

SW Synod Executive report for Synod Meeting March 2023

Property matters

The Executive has overseen the sale of the Bath Central URC building. The congregation have joined Rush Hill URC and they are in the process of uniting as one church with a revitalised building.

Other sales of church buildings and manses are also in process. The resources released will help generous property and enabling grants to continue.

Eco Church

Rob Weston, one of our Green Apostles, will update the Synod on progress in this area.

Synod Safeguarding Officer

Jan Murphy finished her service as Synod safeguarding officer on February 28th 2023.

The Synod Safeguarding Committee will seek a new, half-time Safeguarding Officer for the Synod – a job description and person specification has been drawn up and advertising will begin soon.

Urgent safeguarding matters are being dealt with by the Designated Safeguarding Lead for the URC (Sharon Barr), and we are trying to secure the services of one of the other Synod Safeguarding Officers to help for the interim period.

Bristol Korean Church

It is exciting to have reached the point where Bristol Korean Church wish to become a local United Reformed Church. A resolution will be brought to Synod asking General Assembly to receive this new URC.

It is hoped that a minister from the Presbyterian Church of Korea will be found to serve the BKC and the Gale Project through a Certificate of Limited Service.

Welcoming a new Moderator

There will be something of a gap until the new Moderator arrives and members of the Synod staff, committees, and wider team are poised to take on extra responsibilities to enable the Synod work to continue to run smoothly.

I am personally grateful for having such excellent people to rely on.

Ruth Whitehead

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