



Uniting Church in Australia
ASSEMBLY
Assembly Standing Committee

12-14 November 2021

DOCUMENT 7

Title	Risk Management Report Report to Assembly Standing Committee
Type of Paper	For Noting For Discussion
Assembly or ASC Minute	Regulation 3.7.5.2
Consultation	AFARC Assembly General Secretary and Associate General Secretary National Director, Strategic Finance and Administration
Purpose	To provide the ASC with an update to the Risk Management System and Framework of the Assembly.
Rationale & Findings Summary	<p><u>Risk Management Framework</u> The Assembly's Risk Management system is comprised of several components as is set out in the Assembly Risk Management Policy).</p> <p>The Risk Framework is comprised of the following three main components.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Risk Appetite Statement</u> – this statement aims to set out clearly the Assembly's approach to taking on Risk and highlighting tolerances to risk. Refer Appendix A• <u>Risk – Dashboard and Heatmap Report</u> – High level reporting on Risk – including the Risk Register• <u>Risk Register</u> – This document looks to identify all the risks facing the Assembly in the work that it does and looks to rate this risk (by going through a process of identifying both the inherent risk and the residual risk (after considering controls). Refer Appendix B <p><u>Feedback from August 2021 ASC</u> Feedback received from the August meeting of ASC was taken on including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction and Training for ASC members in Risk (see note below)• Risk Appetite Statement – consideration of approach for online communion (hybrid model)• Risk Appetite Statement – further development of the link between the Risk Appetite and the general Risk Management Framework (this is a work in progress and will be developed further when the policy is reviewed in detail as part of reviewing the Finance and Admin Manual of the Assembly – will circulate complete updated policy document in March 2022 ASC)• Insurance – Sexual Misconduct – this has been further described in the updated (Nov 21) register

- Implications from Synod Finances – this has been further described in the updated (Nov 21) register
- Holding accountable – we refer to the compliance requirements with the ACNC
- Staff Wellbeing – referred to need to ensure staff are safe as return to the office (COVID-19)

An introduction to Risk – Training for ASC Members

Since the July 2021 ASC, an Introduction to Risk Sessions was held (1 hour with assistance from David Tattam – from Protecht) to assist the ASC in increasing its understanding of the Assembly’s Risk Register. This session was recorded and is available to ASC members who may wish to review.

Changes – updating the Risk Register

In updating the Risk Register from August 2021 to November 2021, we’ve noted the following items which reflect the change in the organisational and environmental landscape;

- Recognition that ACNC is looking to increasing its compliance activity (which is reflective of the current environment)
- Recognition of increasing Cyber security risk (as seen in our external environment)
- Recognition of the increasing difficulty in placing Insurance for matters of Sexual Misconduct
- Recognition of the need to keep our people safe (COVID-19)– especially as we now move to reopening the Assembly’s offices
- Recognition of investment markets being at highs, off the back of low interest rates, and the increasing risk of emerging inflation
- Recognition of the pressures on the Synods to continue the funding levels to Assembly, noting the VIC.TAS Synod recent reduction of \$200K (and notification that this reduction would most likely be in place to 2025).

Workshop sessions

We would also like to continue the process of breaking into small groups to allow a deeper dive into the Risk Appetite and Risk Register (via Zoom) and consider the following questions. (20 minutes all up – 10 mins on each section).

Question 1

Review the current Risk Appetite statement which was reviewed by the ASC in July 2020.

- Identify any questions of clarification.
- Determine whether any changes to the tolerances are recommended (or more broadly any changes to the statement itself)

	<p>Question 2</p> <p>Each group to consider the Risk Register.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify any questions of clarification. • Review that section in some detail and provide feedback/ context as to the adequacy of the Risks identified and the ratings/controls noted.
Attachments	<p>Risk Management Report comprised</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Risk Appetite Statement – Appendix A 2. Dashboard/Heatmap Reporting of Risks - Appendix B 3. November 2021 ASC Risk Register – Appendix B
Proposals	<p>That the Assembly Standing Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Receive the report
Submitted by	<p>Leo Iosifidis, National Director – Strategic Finance and Admin, The Uniting Church in Australia – National Assembly</p> <p>leoi@nat.uca.org.au 0427 546 100 29 October 2021</p>