

STANDING COMMITTEE

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS LAID BEFORE

THE GENERAL SYNOD AT ITS

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SIXTH ORDINARY SESSION 2006

**THE GENERAL SYNOD
OF THE
CHURCH OF IRELAND**

HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

Very Rev RD Harman, The Deanery, St Werburgh Street, Dublin 8

Rev Canon Dr IM Ellis, St John's Rectory, King Street, Newcastle, Co Down BT33 0HD

Mr SR Harper, Cramer's Grove, Kilkenny, Co Kilkenny

Lady Sheil, Killinchy, Co Down BT23 6RL

ASSISTANT SECRETARY – Mrs JM Maxwell

SYNOD OFFICER – Mr DL Phillips

OFFICE

Church of Ireland House
Church Avenue
Rathmines
Dublin 6

Telephone No +353 1 4978422

Facsimile No +353 1 4978821

Email synod@rcbdub.org

CONTENTS	PAGE
1. Summary	143
2. Names and Attendances of Members	143
3. Anglican Consultative Council	146
4. Anglican Communion - Panel of Reference.....	146
5. Anglican Communion – The Windsor Report 2004.....	146
6. Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission	146
7. Appointments.....	146
8. Audit of Accounts	148
9. Bishops’ Appeal Advisory Committee.....	148
10. Book of Common Prayer.....	148
11. Central Communications Board	148
12. Charities Legislation (NI).....	148
13. Child Poverty Forum.....	148
14. Christian Aid.....	149
15. Covenant Council - Guidelines and Protocols for Local Covenant Partnerships... 149	149
16. Courts and Tribunals Committee	149
17. Diaconate, The - Consultation.....	150
18. Disability Working Group.....	150
19. General Synod 2007.....	150
20. General Synod Royalties Fund.....	150
21. General Synod – Standing Committee Budgets	151
22. Hard Gospel, The	151
23. Historiographer	151
24. Holy Theokotos Monastery	151
25. International Anglican Liturgical Consultation	152
26. Irish Churches’ Council for Television and Radio Affairs	152
27. Klingenthal Consultation.....	152
28. Masonic Order, The	152
29. Parish Development Working Group	152
30. Porvoo Communion	152
31. Porvoo-Eastern Orthodox Consultation	153
32. Priorities Fund.....	153
33. Safeguarding Trust.....	157
34. Services for Victims and Survivors.....	157
35. Statute Law (Republic of Ireland).....	157
36. Synodical Reform	157
37. Tuam, Killala and Achonry Diocese	157
38. Work and Families – Consultation Document	158

APPENDICES

	Page
A Resolutions to be proposed to the General Synod.....	159
B Anglican Consultative Council – report.....	160
C Anglican Communion Panel of Reference – letter and resolution.....	165
D ARCIC- response to the document <i>Mary: Grace and Hope in Christ</i>	166
E Bishops’ Appeal Advisory Committee — report	199
F Central Communications Board — report.....	207
G Covenant Council - Guidelines and Protocols for Local Covenant Partnerships - response	216
H Diaconate, The – report on Consultation.....	220
I Disability Working Group - report.....	224
J The Hard Gospel - report	227
K Historiographer’s report.....	232
L International Anglican Liturgical Commission - report	234
M Irish Churches’ Council for Television and Radio Affairs — report.....	237
N Klingenthal Consultation.....	240
O Parish Development Working Group - report	242
P Porvoo - Eastern Orthodox Consultation – report.....	244
Q Priorities Fund Account for the year ending 31 December 2005	249
R Work and Families – Consultation Document - response	251
S Receipts and Disbursements Account and General Purposes Fund.....	254

The Standing Committee submits to the General Synod the Report of its proceedings for the period from 19 April 2005 to 14 March 2006.

1. SUMMARY

Some significant matters dealt with by the Standing Committee during the year were:

- The response to the ARCIC document *Mary: Grace and Hope in Christ* (Appendix D, pag 166)
- The response to Guidelines and Protocols for Local Covenant Partnerships (Appendix G, page 216)
- Establishing the Hard Gospel project (Appendix J, page 227)
- The Bills to create an effective legal standing for *Safeguarding Trust* and the funding of Child Protection Officers (page 157)

2. NAMES AND ATTENDANCES OF MEMBERS

During the period six ordinary meetings of the Standing Committee were held. The number of meetings attended by each member is placed before his/her name.

Ex-officio Members

THE ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS

THE HONORARY SECRETARIES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD

6	Very Rev RD Harman
6	Rev Canon Dr IM Ellis
5	Mr SR Harper
6	Lady Sheil

Elected Members

Diocese of:

Armagh	4	Rev Canon JM Barton
	5	Rev BJ Harper
	6	Mr LV Johnston
	6	Mrs J Leighton
Clogher	5	Rev Canon BJ Courtney
	4	Rev BT Kerr
	5	Mr H Stewart
		none available

Derry	4	Very Rev WW Morton
	0 Δ	Rev MRK Ferry
	6	Mr JHD Livingston
	0 Δ	Captain N Barnes
Down	6	Rev Canon PF Patterson
	6	Rev JR Howard
	3	Mr JD Johnston
	3	Dr PHC Trimble
Connor	5	Very Rev JFA Bond
	3	Ven SR McBride
	4	Mr HRJ Totten
	5	Ms CS Turner
Kilmore	1 Δ	Very Rev A Williams
	5	Ven GTW Davison
	1 Δ	Mr D Gillespie
	1	Mr N Trenier
Tuam	3	Ven AMA Previt�
	3	Very Rev AJ Grimason
	4	Mr DJ Auchmuty
		Vacant
Dublin	1 Δ	Rev Canon JE McCullagh
	6	Rev GV Wharton
	5	Dr K Milne
	6	Mr AN McNeile
Meath	5	Ven PHA Lawrence
	5	Rev L Stevenson
	6	Mrs JM Bruton
	1 Δ	Mr D Kenny
Cashel	6	Ven JG Murray
	5	Rev Canon PA Harvey
	6	Mr G Bradley
	1	Mr DN Finlay
Cork	6	Ven REB White
	6	Very Rev MAJ Burrows
	6	Mr WF Baker
	6	Dr AE St Leger

Limerick	1 Δ	Very Rev JMG Sirr
	4	Rev Canon SM Neill
	4	Mr TS Hardy
	1 Δ	Mr E Hardy

Co-opted Members

3	Mr MC Davey	5	Mrs AJ Wills
4	Rev Canon RB Rountree	6	Ven RG Hoey
4	Rev Canon CA Empey	0 *	Ven PW Rooke
5	Rev P Comerford		* elected January 2006
			Δ elected February 2006

The Chief Officer and Secretary of the Representative Church Body is entitled to attend and speak at meetings of the Standing Committee. The Assistant Secretary of the General Synod is also entitled to speak at meetings.

COMMITTEES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

FINANCE AND ARRANGEMENTS SUB-COMMITTEE

Mr G Bradley
Ven RG Hoey
The Honorary Secretaries

LEGAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

His Honour Judge JG Buchanan	The Hon Mrs Justice C McGuinness
The Hon Mr Justice DNO Budd	Mr RLK Mills SC
Sir Anthony Campbell	His Honour Judge RF Rodgers
Mr MC Davey	The Honorary Secretaries

PRIORITIES FUND COMMITTEE

Mrs JM Bruton	Ven SR McBride
Ven GTW Davison	Mr HRJ Totten
Mr TS Hardy	Mrs AJ Wills
Mr SR Harper	

BUDGET SUB-COMMITTEE

Mr G Bradley	Mr WF Baker
Rev Canon Dr IM Ellis	Mr SR Harper
Mr HRJ Totten	

3. ANGLICAN CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL

The Standing Committee in September 2005 received a report from the Church of Ireland representatives on the meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council, which met in Nottingham in June 2005. The initial summary of the Resolutions of ACC-13 were noted by the Standing Committee. The full report, which will include all of the resolutions, is awaited. The report from the Church of Ireland representatives on ACC-13 is included as Appendix B on page 160.

4. ANGLICAN COMMUNION - PANEL OF REFERENCE

A letter from the Archbishop of Armagh on behalf of the House of Bishops to the Archbishop of Canterbury and the resolution passed by the House of Bishops in June 2005 were noted by the Standing Committee. The letter concerns the proposal in the Windsor Report 2004 for a Panel of Reference for the Anglican Communion. The letter and resolution are included as Appendix C on page 165.

5. ANGLICAN COMMUNION – THE WINDSOR REPORT 2004

Having noted the preliminary response to the Windsor Report 2004, the General Synod in 2005 requested the Standing Committee to establish a working group to study the Report and subsequent relevant material in detail and make an initial report to the General Synod in 2006. The Standing Committee in June 2005 appointed a working group that will report that will report directly to the General Synod.

6. ANGLICAN ROMAN CATHOLIC INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION

A response to the ARCIC document *Mary: Grace and Hope in Christ* was prepared by the Committee for Christian Unity and received by the Standing Committee in March 2006. The response is included as Appendix D on page 166.

7. APPOINTMENTS

The following appointments were made by the Standing Committee during the year in chronological order:

Committee etc	Name
General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, Belfast, June 2005	Rt Rev AET Harper Mr HT Morrison
Conference of the Methodist Church Portadown, June 2005	Most Rev RHA Eames Mr GA Forbes

Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Dublin, April 2005	Rev GV Wharton
Commission on Ministry,	Mr HRJ Totten
Eastern Orthodox – Porvoo Consultation, Finland, December 2005	Rt Rev MGStA Jackson
Consultation on the Diaconate, London, January 2006	Rt Rev MGStA Jackson
Irish Inter-Church Committee of the Irish Inter-Church Meeting	Rt Rev MGStA Jackson
Irish Council of Churches Executive Committee	Rt Rev MGStA Jackson Rev DR Nuzum
Governing Body of the Church in Wales	Rt Rev AET Harper
Church of Ireland Pensions Board	Mr LV Johnston
Porvoo Communion Church Leaders' Meeting	Rt Rev AET Harper Rev Canon Dr IM Ellis
Parish Development Working Group	Rev D Bain Ms H Groves Mr P Hamill Mr AC McElhinney Ms C O'Laoire
The Hard Gospel Committee	Mr B Frayne Mr T Forsyth Ms S McNulty Ms S Obe
Central Committee of the World Council of Churches	Rev Dr H Morris
Church in Society Committee	Rev WD Humphries Rev KRJ Hall
Broadcasting Committee	Rev DI Gillespie

World Council of Churches Central Committee	Dr H Morris (nomination)
Christian Aid Trustee/Director (nominations)	Very Rev MAJ Burrows Rev OMR Donohoe Mr A Smallwoods

8. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS

The Standing Committee appointed PricewaterhouseCoopers to audit the accounts of the Representative Body.

9. BISHOPS' APPEAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee in November 2005 approved the re-appointment of Mr Martin O'Connor as Bishops' Appeal Education Advisor for a further period of two years.

A report from the World Development – Bishops' Appeal Advisory Committee, including accounts for the year ended 31 December 2005, is included as Appendix E on page 199.

10. BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

The Standing Committee in November 2005 approved the publication and distribution of a booklet containing the baptismal services with notes by the Rev Canon RB Rountree together with surplus copies of the ordination services and the confirmation service. The Standing Committee also authorised the printing of 2,000 copies of the large print edition of *The Book of Common Prayer*.

11. CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BOARD

A report from the Central Communications Board, which includes the work of the Broadcasting Committee, the Literature Committee and the Internet Committee, is included as Appendix F on page 207.

12. CHARITIES LEGISLATION (NI)

In April 2005, the Honorary Secretaries reported that they would respond to a Consultation document on the Review of Charities Legislation in Northern Ireland, having taken appropriate advice.

13. CHILD POVERTY FORUM

On the instigation of the Archbishop of Armagh, a Forum on Child Poverty was held in the Dromantine Conference Centre on 6 December 2005. The speakers included Baroness May Blood MBE, a full-time community worker, Professor Tony Gallagher, Professor of Education in QUB, Ms Emily Logan, Ombudsman for Children in the Republic of Ireland and Mr Nigel Williams, Northern Ireland Commissioner for Young People. A theological

reflection was given by the Bishop of Meath and Kildare. The Forum was very well attended by representatives of many relevant organisations in both jurisdictions, together with representatives from all of the dioceses throughout the Church of Ireland.

14. CHRISTIAN AID

The new governance structure for Christian Aid created two new charitable companies for Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland that are appropriate to the legal standing of charities in each jurisdiction. The Standing Committee in November 2005 appointed the Very Rev RD Harman as a member of the Nominations Committee of Christian Aid which will recommend the chair of the board and the board members on behalf of the nine member Churches of Christian Aid.

The Standing Committee in March 2006 nominated the Very Rev MAJ Burrows, the Rev OMR Donohoe and Mr A Smallwoods as Trustees/Directors of Christian Aid for consideration by the Nominations Committee.

15. COVENANT COUNCIL - GUIDELINES AND PROTOCOLS FOR LOCAL COVENANT PARTNERSHIPS

Prior to the General Synod of 2005, the Standing Committee decided to withdraw its recommendation to accept the protocols laid out in *Guidelines and Protocols for Local Covenant Partnerships* for use for an initial experimental period of three years. The decision was changed because there were issues in the document that required further consideration by the Church of Ireland. The General Synod in 2005 encouraged the development of the protocols and requested the Covenant Council to reflect on submissions from the Churches and bring revised proposals to the General Synod.

The Standing Committee appointed a working group to prepare a preliminary response to the document which was considered in September 2005. The Standing Committee agreed to refer the document back to The Covenant Council for further consideration, taking account of the response, which is included as Appendix G on page 216.

16. COURTS AND TRIBUNALS COMMITTEE

As indicated in the last report of the Courts and Tribunals Committee, the structures and procedures relating to the Courts of the Church of Ireland are part of a system which dates back to the late 19th century and, consequently, are in urgent need of review, revision and modernisation. (For the full report, see Appendix E to the Report of Standing Committee in the General Synod Book of Reports 2005, p 216.)

The Committee is working to recommend to General Synod the adoption of such a revised and modernised scheme of ecclesiastical discipline for the Church of Ireland, as would ensure compliance with, on the one hand, the established principles of Canon Law, and on the other, the requirements of civil law and natural justice, by providing, at each stage of the procedure, a truly objective assessment by an independent body of the issues involved in a less adversarial manner and which is open to public scrutiny throughout.

The Committee continues to work upon the requisite legislation for a complete revision of the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Constitution. It is hoped that draft legislation may be brought to the General Synod in 2007.

17. DIACONATE, THE – CONSULTATION

The Bishop of Clogher represented the Church of Ireland at a Consultation on the Diaconate, organised by the Porvoo Contact Group, which was held in London in January 2006. A report on the Consultation is included as Appendix H on page 220.

18. DISABILITY WORKING GROUP

As reported last year, the Standing Committee established a working group to address issues concerning disability that affect the Church of Ireland and to consider the implications of legislation and proposed legislation on disability in both jurisdictions. In September 2005, the Standing Committee endorsed a briefing paper setting the objectives of the group and plans for launching a disability awareness programme on 20 November, which was designated Disability Awareness Sunday.

A report from the Working Group on Disability is included as Appendix I on page 224.

19. GENERAL SYNOD 2007

In accordance with the authority delegated to the Standing Committee by the General Synod in 1982, the meeting of the General Synod in 2007 has been arranged for 8, 9 and 10 May in the Lyrath Estate Hotel, Kilkenny.

20. GENERAL SYNOD ROYALTIES FUND

The Standing Committee approved a loan of £5,000 to the Liturgical Advisory Committee for the production of *I can Join in the Holy Communion Service*, a Communion Service for children.

A grant of €5,000 was approved to subvent the Irish language edition of *The Book of Common Prayer*.

A grant of £700 the Church of Ireland Historical Society was approved to subvent the publication, by Four Courts Press, of a book of essays entitled *The Clergy of the Church of Ireland*, to be edited by Canon W.G. Neely (Convenor of the Church of Ireland Historical Society) and Dr Toby Barnard (Fellow of Hertford College, Oxford) conditional on the Church of Ireland Historical Society raising matching funds.

A grant of £350 to the Church of Ireland Historical Society was approved to subvent the publication of *A Study of Archbishop McCann* written by the Rt Rev RA Warke, subject to the Historical Society raising matching funds.

A grant of £9,000 for 2005 and £5,000 in 2006 and 2007 was approved for print and electronic published materials for the Hard Gospel Programme towards the matching funding required for The Hard Gospel Programme.

A grant of €7,000 was approved to subsidise printing 2,000 copies of the large print edition of *The Book of Common Prayer*.

A grant of €6,000 was approved for the publication, launch and distribution of *The Authority of Scripture: a Report of the Church of Ireland Bishops' Advisory Committee on Doctrine*.

21. GENERAL SYNOD – STANDING COMMITTEE BUDGETS

The Budget Sub-Committee considered budget submissions from the various bodies concerning their projected expenditure for the year 2006 and presented a report to the Standing Committee in September 2005. Following consideration of the report, recommendations were submitted to the Representative Church Body Allocations Committee.

22. THE HARD GOSPEL

As reported last year, the Standing Committee endorsed the aims and strategies of the Hard Gospel Committee and agreed to accept a grant of £300,000 over a three-year period from the International Fund for Ireland on the basis of matching funding. The Standing Committee also gave outline approval to the programme and the necessary appointments, management structures and accountability structures.

The Standing Committee approved a grant of £25,000 for 2005 from the Priorities Fund and a sum of £25,000 was agreed by the Allocations Committee of the Representative Church Body. The Standing Committee also approved a grant of £9,000 for 2005 and £5,000 in 2006 and 2007 from the General Synod Royalties Fund for print and electronically published materials. In January 2005, the Standing Committee received a progress report from The Hard Gospel Committee.

A report from The Hard Gospel Committee is included as Appendix J on page 227.

23. HISTORIOGRAPHER'S REPORT

A report from the Church of Ireland Historiographer, Dr K Milne, is included as Appendix K on page 232.

24. HOLY THEOKOTOS MONASTERY

A request for a gift of books on the Church of Ireland from the Holy Theokotos Monastery in North Myers, Florida, was considered by the Standing Committee in September 2005. Four successive hurricanes destroyed part of the library, and the

monastery is trying to restore its collection of books. The Standing Committee agreed to send a selection of books up to a value of €200 as a gesture of goodwill.

25. INTERNATIONAL ANGLICAN LITURGICAL COMMISSION

A report on the International Anglican Liturgical Consultation, held in Prague in August 2005 was received by the Standing Committee. The report is included as Appendix L on page 234.

26. IRISH CHURCHES' COUNCIL FOR TELEVISION AND RADIO AFFAIRS

A report from the Irish Churches' Council for Television and Radio Affairs for the period 1 January to 31 December 2005 is included as Appendix M on page 237.

27. KLINGENTHAL CONSULTATION

The Bishop of Clogher was appointed to represent the Church of Ireland at a Consultation between the Lutheran-Reformed Churches in Europe and the Churches of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The Consultation was held in Klingenthal in Alsace, France, in October 2005 and a report is included as Appendix N on page 240.

28. THE MASONIC ORDER

The Standing Committee in March 2005 considered a report from the Honorary Secretaries on meetings with representatives of the Masonic Order. The Standing Committee in April 2005 generally accepted the following view expressed by the Honorary Secretaries:

The Honorary Secretaries recognise that the religious aspect of Freemasonry, as far as we can tell, does not equate with the fullness of the Christian teaching of the Church of Ireland. Notwithstanding this recognition, the Honorary Secretaries believe that membership of, and participation in, Freemasonry is a matter of free choice and conscience for members of the Church of Ireland.

29. PARISH DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP

A report from the Parish Development Committee is included as Appendix O on page 242.

30. THE PORVOO COMMUNION

The Parish Development Working Group, in consultation with the Church of Ireland Council for Mission, was requested by the Standing Committee in January 2006 to appoint a delegate to represent the Church of Ireland at the Porvoo Mission Consultation: Fresh Expressions of Church, to be held in Canterbury in October 2006.

31. PORVOO - EASTERN ORTHODOX CONSULTATION

The Church of Ireland was represented by the Rt Rev MGStA Jackson at the Eastern Orthodox – Povoo Consultation, held in Finland in December 2005. A report on the Consultation is included as Appendix P on page 244.

32. PRIORITIES FUND

- (a) The following allocations from the Priorities Fund were approved by the Standing Committee in March 2006:

ALLOCATION OF GRANTS FROM 2005 PRIORITIES FUND

Ministry	€
Central Director of Ordinands & Bishops' Selection Conference – Funding for a one day conference to discern what needs to be done to foster and encourage vocation among younger people	3,000
Parish Development Committee – To assist with the cost of a Conference in St Patrick's College, Dublin in 2006, to launch a Parish Development Programme – (Stg€2,500 per year for 2 years) – Final year	3,648
Parish Development Working Group – To assist with the costs involved in holding a 'follow-up day' after the launch of the Parish Development Programme and supplying resources to help parishes develop in ministry	2,918
The House of Bishops – To provide for continuing ministerial education within the dioceses	60,000
Working Group on Disability – Funding for the distribution of an information pack to every parish in the Church of Ireland, to encourage members to promote practices and attitudes which do not discriminate against people with disabilities	2,918
Sub-total	€72,484
Retirement	
C of I Clergy Pensions Fund – Additional income for most needy	7,475
C of I Clergy Pensions Fund – Retired Chaplain	652
Sub-total	€8,127
Education	
*Clogher Diocesan Council – Funding towards the cost of holding six public lectures to commemorate the 1500th Anniversary of St Macartan, to develop exploration and understanding of the complex divisions within this particular cross-border community	2,918
Girls' Friendly Society – To assist with the cost of producing religious education materials, to address the challenges facing youth organisations in the Church of Ireland	2,300

Hymnal Revision – Financial assistance for the expense incurred in researching and monitoring changes that have been found necessary in reprints of the Church Hymnal	800
Meath & Kildare Diocesan Board of Education – Financial assistance for a new education project within the dioceses	500
*St Columb’s Cathedral, Londonderry – Funding towards the cost of organising and hosting a series of Lenten lunchtime lectures, to enhance the contribution of St Columb’s in improving community relations	2,918
The Mothers’ Union, Ireland – Financial assistance for the costs involved in the setting up of a new post of Project Development Worker, covering six dioceses in the northern part of Ireland – (Stg£10,000 per year for 3 years) – Second year	14,592
The following applications all concern youth work and the grants allocated are based on the recommendations made by the Church of Ireland Youth Department	
C of I Youth Department – Funding for the set-up costs involved in the establishment of a ‘year out’ mission and service opportunity for approximately eight young adults	7,296
Summer Madness/StreetReach – Funding for the further development of StreetReach, bringing 1,000 young people on to the streets of Belfast, for a Community Outreach Programme	29,184
Castlerock Union (Derry) – Financial assistance for the development of ‘The Breeze Project’, a youth and community initiative within the two communities of Castlerock and Articlave, in partnership with the ‘Pais’ Project	7,296
Clonenagh Union (Ossory) – Funding for the development of youth ministry within the parish – (€2,000 per year for 3 years) – Final year	2,000
Clontarf Parish (Dublin) – To assist financially with the set-up costs for children’s ministry	4,000
Derry & Raphoe Youth – Financial assistance for the ‘Sitting Ducks Project’, where young adults will be challenged to explore their Christian faith, so that they can choose to be disciples of Jesus Christ	2,918
Parish of Donagheady (Derry) – Financial assistance for a parish development plan, to involve young people in church activities and prepare them for an adult role within the church and community	5,837
Sligo & Drumcliffe Youth Initiatives (Elphin) – Financial support for the development of a programme of activities to encourage young people to play a more active role in the wider community	6,000
St Jude’s Parish, Ballynafeigh (Down) – Financial assistance for the on-going development of programmes in this community based drop-in centre, providing a safe environment for young people in the 12-18 age group – (Stg£4,000 – First year : Stg£3,000 – Second and third year)	5,837
St John’s Parish, Moira (Dromore) – Financial support for the on-going development of programmes in this community based drop-in centre, providing a safe environment for young people in the 12 -18 age group	4,378
The Rock (St Matthew’s Youth Club), Richhill (Armagh) – To assist with the purchase of equipment for a Tape Ministry to reach out to any elderly or housebound people, to help raise a sense of community conscience within the club	1,459
Youth for Christ Ireland – To assist with the costs involved in running two school missions, one week in a Dublin school and one week in a school in the west of Ireland	2,000
Sub-total	€102,233

Community

Armagh Child Contact Centre – Financial assistance for this Centre, where children of separated families can meet with one or both parents, in a safe and compatible environment	7,128
*C of I Board for Social Responsibility (NI) – Financial assistance to carry out a Needs Assessment of the extent of drug and alcohol abuse amongst young people and raise awareness of these addictions in churches	8,755
C of I Student Centre, Queen’s University, Belfast – Funding for the renovation and improvement of the public areas of the Student Centre, to meet legislative and ministry demands – (Stg£20,000 per year for 2 years)	29,184
Cosy Cats Project, Calry Parish (Elphin) – Financial assistance towards the operation of this childcare facility for disadvantaged families of all religions and cultures in the crypts under the church – (€15,000 per year for 3 years)	15,000
Foyle Child Contact Centre, Londonderry – Financial assistance for this Centre, where children of separated families can meet with one or both parents, in a safe and compatible environment	5,837
Kilbroney Centre, Rostrevor – Financial support for the refurbishment of the main accommodation block, to enable the centre continue and expand its range of programmes – (Stg£20,000 per year for 2 years) – Final year	29,184
The Grace Centre, Clonakilty, Co Cork – Financial assistance for this Interdenominational Christian Community Centre, that provides affordable counselling, parenting courses and services for teenagers	5,000
The Mothers’ Union, Dioceses of Limerick & Killaloe – Financial support towards the organisation of a Family Day, providing activities for over 300 adults and children, from all over the dioceses	1,000
‘Wellsprings’, Kilmakee Parish (Connor) – Funding for a Christ Centred Community Addiction Therapy Programme, developed to address a need experienced by the parish	10,944
Willowfield Parish Community Association (Down) – Funding for a project called ‘Mind the Gap’, to reach out to those who usually fall in the gap between church and community e.g. ethnic minority communities etc – (Stg£7,000 – First year : Stg£6,500 - Second and third year)	10,215
Sub-total	€122,247

Areas of Need

Armagh – Holy Trinity Church, Drumnakilly – To secure seed capital for the provision of a new building for use by the whole community, necessitated by changes in population and the needs of ministry	2,918
Connor – Greenisland Parish – Financial assistance towards the provision of a programme that will communicate the Gospel message to the people in Greenisland and beyond, in a creative and innovative way using multi-media productions	7,296
Connor – Holy Trinity & St Silas with Immanuel Parishes – Funding for the provision of Church initiated activities and programmes which will enhance personal development, life and social skills of vulnerable families, young people and adults in interface areas of the parish and to tackle the problems of children at risk, anti-social behaviour and sectarianism – (Stg£10,000 per year for 3 years)	14,592
Derry – Maghera & Killelagh Parishes – Financial assistance towards the provision of a new church plant in the village of Upperlands, in the parish of Maghera	4,378

Down – Donaghadee Parish – To assist with the building of ‘The Sanctuary’, a purpose-built cafe style outreach facility in the parish, for the provision of practical care in the wider community	7,296
Down – St Patrick’s Church, Ballymacarrett – Financial assistance for the renovation of the south transept of the church, to make it suitable as a fellowship area, drop-in and outreach centre, to reach out to a heavily unchurched and deprived community	7,296
Dromore – Magheralin Parish – To assist financially with the start-up costs involved in the community programmes planned in the new outreach facility in Dollingstown – (Stg£10,000 – First year : Stg£4,000 – Second and third year)	14,592
Sub-total	€58,368
Reconciliation and Outreach	
Comerstone Community (NI) – Funding to further develop the ‘No Hidden Agenda’ project, working alongside churches and their congregations to build up positive relationships within, between and across churches and the communities in which they are based	2,918
Knocknagoney Parish (Down) – Funding to enable the implementation of programmes of community outreach to parents, children and young people in the Aslan Centre – (Stg£10,000 per year for 3 years) – Second year	14,592
Renewal and Outreach in the City (Connor) – Funding to enable R.O.C. develop its work of reconciliation and outreach, particularly in the Greater North Belfast area, which is a very complex and diverse region – (€6,000 per year for 3 years) – Final year	6,000
Shankill Parish Caring Association (Dromore) – To assist with the cost of the new ‘Jethro Centre’, to enable this organisation continue its work in the areas of reconciliation, outreach, youth ministry and activities for the elderly – (Stg£20,000 per year for 3 years) – Final year	29,184
The Hard Gospel – Funding for The Hard Gospel Programme, a major initiative which has the potential to touch every part of the life of the Church of Ireland – (Stg£25,000 per year for 3 years) – Second year	36,480
The See House Quiet Garden (Derry) – To assist with the cost of landscaping a walled garden in the grounds of the See House, to create a place for shared retreats with the Roman Catholic community, prayer days and courses in spirituality – (Stg£2,000 per year for 3 years) – Final year	2,918
Sub-total	€92,092
Total Allocated	€455,551

*These grants were referred back to the Priorities Fund Committee for further consideration and are subject to final approval from the Standing Committee.

Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2005 are included as Appendix Q on Page 249. Contributions to the Fund do not close until the end of February. The amount actually received by 28 February was €541,957.

Following a recommendation from the Priorities Fund Committee, the Standing Committee in March 2006 agreed that diocesan targets for contributions to the 2007 Fund are increased by 3%. Diocesan targets for contributions to the 2006 Fund were also increased by 3%.

Sterling grants have been converted to Euro using the 2005 end of year rate of 0.6853.

33. SAFEGUARDING TRUST

The Standing Committee agreed to submit a Bill to the General Synod in 2006 to create an effective legal standing for *Safeguarding Trust: The Church of Ireland Code of Good Practice for Ministry with Children*. The Bill, if passed by the General Synod, will create a new Chapter in the Constitution entitled 'Ministry to Children'.

The Standing Committee also agreed to submit a Bill to the General Synod to provide for a portion of the funding of two Child Protection Officers. They will advise the Church of Ireland in responding to concerns about the welfare of children and, in particular, will advise and assist the bishops and diocesan councils in ensuring that *Safeguarding Trust* is implemented and adhered to in all parishes. The Representative Body has undertaken to fund part of the overall cost.

34. SERVICES FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS

The Good Relations and Reconciliation Division of the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister invited the Church of Ireland to submit comments on a Consultation Paper on the Future of Services for Victims and Survivors and the establishment of a Commissioner for Victims and Survivors. The Social Justice and Theological (NI) group of the Church in Society was requested to prepare comments on the Consultation Paper.

35. STATUTE LAW (REPUBLIC OF IRELAND)

A small group was appointed by the Standing Committee in November 2005 to monitor the revision of Statute Law in the Republic of Ireland being undertaken by the office of the Attorney General. The revision entails a review of pre-1922 Acts and the group will seek to ensure that the Church of Ireland is not adversely affected by the repeal of any of these acts.

36. SYNODICAL REFORM

The Standing Committee in September 2005 considered a request to review its decision taken in January 2005 not to recommend legislation to the General Synod to reform Synodical representation. It was decided that the decision made in January should stand.

37. TUAM, KILLALA AND ACHONRY DIOCESE

In accordance with section 51(1) of the Constitution, Duties and Powers of the Standing Committee, an application from the Diocesan Council of Tuam, Killala and Achonry was approved for references to 'forty five years' to be substituted by 'fifty five years' in relation to the election of members of the Standing Committee for the period 2006 to 2008.

38. WORK AND FAMILIES – CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

A response to the Consultation Document entitled *Work and Families – Choice and Flexibility*, produced by the Department of Trade and Commerce (UK), was prepared by the Chairman of the Social Justice and Theological (NI) Panel, the Chairman of the Church of Ireland Marriage Council and the All-Ireland President of the Mothers' Union. The response was noted by the Standing Committee and is included as Appendix R on page 251.