

## Regional Councils' Annual Reports for 2018

(A compilation of the annual reports from the Regional Councils.)

### Key Points

- Under clause 9(2) of the *Regions Ordinance 1995* each Regional Council must present an annual report of its proceedings and the exercise of its general functions for inclusion in the Standing Committee's report to Synod for that year
- These reports are in addition to the annual reports prepared by the Regional Councils and tabled at the Synod under the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995*

### Background

1. Under clause 9(2) of the *Regions Ordinance 1995*, each Regional Council must present to the Standing Committee an annual report of its proceedings and the exercise of its general functions under clause 6 in sufficient time each year to enable the Standing Committee to include the report in the report for that year of the Standing Committee to Synod.
2. The general functions of the Regional Councils under clause 6 are –
  - (a) to carry out or assist in carrying out any resolutions passed by the Synod or the Standing Committee and referred to it for implementation;
  - (b) to develop ministry strategies in the Region;
  - (c) to assess applications for grants in the Region made or referred to it;
  - (d) to make grants or loans from money (consistent with any trusts on which that money may be held) available to it for distribution or for lending;
  - (e) to accept gifts and grants;
  - (f) to raise and expend money for any purpose connected with ministry in the Region;
  - (g) to employ persons for any purpose connected with ministry within the Region, and to dismiss any person so employed;
  - (h) to manage and control any endowment held for the Region as a whole;
  - (i) to discuss matters affecting the Region and to disseminate information in the Region;
  - (j) to make recommendations to the Archbishop about alterations to regional boundaries; and
  - (k) to exercise such other functions as the Synod or the Standing Committee may from time to time prescribe.
3. The following are the reports from the Regional Councils for 2018 for the purposes of clause 9(2). These reports are in addition to the annual reports prepared by the Regional Councils and tabled at the Synod under the *Accounts, Audits and Annual Reports Ordinance 1995*.

### Georges River Regional Council

4. The Regional Council had four meetings in 2018. At the meetings, the Rector of the parish was invited to give a Bible study and then report on the activities within the parish. This gave the Council a good indication of the challenges facing the parish and highlighted that different strategies had to be implemented to face some of the challenges of a changing society.
5. Our meetings provided input and feedback on regional strategy and ministry within the region. The key result was the decision to have a Mission Area driven Regional Mission in 2020, with a year of prayer and preparation in 2019.
6. Though not flushed with funds, the Council continued to think through the most strategic use of those funds and is also considering some asset re-alignment.

7. The Region continued to support the vital and unique ministry of the Rev Margaret Powell amongst women. We are thankful to God for the financial and prayer support given to Margaret Powell from Anglican Deaconess Ministries, parishes in the Diocese and individual donors that support this work.

### **Northern Regional Council**

8. The Council met formally twice during the year. Further urgent business was dealt with by circular resolution to which all members participated.
9. Our meetings enabled discussion of a range of matters relating to ministry strategies in the region, including consideration of ways the Council might assist parish ministry in line with the Diocesan Mission.
10. In May, the Council hosted the Northern Region Conference at St Paul's Chatswood. Over 160 people attended, mostly clergy from the region. The theme of the conference was "The Heart is the Target", the title of a book written by Murray Capill, principal of the Reformed Theological College in Geelong, Australia, where he lectures in preaching and pastoral ministry. Presenters included Murray Capill, Craig Hamilton (Craig is one of Australia's leading Mental Health advocates), Tim Edwards (analytics team leader at McCrindle) and Bishop Chris Edwards. The conference provided opportunities for clergy to discuss ways of working together for Mission 2019.
11. In accordance with its authority under relevant ordinances the Council gave in principle support for St Paul's, Terrey Hills (a branch church of Christ Church St Ives) to become a provisional parish.
12. The Council also helped to fund the attendance of the Regional Bishop at this year's GAFCON Conference.

### **South Sydney Regional Council**

13. The South Sydney Region comprises the area of the CBD of Sydney and is bordered by the Tasman Sea, Parramatta River, Cooks River and Rookwood Cemetery.
14. The Council met once during the year as well as consultation by email and phone.
15. In 2018, the main activities of the Council either by way of report or action was as follows –
  - Receiving reports from, and providing ongoing funding for, the Church of England on Norfolk Island (\$24,000) and Living Water (Indigenous Ministry - \$25,000).
  - Consideration of the reclassification of the Provisional Parish of Surry Hills (Vine Church) full parish status.
  - The 2018 South Sydney Regional Conference, which addresses the topic of Pastoral Care for Same-Sex attracted people.
  - Review of progress on the appointment of clergy to vacant parishes.

### **Western Sydney Regional Council**

16. The main committees are the Executive Committee, the Ordinance Review Panel and the Architectural Panel.
17. The Council met on 1 occasion during 2018 at The Rectory, Pitt Town. The main areas of consideration included Mission 2020, the Clergy Contact Persons program, the new Rectors program, pastoral difficulties in parishes, parish vacancies and new appointments, NCLS data, the Regional Conference, building projects in the region.

## Wollongong Regional Council

18. Bishop Peter Hayward and the Regional Council worked closely to further support ministry across the Region. This included:
- financial support for the ministries at Oran Park and Leppington
  - financial support with subsidised rectories at Sussex Inlet and Leppington
  - financial support with subsidised demountable at Helensburgh and Denham Court
  - meeting with and support of Mission Area leaders
  - support for Rectors
  - specific regional training for Rectors and Wardens
  - 3 day Regional Ministry conference
  - Support of The Gong Men's Day and SWITCH Women's Conference
  - ongoing support for ESL English classes
    - ESL classes were delivered in 13 Parishes across the Region with a new class beginning at Eagle Vale.
    - Support through provision of office space for the Regional Anglicare ESL Coordinator, Mrs Sue Radkovic
  - ongoing support for Indigenous Ministries
    - Pastor Michael Duckett linked with St Peter's Campbelltown in partnership with the SAIPMC.
    - Mr Phil Miles linked with All Saints Nowra in partnership with the SAIPMC.
19. In the lead up to Easter the Region ran a Region-wide mission in partnership with Moore Theological College. This was coordinated through Mission Areas and followed the one theme – *Jesus is...* . Parishes benefited from working together through training and equipping for mission as well as utilising and sharing common merchandise and programs.
20. The overall aim of the Mission was that each congregation member across the Region take one step forward in witnessing their faith in Jesus.
21. The cost of the Mission was largely met by the Parishes with a small shortfall met by the Regional Council.
22. During 2018 funding from the Region's assets was allocated to the specific ministry in the South West growth sector.

Ministry	Purpose	Allocation	Total
Oran Park	Housing Support	\$11,630	
Leppington	Church Plant	\$70,000	\$81,630

23. The three day Wollongong Regional Ministry Conference continues to be a "high point" in the life of the Region. This enables clergy and lay ministry staff to meet together for mutual fellowship and teaching. Various guest speakers and Diocesan organisations join in the conference.
24. The Council received reports from Bishop Hayward and the Assistant to the Bishop at each meeting.

For and on behalf of the Standing Committee.

DANIEL GLYNN  
**Diocesan Secretary**

29 August 2019