

UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

**ALTERNATE
REGULATIONS
FOR CHURCH
COUNCILS IN SMALL
CONGREGATIONS**

1. Where a Congregation has no more than 30 members eligible to vote [as listed in Regulation 3.1.9(a)], the Presbytery may, at the request of the Congregation, authorise the Congregation to determine that all those who are members eligible to vote shall comprise the Church Council.
2. The authorisation shall continue until:
 - (a) the Congregation decides that it will cease to operate under these alternate Regulations and exemptions and forms a Church Council under the Regulations; or
 - (b) it is withdrawn by Presbytery after consultation with the Congregation (which shall be carried out by the Presbytery at least every five 5 years); or
 - (c) the expiry of the period of 12 months mentioned in alternate Regulation 3 or the longer period authorized under alternate Regulation 3, as the case may be.
3. These alternate Regulations and exemptions shall cease to apply to the Congregation and the Congregation shall form a Church Council in accordance with the Regulations at the expiry of a period of 12 months after the number of members of the Congregation eligible to vote grows to more than 40 or at the expiry of such longer period as the Presbytery may authorise where it considers it is in the best interest of the Church to do.
4. (a) A meeting of a Congregation in which the members eligible to vote comprise the Church Council shall also be a meeting of the Church

Council and vice versa unless the meeting is convened only as a meeting of the Church Council.

- (b) The quorum for a meeting of the Congregation which is also a meeting of the Church Council and the quorum for a meeting which is convened only as a meeting of the Church Council shall be one quarter of the members eligible to vote. If a quorum is not present, the meeting shall be reconvened.

EXEMPTIONS

- 5. Congregations in which the members eligible to vote comprise the Church Council are exempt from:
 - (a) Regulations 3.1.12(a), 3.1.14 and 3.1.16 insofar as they provide for the election of Church Councillors;
 - (b) Regulation 3.1.12(b) insofar as it requires Elders to comprise at least one half of the membership of the Church Council; and
 - (c) Regulation 3.1.9(h) only insofar as it is inconsistent with alternate Regulation 4.
 - (d) Regulation 3.1.22

*Approved by Assembly Standing Committee
March 2000 (and amended November 2003)*

NOTES

NOTES