fairly across Queensland** so that all Presbyteries have access to the capacity and support needed for mission, regardless of their current financial position or region they serve.
- **To strengthen Presbytery capacity for renewal and growth** by ensuring Presbyteries are adequately resourced to support congregations, leaders and new missional opportunities.
- **To encourage collaboration and a shared resource model** by pooling resources and stewardship for the benefit of the whole Church and its shared mission across Queensland.

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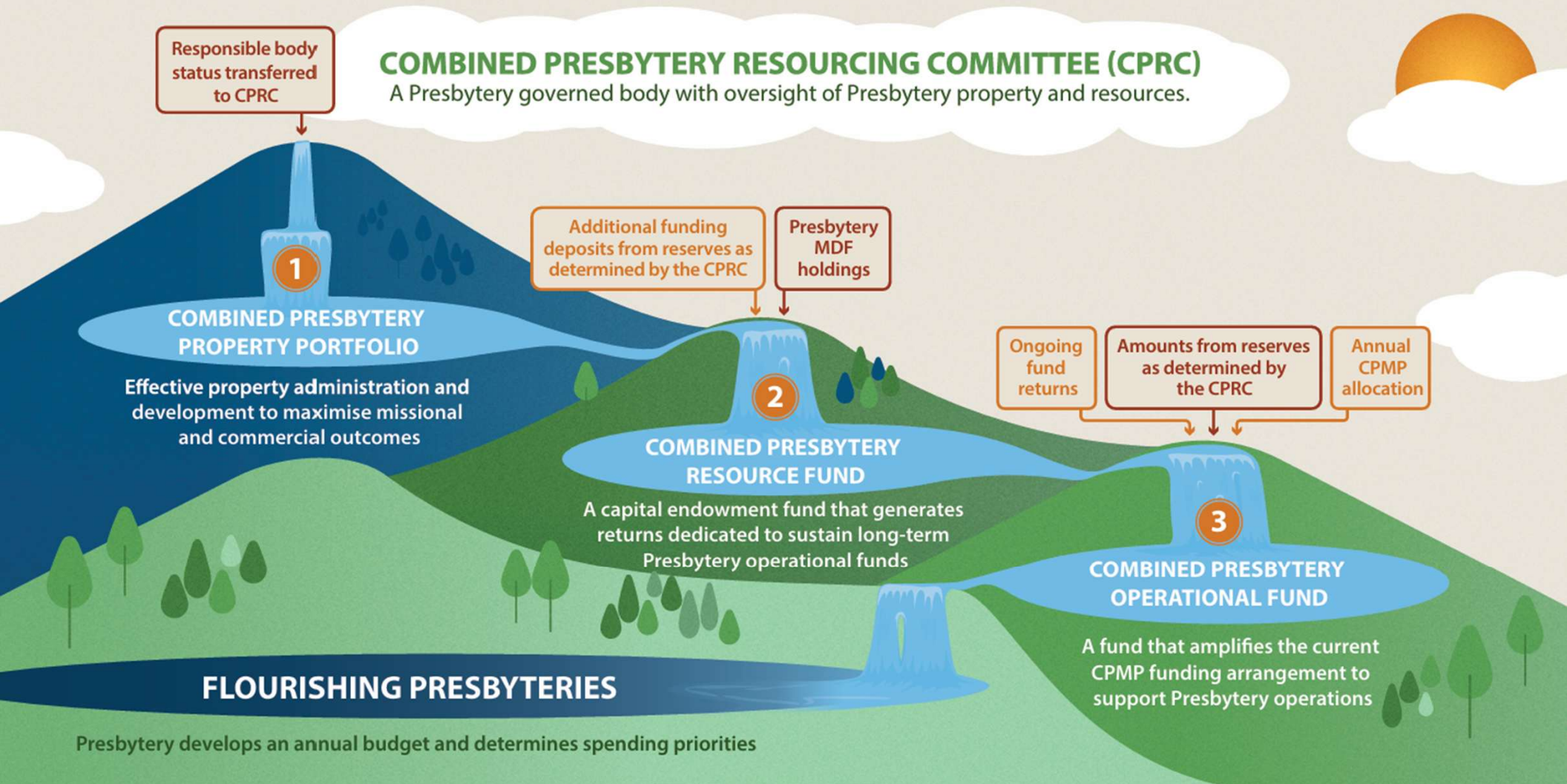
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Key elements of the new financial model

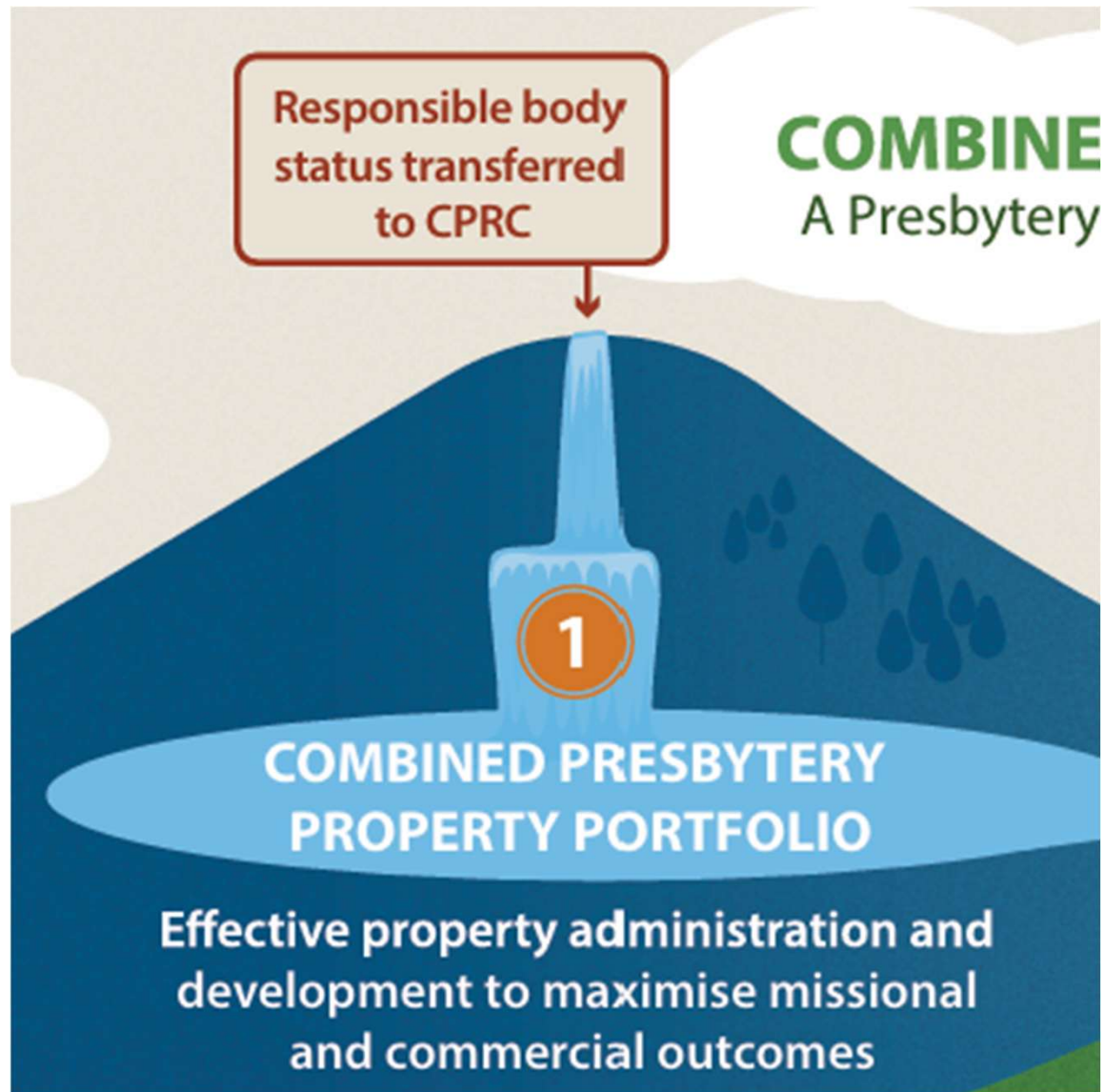
- ✓ Consolidation and investment of Presbytery reserves
- ✓ Consolidation and movement of MDF into endowment fund for investment
- ✓ Income generated for shared distribution and use
- ✓ Assumed slow decline in CPMP
- ✓ Assumed conservative view; potential property utilisation/growth not factored in

Increased long-term available funding for Presbyteries, despite a gradual decline in CPMP

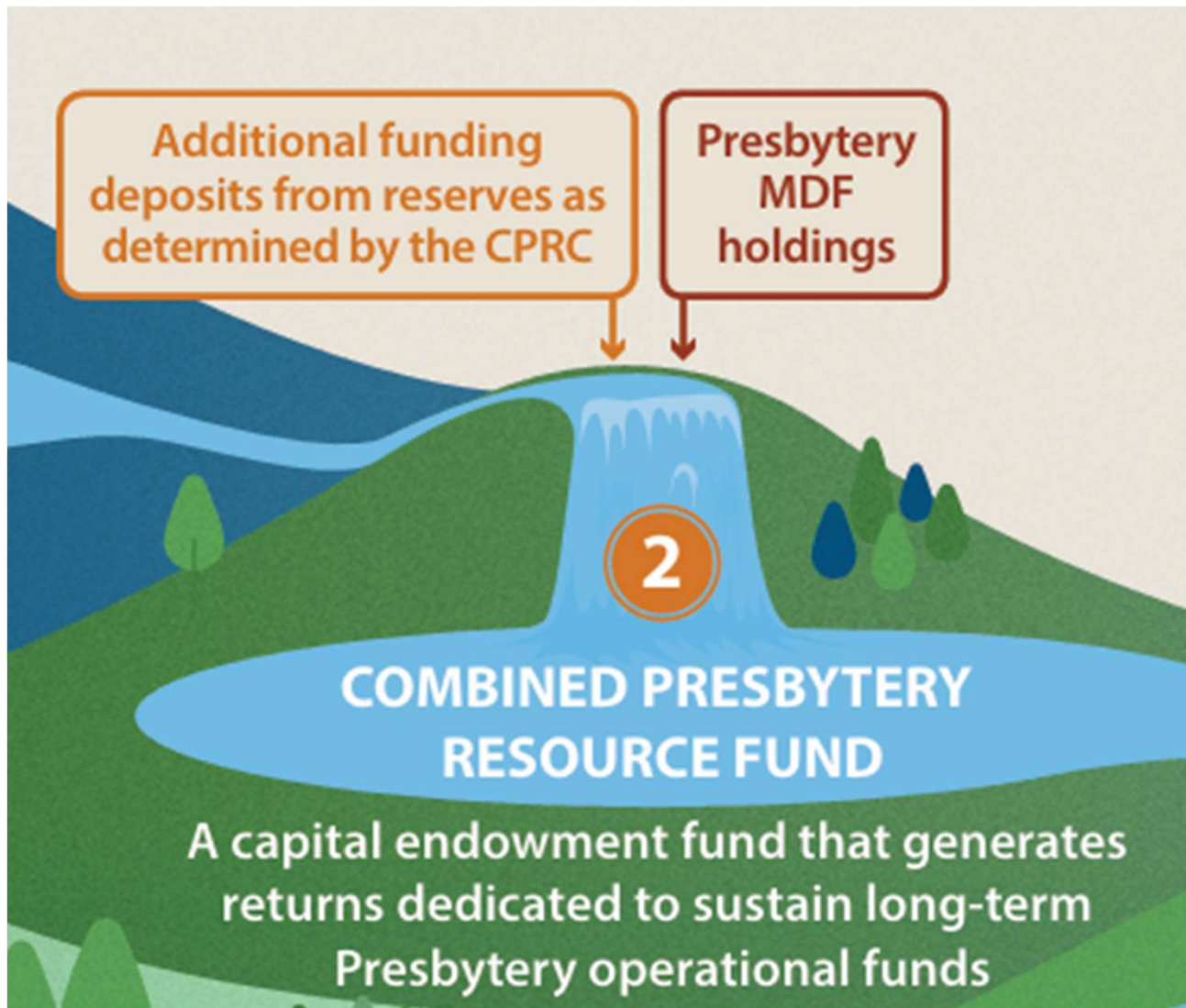
Proposed model



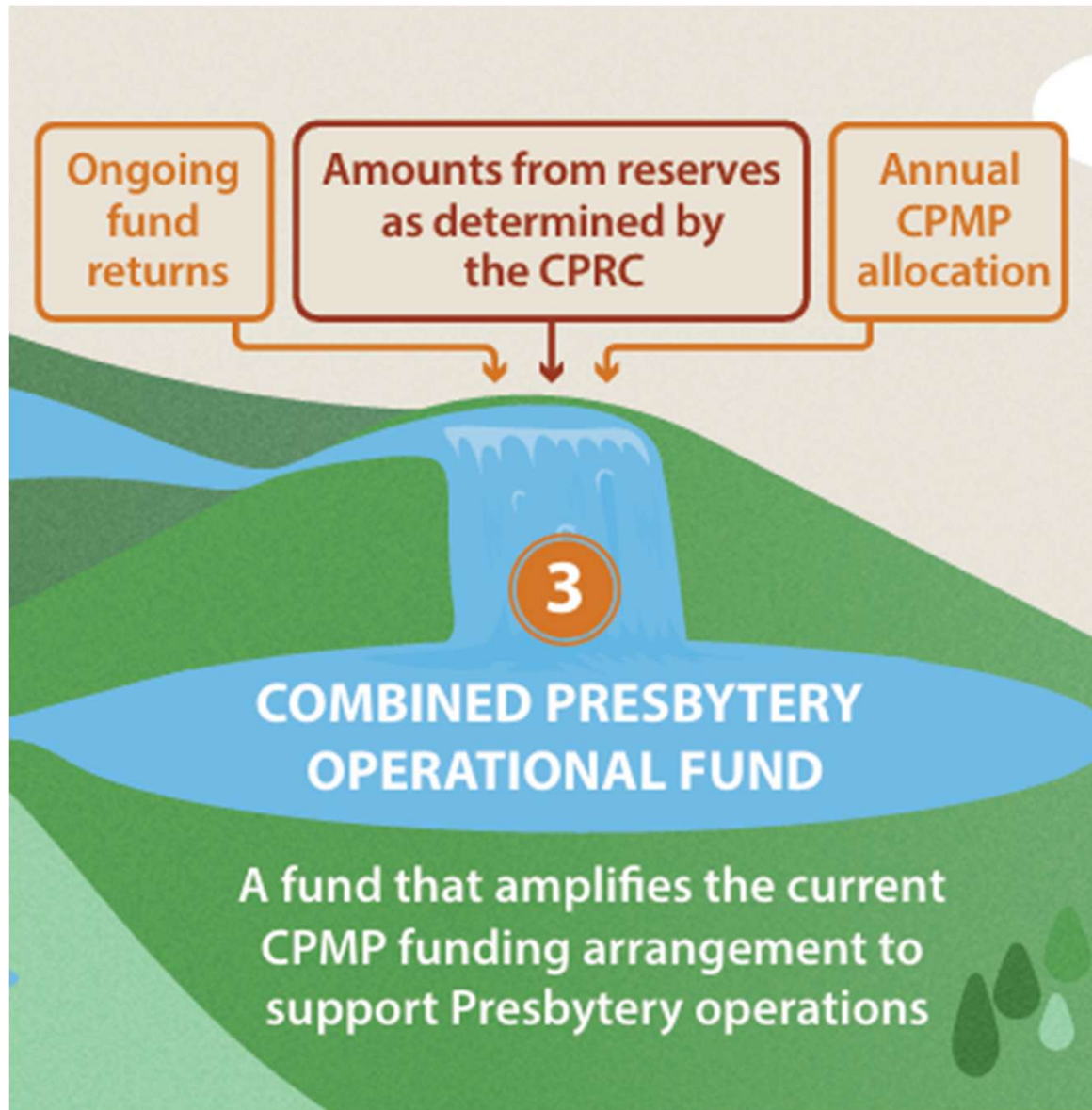
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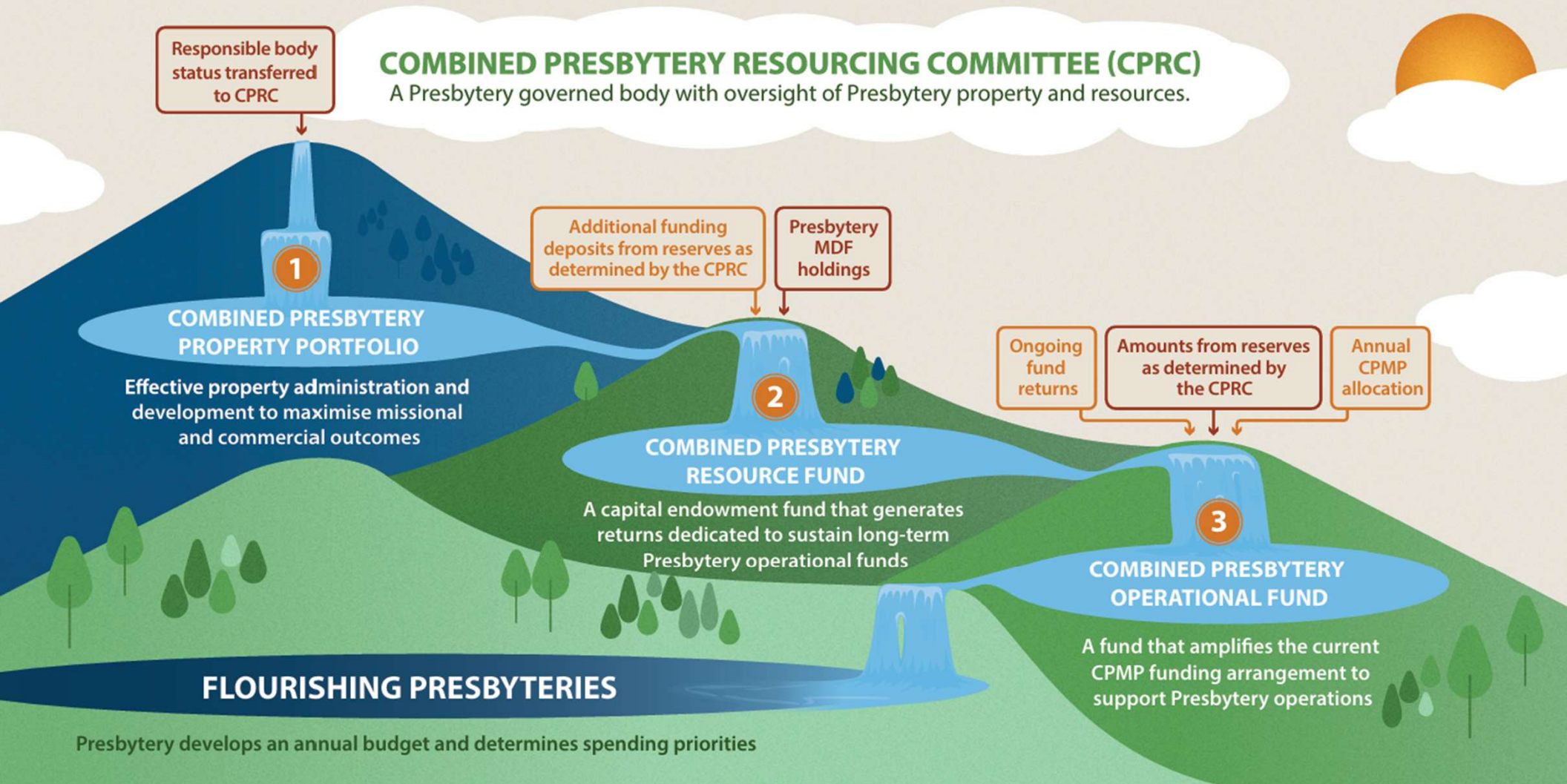
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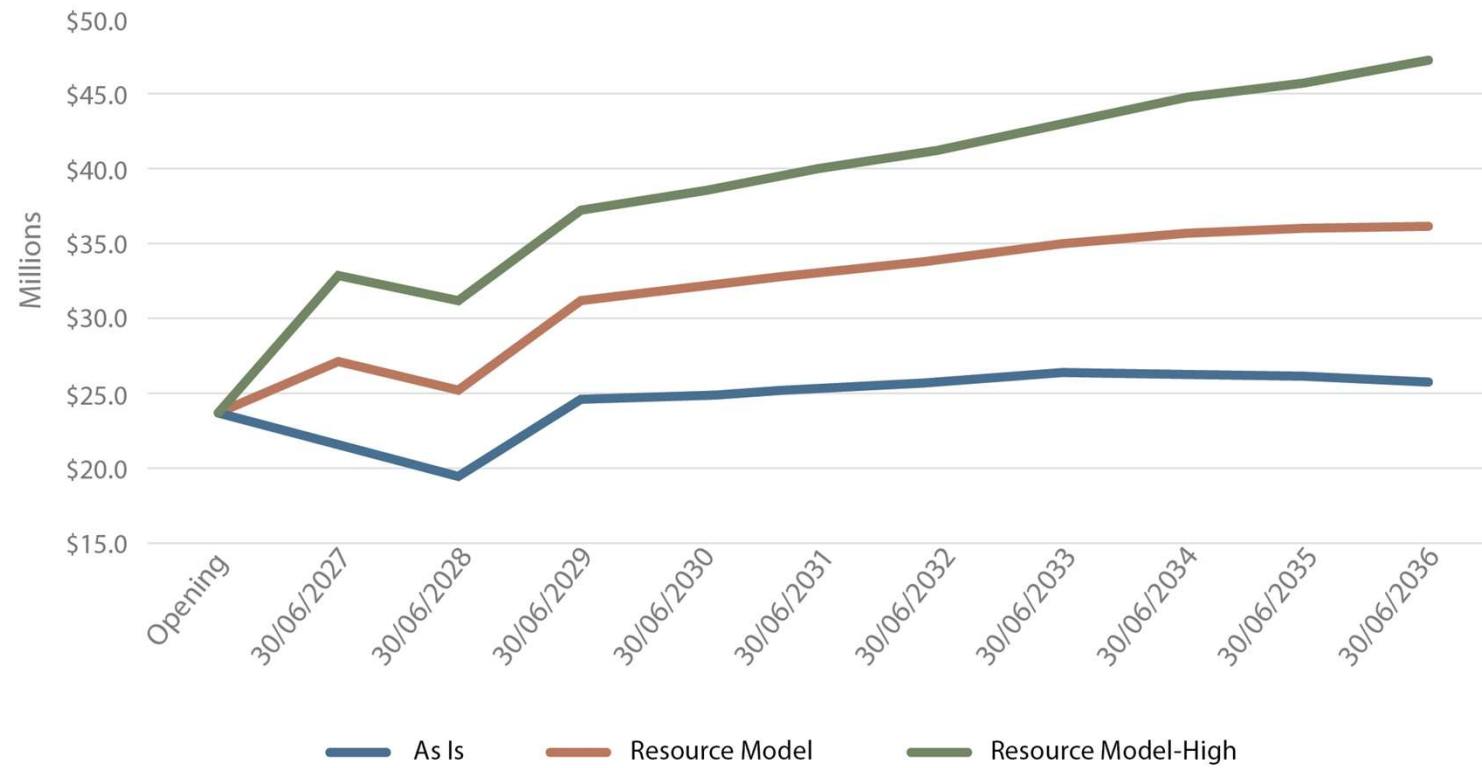
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Proposed model



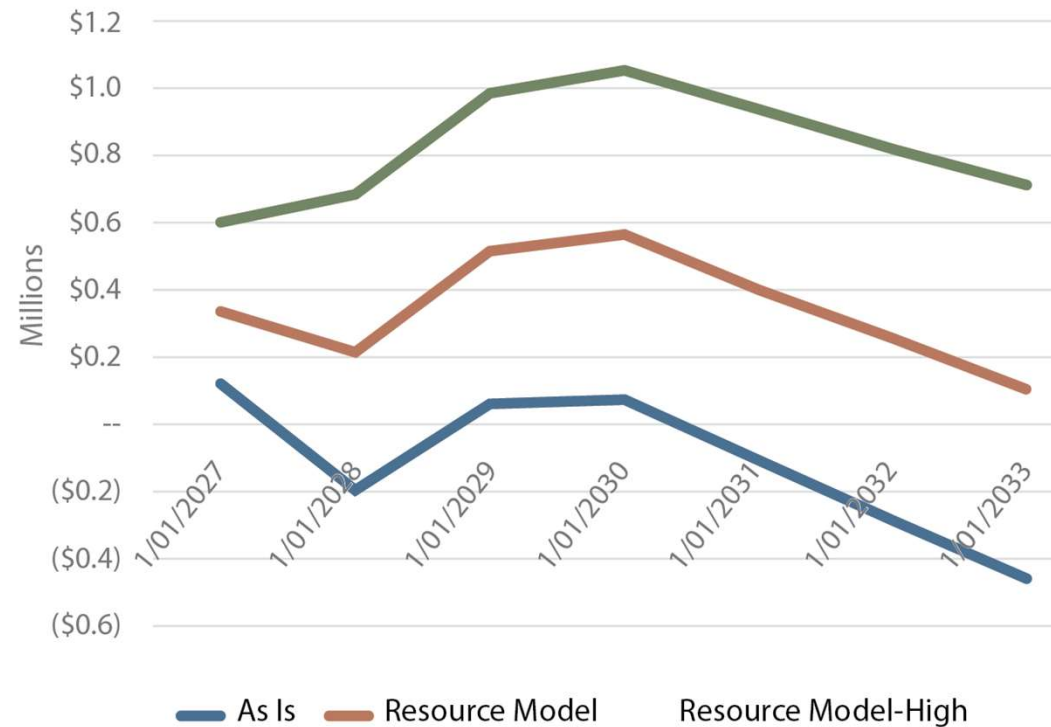
Total asset values



Growth in asset values



Surplus (deficit)



Five-year budget – comparison

Net result (\$000's)	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Do Nothing - 7 Presbyteries	\$125	(\$190)	\$63	\$77	(\$97)
Presbytery Resourcing Model Base Scenario	\$334	\$217	\$509	\$558	\$409
Presbytery Resourcing Model High Scenario	\$596	\$680	\$984	\$1,052	\$938
MDF interest funding available	\$303	\$190	\$133	\$132	\$132
Combined Presbytery Resource Fund Base Model	\$264	\$349	\$354	\$363	\$372
Combined Presbytery Resource Fund High Scenario	\$349	\$520	\$525	\$534	\$543

The Model: Summary of what is changing

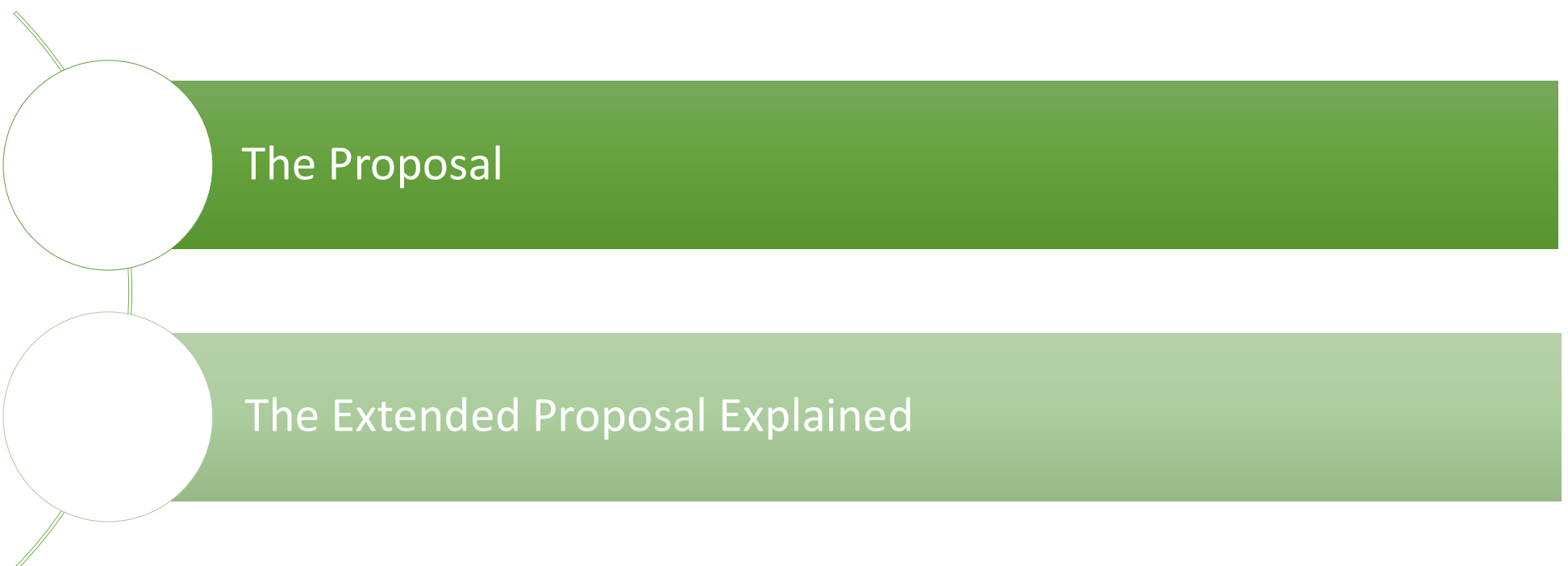
What stays the same?

- Congregation related property decisions
- Presbytery determines their funding priority requests through a budget process
- CPMP contributions from Congregations are organised by each Presbytery
- Annual prioritisation and budget process for each Presbytery
- Each Presbytery manages its operational funding during each Financial Year

What is different?

- A committee that oversees all Presbytery related property
- Combining all existing resources of Presbyteries for a common usage
- Combined property portfolio
- Establishment of a Combined Presbytery Resource Fund.
- Combined Presbytery financial reserves
- Existing Presbytery MDF may be transferred through amendment to MDF Policy, CPRC may allocate a portion of MDF holdings for capital work requirements
- Reduced reliance on CPMP contributions in the longer term

Proposal Documents



The Proposal

The Extended Proposal Explained

The Recommendations: Presbytery Resourcing

Recommendation 1

Establish Combined Presbytery Resource Committee

Recommendation 2

Establish a capital endowment fund – the Combined Presbytery Resource Fund

Recommendation 3

A resolution is referred to each Presbytery for consideration appointing the Combined Presbytery Resourcing Committee as its Responsible body

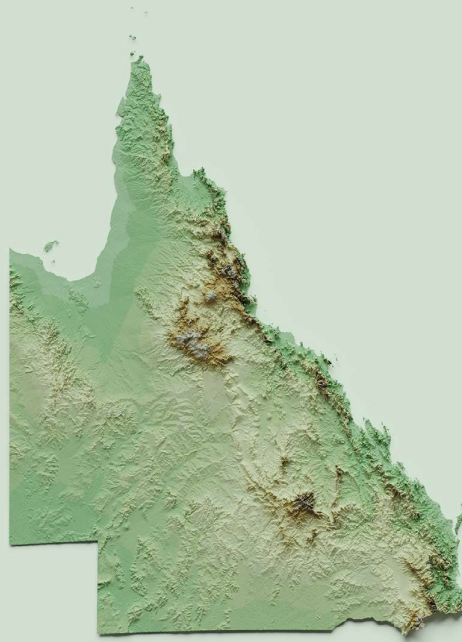
Recommendation 4

General Secretary oversee the effective implementation of the model including transition arrangements

Recommendation 5

SSC ensure changes to Synod Policies to implement the approvals of the Synod





FAITH FOR A NEW SEASON

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