

Question: 11 October 2011

The Rev Canon Warwick de Jersey asked the following question –

1. What plans have been made to secure the continuing practice of Cathedral parking in St Andrew's House?

1. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

A number of meetings and discussions have been undertaken between representatives of St Andrew's House Corporation and the Cathedral to confirm and understand the current parking arrangements in St Andrew's House. The St Andrew's House Corporation is progressing with a proposal to lease the St Andrew's House car park to an external operator, although no agreement has yet been reached. The current Cathedral parking arrangements have been conveyed in detail to the proposed external car park operator and again were confirmed in a recent meeting at which a Cathedral representative was in attendance. It is the intention of the proposed external car park operator and the St Andrew's House Corporation to continue the practice of providing concessions for Cathedral parking in St Andrew's House.

Question: 11 October 2011

Mr Robert Tong asked the following question –

2. How many Sydney persons are members of the Long Service Leave Fund?

2. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

As at 30 June 2011 there were 544 Sydney members of the Fund out of a total fund membership of approximately 2,200.

Clarification to answer

17 October 2011

Last Tuesday Mr Robert Tong asked a question concerning the number of Sydney members in the General Synod Long Service Leave Fund.

There is a need to clarify the answer given to Mr Tong's question as it is relevant to amendments that Mr James Flavin has indicated he wishes to move to item 7.11 of today's business paper.

Last Wednesday I stated that as at 30 June 2011 there were 544 Sydney members of the Fund out of a total fund membership of approximately 2,200 persons.

The 2,200 includes approximately 500 inactive members of the fund, whereas the number of Sydney members, namely 544, only includes those with active membership.

Inactive members are those who have not yet achieved an entitlement to leave but have ceased making contributions to the fund and have not resigned as members. It is possible that in the future some of these inactive members may resume service and accrue further leave. The SDS staff do not presently have access to data to determine how many of those 500 inactive members are from Sydney.

Therefore if the question were to be answered only on the basis of active membership the answer would be that there are approximately 1,700 active members of the fund, of which, 544 are from Sydney.

Question: 11 October 2011

Mr Garry Allen asked the following question –

3. (a) What churches have been planted under the auspices of the Department of Evangelism and New Churches since the passage of the Department of Evangelism (New Churches) Reconstitution Ordinance 2010?
- (b) What churches does it expect to be planted in the next year?
- (c) How many of these churches will be in the so-called (desert) areas, particularly the Western, Georges River and Wollongong Regions?
- (d) What opportunities does the Department see in the next 3 years?
- (e) How can individuals and churches support the work of the Department?

3. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The Vine Church (Surry Hills).

Soma Church (Ryde), which was brought under New Churches in 2011.

Connect Church (with Seti Latu as Pastor), and planted in connection with Canterbury Anglican.

It is planned that Berkeley Community Anglican Church will come under the ENC umbrella later this year.

ENC is also consulting with a number of Parish “Mother-Daughter” church plants which are not yet directly under the ENC umbrella.

In addition ENC has made the following appointments –

- Jonathan Howse and Christian Anderson – church planters working with the Canterbury Parish
- Paul Tait - Evangelist at Arncliffe
- Andrew Mahaffey - part-time itinerant evangelist (based at St Stephens Penrith)

- (b) Oran Park, among others that are yet to be finalised.

- (c) What constitutes a “desert area” is subjective. Arguably Oran Park, Surry Hills and Berkeley are all such areas. The evangelists in

Arncliffe and Auburn are working with a particularly difficult ethnic and religious group.

- (d) The best results will come with linking ENC to the planned Moore College Diploma in Church Planting which is proposed to start in 2013. ENC's future church planters will come from the College, and linking ENC to the College will give time for mentoring and planning with students and potential planters. It is also vital that ENC develops cross cultural and multi-cultural church planting. Bruce Hall is making excellent progress in coordinating the recruiting of non-Anglo gospel workers.
- (e) Prayer, people can register to receive the quarterly prayer and news letter. Encourage those who are gifted in appropriate ways to consider being assessed as church planters. ENC is developing a bequest program, which long time supporters of Department of Evangelism may wish to consider.

Question: 11 October 2011

The Rev Craig Schafer asked the following question –

4. How many individuals brought complaints of abuse or misconduct by clergy or church workers to the PSU in each of the years from 2005-2011 (inclusive)?

4. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

2005:	17
2006:	18
2007:	10
2008:	19
2009:	8
2010:	7
2011:	5

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The Rev Andrew Sempell asked the following question –

5. For how long has the Primate of Anglican Church of Australia had some sort of paid assistant? It would be appreciated if the Synod staff could contact the General Synod Office to ascertain the exact extent of support for the office of the Primate both financially and the length of time that such support has been provided in the form of personal staff or assistance.

5. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

It is understood that the General Synod Standing Committee first decided to provide an allowance for assistance in the mid 1980's, during Archbishop Grindrod's time as Primate and that, for the most part, this allowance was equivalent to half a clergy stipend.

During Archbishop Aspinall's time as Primate the assistance has been increased by the addition of a full-time research assistant.

Question: 11 October 2011

Ms Janice Liddiard asked the following question –

6. How is expenditure on risk assessment determined and what benefits result?

6. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

It is assumed that this question relates to the Parish Risk Management Program.

The costs of the Program are included in the parish cost recoveries as approved by the Synod. The Program includes the provision of parish training, development of resources, giving advice on risk management issues, particularly in the area of legal risk and also the cost of SDS managing the Program.

The Program is designed to identify and mitigate the key risks faced by our parishes. This includes the risk of harm to church workers, congregation members and visitors to parishes. This risk is primarily managed through various Parish Risk Management Modules and associated risk management returns to give assurance that relevant risks are being appropriately managed by parishes.

In the area of legal risk, year to date SDS has responded to 235 separate requests for assistance from parishes in areas such as employment, occupational health and safety, defamation, local government, real property and tax, among many other areas.

While it is difficult to quantify the benefit to parishes (both direct and indirect) of being able to deal with legal and other risks at an early stage, the Diocesan Insurance Brokers have indicated that the Program provides a direct benefit when the annual Diocesan Insurance is negotiated on behalf of parishes.

Question: 11 October 2011

The Rev Simon Elliott asked the following question –

7. Will the money raised by the Mission Property Committee for the construction of new churches in Greenfield areas need to be repaid by the parishes who conduct ministry in these buildings? If so will the rate of return be determined by a percentage of giving to the church or income gained from the building or a flat rate of repayments?

7. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Mr Elliott put a similar question to the Chairman of the Mission Property Committee, Mr Geoff Kyngdon, during the open question forum yesterday evening. Mr Kyngdon's response was that the Mission Property Committee continues to evaluate options for potentially "recycling" scarce capital that is raised for specific greenfields and brownfields projects, with a view to the Committee making a recommendation to the Mission Board in due course. In view of the ongoing deliberations by the Committee it is considered premature to speculate on the potential recommendations.

Question: 11 October 2011

The Rev Peter Chung asked the following question –

8. Could the Provisional Church's levy be waived under the following condition? Church without own property and annual offertory income not exceeding \$100,000.

The said income could not meet the annual expenses including –

Minister's minimum stipend	\$55,867
Superannuation	\$9,497
Travel fixed	\$8,047
Housing	\$26,000
Rental for services	\$8,000
General cost for ministries	\$8,000
Total	\$115,411

8. This question is out of order under business rule 6.3(4)(a) and (f) as it makes an assertion and seeks a legal opinion. However Mr Chung raises an important issue and Bishop Davies will be in touch with him to discuss the matter.

Question: 11 October 2011

Mr Warren Irwin asked the following question –

9. Have several members of the Youthworks Outdoors team written to the Youthworks Committee expressing their concerns about the culture developing in this branch of Youthworks?

9. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The factual answer to the question is 'no'. However I am informed that some concerns about the Outdoors Division have been brought to the attention of the Youthworks' Council who have acted upon them.

Question: 11 October 2011

Mr Warren Irwin asked the following question –

10. Was there an unfair dismissal claim made against Youthworks Outdoors this year which was later settled out of court?

10. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

No claim has been made this year, although there was one in 2010 which was settled.

Question: 11 October 2011

Archdeacon Deryck Howell asked the following question –

11. (a) What is the role of the regional bishop in moving mission forward in his region?
- (b) What steps are taken by Evangelism and New Churches in establishing each new fellowship to ensure that this goodwill is both obtained and maintained?

11. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) The promotion of mission in his region is integral to the role of the regional bishop. Each of the bishops is involved with clergy and mission area leaders to discuss and encourage initiatives in their area, while recognising that the parish is the basic unit for mission.
- (b) Evangelism and New Churches has kept the regional Bishops informed with each new project, church plant or evangelist employed. New ministry workers have been encouraged to attend regional conferences and to keep in touch with the relevant Regional Bishop.

Question: 11 October 2011

Mr Neville Voges asked the following question –

12. (a) Is it appropriate, feasible and cost effective from an administrative point of view, obviously with the Archbishop's concurrence and bearing in mind that under no circumstances should His Grace be inconvenienced in any way, whatsoever, temporarily to relocate his personal staff and/or a select number of other staff members, from St Andrew's House to Bishops court?
- (b) If this is so, would it be advantageous to the Archbishop, administratively?
- (c) Furthermore, would this free up more space to generate additional income from St Andrew's House?

12. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) We have thought about this matter. It is not considered that Bishops court is a suitable site for the office of the Archbishop's staff. The cost of moving and setting up would outweigh any advantages, and being removed from the other staff of SDS in St Andrew's House would be disadvantageous.
- (b) No.
- (c) This matter has been investigated, and it would not be possible to do so in a cost effective manner.

Question: 11 October 2011

The Rev Antony Barraclough asked the following question –

13. How has the Finance and Loans Board (FLB) been affected by the diocesan financial situation and proposed strategic restructure? In particular –
- (a) What profits or losses the FLB had in the last 12 months?
 - (b) What resources does the FLB still have for lending to parishes?
 - (c) What changes apply to FLB in the proposed strategic restructure?

13. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

The Finance and Loans Board has not been directly affected by the Diocesan financial situation, nor has there been a noticeable impact on its loan portfolio with parishes as a result of the GFC

The Board has continued to make loans to parishes for a variety of purposes. In the three months to 30 September 2011, the FLB made loans aggregating \$2.7 million. There are no loans in arrears.

In answer to the particular questions asked –

- (a) The FLB made a net surplus of \$580,083 in the 12 months to 31 December 2010 and has made a net surplus of \$658,905 (unaudited) in the 12 months to 31 August 2011. These funds have been retained to meet future loan applications.
- (b) The FLB currently has \$2.4 million of uncommitted funds to lend to parishes. The FLB's day to day operations are undertaken by staff of SDS who are available to discuss potential loans with parish representatives and to assist the loan application process. The FLB's Board members are focussed on assisting parishes finance the upgrading of parish facilities and the acquisition of additional facilities to enhance mission opportunities. The Board welcomes all enquiries.
- (c) There are no known changes to the way the FLB will operate in the future as a consequence of the proposed strategic re-structure

Question: 11 October 2011

Mrs Pamela Shaw asked the following question –

14. I note the 31 August 2011 story in the SMH (“Gonski research projects set to guide debate on school funding”) which stated –

“NSW Upper House MPs have supported a motion that says Malek Fahd Islamic School in Greenacre may have breached the NSW Education Act, which prohibits payment of state funding to private schools that operate for profit.”

Can the Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation confirm that its schools are not operated for profit? Are there any non-arms length fees or charges such as the “management fees” at Malek Fahd? What steps are taken to ensure that developments between the Corporation and other Diocesan organisations such as Anglicare (eg, Oran Park) do not use school funding for non-school uses?

14. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

Yes, this is confirmed in that the Corporation operates as a ‘not-for-profit’ entity.

No, there are no ‘management fees’ paid to external entities.

All steps necessary are taken to ensure that developments between the Corporation and other Diocesan organisations such as Anglicare do not use school funding for the uses that the NSW Upper House MP’s have raised. With regard to Oran Park, in actuality there is no ‘joint venture’ project with Anglicare. The two individual projects will co-exist on adjacent sites and it is not planned that any money will be exchanged for any purpose. The only commercial transaction that has occurred in recent times between the Corporation and Anglicare has been some demographic studies that the Corporation contracted Anglicare to perform on its behalf. This is certainly not prohibited under the Education Act 1990.

Question: 11 October 2011

Mr Peter Wilson asked the following question –

15. Noting the President's optimistic comments in his Presidential Address with regard to the financial performance of the two Diocesan Endowments can someone please tell the Synod –
 - (a) when is St Andrew's House Corporation currently hoping it may be able to recommence making distributions to the Endowment of the See and the Glebe Administration Board, and
 - (b) what might be the approximate quantum of other distributions when they recommence.

15. I am informed that the answer is as follows –

- (a) Until leases have been signed for levels 3, 4 and 5, no accurate answer can be given, although it is expected that distributions will recommence in 2014.
- (b) The exact quantum is currently unknown, although it is hoped that distributions will slowly increase from 2014, with an initial distribution of around \$2 million in 2014.