

The Faithful Futures Coordinated Ministries Goal Group Terms of Reference

1 Name and Source of Authority

- 1.1 The name of this body shall be **Faithful Futures Coordinated Ministries Goal Group**.
- 1.2 Source of Authority – Synod resolution 25.3.14.1, clause (f), and Faithful Futures Steering Committee clause 26.13.1.

2 Statement of Purpose

The Faithful Futures Coordinated Ministries Goal Group’s purpose is to support the Presbyteries and Synod Ministries & Operations to fulfil the Shared Vision and, specifically, the Coordinated Ministries goal: “Coordinated ministry and mission in geographic areas such as Local Government Areas by 2030: attentive to renewing discipleship, and to the life and needs of the local context.” (Ref: Synod resolution 25.3.14.1(b)A).

3 Responsibilities and Functions

The Goal Group will:

- 3.1 Support and enable presbyteries, congregations and Synod to learn from one another’s strategies, successes and challenges by providing opportunities to share experiences of coordinated ministry and its contribution to discipleship renewal.
- 3.2 Gather and document examples of a range of alternative coordinated ministry models to inspire and provide a catalyst for presbyteries and congregations as they work toward achieving this goal.
- 3.3 Contribute to the identification and development of resources that will provide practical support to presbyteries and congregations in achieving this goal.
- 3.4 Support exploration of coordinated ministries that bridge across presbytery bounds with attention to governance, oversight, and regulatory requirements.
- 3.5 Identify and recommend to the General Secretary where Synod Ministries and Operations may contribute expertise when developing resources that will support presbyteries and congregations in achieving this goal.
- 3.6 Articulate leadership elements required for supporting various coordinated ministry models, and provide advice to the “equipping Leadership for Mission (eLM) unit” regarding learning and development needs and opportunities.

- 3.7 Make recommendations to the Faithful Futures Steering Committee about the tools and methods that could be used to effectively measure achievement of the Coordinated Ministries goal.
- 3.8 Act as a reference group to support implementation of existing regulations and regulatory changes emerging from the UCA Assembly's Act2 program in relation to fulfilling the Coordinated Ministries goal.

4 Membership

4.1 Members

- 4.1.1 Five people with wide knowledge of coordinated ministries in own local presbytery contexts – including understanding of successes, opportunities, and challenges of implementing coordinated ministries involving ministry and mission. These members will be nominated through Expressions of Interest and appointed by the Faithful Futures Steering Committee, ensuring a balance between rural and metro areas and representation from Tasmania.
- 4.1.2 Two Synod Ministries and Operations (SMO) staff members. These members will be appointed by the Faithful Futures Steering Committee.

4.2 Participants

- 4.2.1 the Faithful Futures Project Lead (or nominee).
- 4.2.2 Subject matter experts may be invited to attend as participants from time to time to support the goal group in fulfilling their responsibilities (e.g. SMO staff; Presbytery Office Bearers; Presbytery Ministers; and staff of the UCA institutions).

4.3 Chairperson

- 4.3.1 The Chairperson for this goal group will be appointed by the Faithful Futures Steering Committee.
- 4.3.2 The Chairperson may be required to attend, and/or provide a written report to, the Faithful Futures Steering Committee no more than bi-annually.

5 Casual Vacancies

- 5.1 When a member ceases to be eligible for membership by reason of:
 - i. resignation; or
 - ii. death; or
 - iii. moving outside the bounds of the Synod; or
 - iv. for such other reasons as the Presbytery or Faithful Futures Steering Committee (as relevant) determines,then a casual vacancy shall arise.
- 5.2 The casual vacancy shall be filled by appointment of the Faithful Futures Steering Committee.
- 5.3 Persons appointed to fill a casual vacancy shall hold office for the duration of the term of the person who they replace.

6 Length of Service

- 6.1 Members shall be appointed for a maximum term of 5 years (end of term of Goal Group: December 2030).
- 6.2 Members shall only be eligible for appointment until December 2030.
- 6.3 Persons appointed to fill a casual vacancy shall be appointed for the remainder of the time period until December 2030.

7 Meetings

- 7.1 The Goal Group shall meet at least 4 times per year, at a time and place to be determined by the Group.
- 7.2 A quorum shall be the nearest whole number above 50% + 1 of the number of members of the Goal Group (or such other number as determined by the establishing body).
- 7.3 Confirmed meeting notes detailing all resolutions passed at each meeting shall be kept and provided to the Chair of the Faithful Futures Steering Committee.
- 7.4 Meetings may be held in person or through the use of technology.

8 Indemnity

- 8.1 Any person acting as a member of the Goal Group shall be entitled to be indemnified in accordance with Regulation 4.11.2.

9 Definitions

In these **Terms of Reference** unless the context indicates otherwise:

Term	Definition
“Church”	Means the Uniting Church in Australia
“Congregation”	Means any congregation within the Synod
“Committee”	Means the Faithful Futures Steering Committee
“Member”	Means a person appointed as a member to participate in the activities and decisions of the Committee / Goal Group.
“Participant”	Means an associated member of a Committee who is given permission by the Committee to participate in meetings of the Committee for all or part of the proceedings as appropriate (Manual for Meetings, Chapter 5). A participant may contribute during the worship, general, information and deliberative sessions of a meeting but not in the decision. The leave of the Committee is required for a person to be recognized as a participant
“Presbyteries”	Means all the presbyteries within the bounds of the Synod
“Regulations”	Means the Regulations of the Uniting Church in Australia.

Term	Definition
“Synod”	Means the Uniting Church in Australia Synod of Victoria and Tasmania
“Synod Ministries and Operations (SMO)”	Means all ministry, missional, operational, and administrative functions undertaken by or on behalf of the Synod, as expressed in the Synod’s staffed Units of the Secretariat, equipping Leadership for Mission (eLM); and Mission Resourcing Unit (MRU). Synod Ministries and Operations’ responsibilities are to act in response, but not limited to: Synod governance committee advice/direction; as required in accordance with the Regulations; and through the exercise of executive direction; to support Synod committees and/or Synod officers to ensure fulfilment of the Synod’s responsibilities of general oversight, direction and administration of the Church’s worship, witness and service within its bounds.

Document Control

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