

SW Synod Executive report for Synod Meeting October 2022

Property matters

The Executive has overseen a large number of property disposals and acquisitions in 2021-22. Recognising the heavy workload this places on the Property and Trust Officer, a Property & Trust Assistant (Colleen Lewis) began work on September 1st and is settling in very well. Paula McDonagh's work title is now Finance Assistant and we are grateful for her support for our Synod Treasurer.

United Reformed Church-Presbyterian Church of Korea links

There has been a lot of hard work by Revd Dougie Burnett and Redland Park URC put into the future of the relationship between the Synod and the Bristol Korean Church, with the end of the Special Category Ministry post which allowed Revd Bohyun Kim to serve as their minister.

The Executive have approved a Statement of Intent towards a Partnership Agreement for the formation of the Gale Project between the South Western Synod of the United Reformed Church and the Seoul Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of Korea.

We hope the Gale project will encourage ongoing growth of the Bristol Korean Church as it seeks to become a local congregation of the URC, strengthen partnership with the PCK and also allow intercultural exploration of new ways of being church.

Members of Exec

We welcomed Gwen Jennings as a new member of Executive at the September meeting: as the former Synod Clerk, Gwen is well acquainted with the Synod.

It was also a joy to welcome Rachel Leach as our new Synod Clerk in June. Rachel is learning incredibly fast and we are lucky to have her serving us, alongside her new studies for non-stipendiary ministry in the URC.

We are also grateful to Hilary Bradshaw and Dinah Firmin for filling in so many of the gaps whilst we were without a Synod Clerk – not least in taking Executive Committee minutes.

Ruth Whitehead

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