

Western Sydney Regional Council Annual Report 2000

Charter

1. The Western Sydney Regional Council under the Regions Ordinance 1995 has continued its functions for another year since its last report.
2. Following revised guidelines, the Regional Council funds received from Synod were distributed to Parishes and other ministries in response to requests and plans. Over \$540,000 was so allocated during 1999, and over \$545,000 is being allocated during 2000.
3. A review of ordinances and investigation of the reclassification of parochial units were conducted by the Property Ordinance & Legal (POL) Committee as required by Ordinance.

Access

4. The principal office of the Regional Council is located at the Anglican Church Office - (Bishop of Western Sydney) 191 Church Street, Parramatta 2150 (PO Box 1443 Parramatta 2124). Office hours are generally 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday. Telephone 02 9635.3186 or 9689.1475. Email: office@westernsydney.anglican.asn.au
5. The Secretary is Mrs Sharon Crocker, Telephone 9635.3186, and the Honorary Treasurer is Mrs Gwenda Williams.

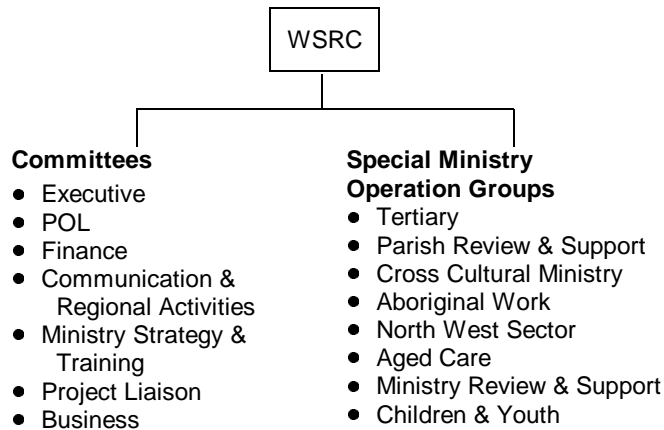
Members

6. The following list are the members as at 30 June 2000.

Bishop B F V King	Mr J Barnard (Windsor)
Archdeacon K Allen	Mr R Beer (Castle Hill)
Canon J W South (Emu Plains)	Mr A Frank (Northmead)
The Rev J Lowe (Doonside)	Dr R James (Penrith)
The Rev W Presbury (Glenbrook)	Mr D Lewarne (Parramatta)
The Rev J Reid (Cambridge Park)	Mr A H Woodland (Parramatta)
The Rev S Semenchuk (Woodville)	Mr W B Nicholson (Lalor Park)
The Rev P Griffin (Wentworthville)	Mr I Reynolds (Lalor Park)
The Rev N Macken (Northmead)	Mrs G Williams (Dundas)
The Rev G Bates (Wilberforce)	Mr J Wenman (Blue Mountains)

Structure of Organisation

7. The following chart sets out the structure of the Council and its various committees.



Activities

8. The Regional Council meets at least bi-monthly with these committees and Special Ministry Operation Groups (SMOGS) meeting as possible between Regional Council meetings.

9. Financial support was given to parishes and other organisations in supporting workers. The practice in the past of continuing to give a gift to those candidates from the Region in fulltime training for ordained ministry has continued and many parishes are generous with their gifts.

10. Loans and grants for major maintenance needs were occasionally made.

11. Two supplements of "Link" were published as inclusions in the "Southern Cross" newspaper. Our editor received several positive follow up calls demonstrating the level of acceptance and interest.

Vision

12. To Support and Encourage Evangelism and Discipleship (SEED).

Mission

13. To build biblically healthy communities. The Bishop wrote in May *Southern Cross* -

"Parishes and ministries - as close to the action as possible - make their plans and spend their money under the knowledge and direction of this umbrella.

Spending money will now be allocated through a predetermined percentage, given from the annual Synod grant to each of the four main resourcing groups - tertiary, cross-cultural, children and youth, and parishes.

116 Report of Standing Committee & Other Reports & Papers

They - not the Regional Council - will decide how the money will be spent.

Planning will be facilitated by a parish or ministry choosing one of four planning consultants, employed by the Regional Council, to help form its own strategy. The aim is to have 30 strategic plans operating by 2004.

A part-time executive assistant, a council secretary and an assistant treasurer were employed by the Council some months ago to facilitate this regional functioning.

Gospel Strategy & Mutual Fellowship are governing principles for any work anywhere. The Region therefore is rightly keen to promote these godly principles, to preserve its different cultures, and to prevent any inconsistencies.

The Ministry Strategy and Training Committee is a regional 'think-tank' which will provide strategic planning and new ministry ideas, in consultation with parishes and task groups.

Hopefully - especially when added to my own in-service workshops - this restructuring will help the Region be more and more -

- *Observably God's people;*
- *Genuinely caring'*
- *Enterprisingly evangelistic;*
- *Dynamically Anglican' and*
- *Pastorally enterprising.*

Some Strategies

14. The vigorous effort of the TAFE Chaplaincy under the Rev Craig Blackett is encouraging the Western Region congregations. It is expected approaches to assist Christian meetings in other TAFE Colleges will increase.

15. In 2000 we continue to consolidate cross cultural contacts (Persian congregation, 4 Chinese congregations and Turkish work) with a part-time Regional CCM worker are giving assistance in that area of ministry.

16. A small group meets as a SMOG to keep in touch with the developing areas of the Region, especially the North West Sector.

17. The appointment of Neville Naden as Aboriginal Pastor at Tregear is an answer to a long felt need and Regional Council is supporting him in practical ways.

18. During 2000 four persons are employed part-time to assist parishes with Strategic Planning. Costs are met from reserves and Parish contribution.

19. Regular training courses are arranged through the Bishop's office for clergy and laity. The Regional Council is investigating the establishment of an Institute for Lay Training.

20. Recent amalgamations have revitalised struggling parishes, and the Parish Review and Support Team provides counsel, mentoring and advice to financially-strained Parishes.

21. A Childrens' & Youth Committee has been formed to cooperate with Anglican Youthworks.

For and on behalf of the Western Sydney Regional Council.

BRIAN F V KING
Regional Bishop

23 May 2000