



Appendix Five:

Ten principles to guide Mission Motivated Development

These principles can be demonstrated in proposals and plans. The principles can be applied to requests for permission to proceed as well as for funding to do so submitted to the Property Board on one hand and the Board of Mission and Resourcing on the other.

1. Vocation

Development will match the calling, or vocation, of the local church congregation and/or church agency.

2. Relationship

The proposal is the result of experiences arising from existing relationships, the hopes identified for these and desirable, new relationships. Relationship means that there is a shared life with another person who 'has a name, a face and an address'. Relationship does not mean a 'target group' defined by several different characteristics or needs.

3. Community building

The proposed development is primarily designed to inspire, enthuse, develop, enrich, enhance and deepen the many facets of a thriving servant community. This means that people are valued for their gifts and abilities, capacities and potential. This means that people are not described by social needs or disabilities – their 'defects'. Rather, they are considered in terms of their 'potential assets.' Everyone has an opportunity to contribute, whatever their circumstance. Compassion is at the core of this understanding about community building.

4. Presence

Development will sustain the church's commitment to being 'an instrument through which Christ may work and bear witness to himself' (*Basis of Union*, para. 3) with the people of the neighbourhood or wider locality. Christ's commission to each Christian is to act according to the way of Jesus. This means being a devoted disciple, discipling all people as each Christian lives her or his life in the world.

5. Story

Development refers to the on-going narrative of particular locations, places or sites, where the people of God live, work and enact the faith of Christ; and gather to generate, share, collect and value stories.

6. Place

The proposal acknowledges that 'place' matters: that the geographical and cultural context of the development is critical to the nature and purpose of the development. 'Place' shapes our lives, and therefore shapes and informs any Christian's or local church's missionary purpose. 'Place' also shapes the expression and understanding of the gospel.

7. Shared decision-making

Mission motivated development accepts that from time to time the particular form or expression of mission may change. Nothing stays the same.

8. Innovation and initiative

Mission motivated development implies creativity and innovation according to the purpose of God's mission in a specific context.

9. Holistic approach

The church will exercise a wholehearted commitment to a holistic approach to all development. Carefulness with respect to the environment, ecology of the area and neighbours will be evident.

10. Contextualisation and fluidity

Mission motivated development means that, in addition to the 'place', the proposed development is responsive to the characteristics of a particular context where the local church or church agency's property is located. Such characteristics might include social demographics, economics, ecology, political nuances, sub-cultural practices and mores, etc.

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