

**THE REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE
GENERAL SYNOD / TE HĪNOTA WHĀNUI 2026**

PURPOSE AND FUNCTION

Title B, Canon I, Clause 3 prescribes the membership requirement for the Standing Committee, the election process and the duties of the Standing Committee.

1. Membership

The three partners of this Church are represented on the Standing Committee and are elected at each ordinary session of the General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui.

The Standing Committee membership for 2024-2026 is made up as follows:

<i>Primate & Archbishop Tikanga Māori</i>	The Most Reverend Dr Donald Tamihere
<i>Primate & Archbishop Tikanga Pasefika</i>	The Most Reverend Sione Ulu'ilakepa
<i>Primate & Archbishop Tikanga Pākehā</i>	The Most Reverend Justin Duckworth
<i>Tikanga Pasefika</i>	Ms Bolivia Smith Mr Fe'iloakitau Tevi The Reverend Winston Tarere Youth Rep – Mr Alokoulu (Ulu) Ulukivaiola (Oct 2025)
<i>Tikanga Māori</i>	The Rev'd Wiremu Anania The Ven Ruihana Paenga Sir Selwyn Parata The Ven Mere Wallace Ms Ema Weepu Rangatahi Rep – The Rev'd Canon Isaac Beach
<i>Tikanga Pākehā</i>	The Rev'd Peter Bargh The Rev'd Toby Behan The Rev'd Dr Andrew Burgess The Rev'd Canon Jenny Chalmers Dr Penny Field The Rev'd Ivica Gregurec Mr John Whitehead Youth Rep – Ms Jessica Hughes (until Nov 2024) Mr Theodore Rose (from Feb 2025)

1.1 Membership – Alternates and Changes

Previous members whose terms concluded at GSTHW 2024 were acknowledged in May 2024: Mrs Amelia Narawa, Ven Orisi Vuki (from June 2023), Mr Luke Tukana (until June 2023), Rev'd Steve Elers (from June 2023), Ven Ngira Simmonds (from March 2023), Mr David Tapene, Ms Serena Williams, Rev'd Clare Barrie, Ms Pip Harrison, Ms Ciru Muriuki, Rev'd Canon Michael Wallace, Mr Etienne Wain.

In July 2024, Mr Tony Hill was alternate for Mr John Whitehead.

In October 2024, Mr Etienne Wain was alternate for Ms Jessica Hughes.

In July 2025, Mr Etienne Wain was alternate for Mr John Whitehead.

In February 2025, Bishop Gabriel Sharma was alternate for Archbishop Sione Ulu'ilakepa.

The General Secretary, the Rev'd Canon Michael Hughes, in accordance with Title B, Canon I, Clause 5.5 attends each meeting, and the Rev'd Kat Maxwell, the Rev'd Rebecca Apperley, and the General Secretary have been Minutes Secretary

2. Meetings

The Standing Committee over the period covered by this Report met and was hosted as follows:

Special Meeting after the General Synod/ te Hīnota Whānui	Hastings	23 May 2024
Tikanga Pasefika host	Auckland	11-12 July 2024
Tikanga Pākehā host	Wellington	16-18 October 2024
Archbishops host	Zoom (special)	5 December 2024
Tikanga Māori host	Auckland	26-28 March 2025
Tikanga Pasefika host	Auckland	3-4 July 2025
Tikanga Pākehā host	Whanganu	2-3 October 2025
Tikanga Māori host	Gisborne	19-20 February 2026

Offset of meeting travel, along with GSTHW:

GSSC continues to carbon offset the provincial travel (into Pacific ecosystem projects) in fulfillment of the GSTHW 2016 resolution. In 2022 that involved 173 tCO₂e, in 2023 145 tCO₂e, and in 2024 202 tCO₂e. 2025 is being calculated in 2026.

2.1 Hosting Meetings

Tikanga take turns hosting and chairing the meetings, often providing hospitality, and sometimes enabling members of Standing Committee to meet with members of the local Diocese or Amorangi. This gives a greater understanding of the special character and work carried out by the host Tikanga. It also gives Standing Committee an insight into the very diverse and rich character of our three Tikanga Church.

During each meeting, Tikanga are invited to caucus and report to the Committee items of significance within their tikanga that have occurred since the previous meeting and their priorities on the agenda. This provides a wonderful opportunity to share joys, achievements and concerns and focus first on what is of greatest priority. GSSC receives minutes and any newsletters from TPCCG, Rūnanga Whāiti, and the Standing Committee from Polynesia to aid this reporting.

The Primates report verbally, and the General Secretary reports in writing, to each meeting.

2.2 Minutes

As required by Title B, Canon I, Clause 3.17 copies of the minutes of each meeting of the Standing Committee are sent to each member of the General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui once confirmed.

3. Deaths

GSTHW members and church leaders who died over this past period and were remembered at meetings included: Mr Rod Oram, Mrs Margaret Hughes (General Secretary's mother), Bishop Afa' Vaka, Mr Gerald Bailey, Rev'd Wiremu Anania's father, Bishop Brian Carrell, Sir Tumu Te Heuheu, Mrs Wyn Ehau.

Also remembered as GSSC met on the anniversary of his death was Bishop Jim White.

4. Some Significant Items of Business 2024 – 2026

The Standing Committee has a very wide-ranging agenda, and members are diligent and hard working in engaging in that range, requiring quite some commitment of time and energy. The General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui owes its thanks to all those who have served the Church on this key body over the last two years. The following is a summary of some of the work carried out by the Standing Committee since the last session of the General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui, taken from the Minutes.

Of note 4-5 BIG Kaupapa have taken significant time, energy, and effort in this period!

Te Korowai Trust – establishment, Royal Commission response, MSC/ Kooyoora/ Title D/ etc.

MSC - membership/ processes/ funding, latterly in conjunction with Te Korowai above.

SJCTB – bulk funding strategy and equity discussions.

St John's Theological College and Te Kaunihera – review implementation, and emerging issues.

TAARTAN – Te Ara Aroha presented to the July 2025 GSSC meeting with a proposal and request for recognition as a Christian Community in this church, under Title B/ Canon XXXVIII. This was granted and the community became established and incorporated.

4.1 Anglican Consultative Council (“ACC”), and Networks

Notably in this period, plans for the next ACC-19, to meet in Belfast Ireland June/July 2026, have been reported. Including confirming our representatives as the Rev'd Wendy Scott (3rd and final ACC and Mr Jeremy Hema (1st ACC). Proposed agenda as circulated around the communion will include discussion of the revised Nairobi-Cairo proposals about Communion structures and roles, including the ABC. The ACC Chairs regularly send newsletter updates, and Wendy as an ACC Standing Committee member has reported to GSSC.

GSSC appoints, and receives reports from, representatives to various International Anglican Networks, including:

The International Anglican Alliance - for Relief, Development, and Advocacy (AARDA) has continued to build its profile and work both internationally and in the Oceania region, and this Church is represented on their Oceania Regional Advisory Council (ORAC) via AMB staff. Our AMB team organized and hosted the 2025 (New Plymouth) and 2026 (Fiji) ORAC meetings.

The Anglican Communion Environmental Network (ACEN) on which Mr Fe'iloakitau Tevi has represented this church.

The Anglican Communion Schools Network which our ASO – Anglican Schools Office has been connected into.

The Anglican Communion Science Commission on which this Church is represented by the Right Rev'd Ross Bay.

The Anglican Indigenous Network (AIN) on which Te Pīhopatanga o Aotearoa is represented and the Right Rev'd Te Kitohi Pikaahu has served as its Chair.

The International Anglican Safe Church Network, on whose Commission Oceania is represented by Sr Veronica of Melanesia. Our network link is Ms Diana Langdon.

The Colleges and Universities of the Anglican Communion (CUAC) which has several representatives from our church involved, including Selwyn College, Dunedin.

The International Anglican Family Network (IAFN) which has been supported by this Church through a small continuing annual grant.

The International Anglican Health Network on which this Church was previously represented by the Right Rev'd Dr Stephen Benford until his retirement.

The International Anglican Liturgical Consultation (IALC), which was held online in 2026, and where we are represented by CLLC members.

The International Anglican Women's Network (IAWN) and through it the United Nations Consultation on the Status of Women (UNCSW). Ms Hera Clarke is now deputy chair of the international Steering Committee for IAWN. IAWN has been supported by this Church through a small continuing annual grant.

Other International Anglican entities which Standing Committee has heard from on occasions have included:

- The Anglican Centre in Rome, Anglican Peace and Justice Network, and Inter-Anglican Standing Commission on Unity, Faith and Order (IASCUFO), Anglican Communion Church Planting Network, the Anglican Communion Youth Network (ACYN), and the Anti-Human Trafficking network.

4.2 Anglicans on The Inter-Church Bureau (ICB)

ICB continue to monitor, research and respond to a range of taxation, financial, and administrative matters arising through Parliament. They have produced resource papers and legal opinions on a wide range of matters affecting Churches, which have been circulated through the Dioceses/Amorangi and are much appreciated by those involved in governance and management of our Church, available through their website: <https://www.icbnz.org/>. Our representatives on ICB are Ms Colleen Kaye, Ms Sonia Maugham, and Mr Andrew Tamihere.

4.3 Appointments

Anglican Consultative Council

Mr Jeremy Hema was appointed in May 2025 as lay Māori representative for the next three Consultations.

Anglican Insurance Board

Mr Darrin Goulding was reappointed in May 2024.

Bishop Andrew Hedge was appointed in July 2024, confirmed in October 2024.

Anglican – Methodist Dialogue

The Rev'd Peter Bargh and Bishop Wai Quayle were reappointed in July 2024.

Anglican Missions Board

Mr Sakiusa Tubuna was appointed to replace Rev'd Sepiuta Hala'api'api, and Ven Michael Tamihere was reappointed, in May 2024.

Rev'd Vianney Douglas was appointed in November 2024 to replace Ven Michael Tamihere who resigned.

Bishop Steve Maina was reappointed for a 3-year term (2025-2027) in February 2025.

Ven Orisi Vuki was appointed in February 2025 to complete the term (2025-2027) of Bishop Henry Bull who retired.

Anglican - Roman Catholic Dialogue

The Rev'd Dr Moana Hall-Smith was reappointed in July 2024.

Commission on Climate Change

Mr Fe'iloakitau Tevi, Rev'd Canon Isaac Beach, Archbishop Justin Duckworth, and the General Secretary were appointed to the interim Commission in December 2024.

Mr Tevi stood down and was appointed as Interim Commissioner in February 2025.

Commission on Theological Education (Anglican Communion)

Rev'd Dr Hirini Kaa was appointed to replace Archbishop Don Tamihere in February 2025.

Common Life Liturgical Commission

Rev'd Ruihana Paenga and Ven Michael Tamihere were appointed to vacancies in April 2025.

Council for Anglican Womens Studies

Rev'd Natalie Milliken was appointed to fill a vacancy in May 2024.

Rev'd Bettina Maxwell (to 2026) and Ms Hera Clarke (to 2028) were appointed to fill vacancies in November 2024.

Ms Serena Williams was employed as Administrator in April 2025.

Council for Ecumenism

Mr Bardia Matiu and Ven Ruihana Paenga were reappointed in May 2024.

Rev'd Ivica Gregurec was reappointed as Interfaith Advisory Member in May 2024.

Rev'd Sonja Hunter was appointed in February 2025 to complete the term of Rev'd Sepiuta Hala'api'api who resigned to a new appointment.

Delegated Powers of GSSC SWG

Mr Jeremy Hema was appointed in July 2024 to join Judge Chris Harding and Ms Mele Taliai.

Distribution Advisory Committee

Ms Colleen Kaye, Mr John Whitehead, Ms Vishika Gohil, and Mr Manoj Kumar were appointed in July 2024.

Mr Andrew Tamihere and Sir Selwyn Parata were confirmed as reappointed by October 2024.

Education for Ministry Board

Rev'd Liz Greville was appointed in May 2025.

General Church Trust Board

Sir Selwyn Parata and Ms Victoria Mann were reappointed to end of 2024 in May 2024.

Mr Evan Turbott and Mr Graham Miller were reappointed to end of 2025 in May 2024.

Mr Angus Ogilvie was appointed as expertise member in May 2025. And reappointed in October 2025 for a further year to end of 2026.

Sir Selwyn Parata, Mr Fe'iloakitau Tevi, and Ms Victoria Mann were reappointed to end of 2026 in October 2025.

Mr Evan Turbott was reappointed to end of 2027 in October 2025.

Mr Graham Miller was appointed as an expertise member in October 2025.

Ven Ngira Simmonds was appointed in October 2025.

GSSC

Ms Jessica Hughes resigned in November 2024 to live abroad.

Mr Theodore Rose was appointed in February 2025.

Mr Alokoulu Ulukivaiola was appointed in October 2025

ICHC – Interchurch Council for Hospital Chaplaincy

Ven Mere Wallace was appointed in March 2025.

ICTCC – Inter-church Tertiary Chaplaincy Council

Ms Tessa Campbell was appointed in November 2024.

Judicial Committee

Bishop Richard Ellena was appointed in October 2024 in an interim capacity for a Tribunal.

Rev'd Jenny Chalmers was appointed to a casual vacancy in December 2025, until next GSTHW.

Bishop Ana Fletcher was appointed on House of Bishops nomination in April 2025.

Ministry Standards Commission

Mr Jeremy Hema was appointed in June 2024.

Ms Dianne Cameron (Chair) resigned in December 2024. She stayed on until the transition to a new chair.

Ven Sue Fordyce and Ven Susan Wallace (both of Te Korowai Trust) were appointed for a fixed 3-month term in December 2024.

Ms Hannah Croft was appointed in February 2025. And resigned in March 2025 for a new job.

Rev'd Stephen Hooper was appointed in April 2025. He became Chair in October 2025.

Ms Frances Tangaroa was appointed in July 2025.

Ms Annabel Hawkes was appointed in August 2025.

National Dialogue for Christian Unity

The Very Rev'd Anne Mills, Ven Canon Dr Michael Wallace, and the General Secretary were appointed in July 2024, and again in 2025 and 2026. Mr Bardia Matiu was appointed in 2025 /26.

New Zealand Anglican Pension Board (Anglican Financial Care)

Mr Andrew Johnson, as Licensed Independent Trustee, and Mr David Wallace and Ms Suzanne Wolton were reappointed in May 2024.

Ms Michelle Forster was appointed in November 2024.

Ms Michelle Forster was appointed as Licensed Independent Trustee in August 2025.

Mr David Tikao was appointed in October 2025.

Prison Chaplaincy Board

Rev'd Aaron Douglas was nominated in May 2025 and subsequently appointed.

St John's College Trust Board

The Rev'd Dr Carolyn Robertson was reappointed in November 2024.

The Most Rev'd Dr Don Tamihere was reappointed in November 2024.

Mr Alex Abraham was appointed in February 2025 to complete the term of Ms Mele Taliai who resigned to serve on Te Kaunihera.

Mr Joe Halapua was reappointed in March 2025. He resigned in September 2025.

Ven Maui Tangohau was reappointed as Chair for a further two years pursuant to E/II/4.1.4 as amended at GSTHW 2024.

Ven Sue Fordyce, Mr Fe'iloakitau Tevi, and Ven Don Rangī were reappointed in October 2025.

St John's College Future SWG

The Primates, Rev'd Canon Jenny Chalmers, Rev'd Winston Tarere, and the General Secretary were appointed in November 2025.

Te Hui Amorangi Trust Board (Te Manawa o Te Wheke)

Ven Maui Tangohau, Mr Bardia Matiu, Rev'd Bettina Maxwell, Mr Carl Wairau, and Ms Mira Elmsly were appointed as Trustees in March 2025, after the remaining Trustees stepped down.

Te Kaunihera

Mr Matanuku Mahuika and Rev'd Clare Barrie were reappointed in May 2024.

Dr Nicola Hoggard Creegan resigned at end of May 2024.

Ms Khylee Quince and Rev'd Dr Wayne Te Kawa were appointed in October 2024. Rev'd Dr Wayne Te Kawa resigned after being appointed to college staff.

Ms Mele Tali'ai was appointed in February 2025.

Mr Jeremy Hema continues as a member.

Te Korowai Trust Board

The Te Korowai Trust was established in July 2024, and the SWG members: Archbishop Philip Richardson, Ven Sue Fordyce, Ven Susan Wallace, and Mr Fe'iloakitau Tevi, were appointed as initial Trustees.

The Three Primates were later appointed as the delegated appointing body for Te Korowai Trustees in May 2025.

Te Kotahitanga

Archbishop Sione Ulu'ilakepa was appointed in February 2025 to complete the term of Mr Sanjeu Reddy who retired.

Tiriti/ Treaty and Partnership Commission

Ven Julie Rokotakala was appointed to a vacancy in October 2024.

Uniting Congregations of Aotearoa New Zealand (UCANZ) Review Commission

Archbishop Philip Richardson, Ven Carole Hughes, and Ms Colleen Kaye were appointed to the Commission in July 2025.

World Council of Churches Faith & Order Conference

Ven Canon Dr Michael Wallace was appointed as a representative in February 2025.

NB

Sir Selwyn Parata was acknowledged in July 2024 for his investiture to a knighthood.

The Most Rev'd Philip Richardson was acknowledged in person on the 25th anniversary of his Episcopal Ordination in July 2024.

The Most Rev'd Sir David Moxon's appointment as Prelate to the Order of St John was acknowledged in November 2024.

4.4 Auditors

The auditor of the General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui continued to be BDO, via their Auckland office. As reported elsewhere, an unmodified audit was achieved in both 2024 and 2025.

4.5 Agenda of GSTHW 2024 referred to GSSC

The GSSC discussed several matters from GSTHW 2024 delegated to GSSC:

Deferred Business - not considered at GSTHW 2024

GSSC in July 2024 referred these to the Order Paper Committee (OPC), who reported back in March 2025 after being postponed in October 2024, and GSSC enacted as follows:

Motion 8 – Response to war and conflict. **Agreed**, as amended. (Was referred to the Primates for consideration when they are called to respond to such situations.)

Motion 13 – Liturgical matters. **Agreed**. (Passed to CLLC for enacting.)

Motion 14 – Decrease in numbers. **Agreed**, as amended. (Referred to a SWG of GSSC to re-word and suggest criteria). Wording about ‘decline’ was reframed to be about ‘changes.’ Each Tikanga was asked to report back as appropriate. Some reports were received in July 2025, noting that not all Tikanga record / measure statistics in the same way.

Motion 15 – 7AA repeal. **Agreed**. (Noted action was surpassed by Primates statement.)

Motion 16 – disability funding. **Agreed**. (Referred to Anglican Taonga for reporting.)

GSTHW business with GSSC responsibility to action

Motion 9 – 50th Anniversary – Council for Women’s Studies to propose a plan and budget. The Council remained inquorate for some months until early 2025, and proposed plans in July 2026.

Motion 7 – Youth Representation – Youth Commission to review and propose a plan to GSSC. As below, the Youth Commission was never populated to be quorate and was ‘laid fallow’ in 2025.

Motion 12 – Commission to review Te Pouhere / The Constitution – GSSC folded this work into an initial wānanga at GSSC in October 2024 and then referred it to a church-wide wānanga on Tiriti / Treaty, which was planned for late 2025 but postponed into later 2026. These matters were also seen as subsequent to emerging equity/ partnership issues around SJCTB funding.

Reports - Interchurch Council for Hospital Chaplaincy (IHC) report recommendations – concern about IHC moving into interfaith chaplaincy was referred to Council for Ecumenism (CFE), who expressed these concerns to IHC. Our representative on IHC Board was appointed in March 2025 to be Ven Mere Wallace.

Various appointments - left unfilled by GSTHW 2024 elections, as outlined above.

4.6 Common-Life SJCTB Funded Ministries

The GSSC has supported, via Te Kotahitanga when requested, continued SJCTB funding for: the Bishops Training Event, the Centre for Anglican Womens Studies (CAWS), Te Kotahitanga itself, the Anglican Schools Office, the Tikanga Toru Youth Commission, the Social Justice Unit and its priority project of the Commission on Climate Change, Disability Ministry Education via The Anglican Disability Network - Te Taura Whaikaha Mihinare, and parts of the GSTHW own budget that are educational. These educational projects continue to be supported by SJCTB, though via decreased bulk funding for 2026 and 2027. The Funding Review Group of GSSC who consider these matters have been Rev’d Canon Jenny Chalmers, Ms Bolivia Smith, and Rev’d Canon Isaac Beach.

4.7 Common-Life bodies accountability

A number of common-life bodies regularly report to GSSC, submit their minutes, or bring agenda matters for GSSC consideration. In this biennial period these have included:

Liturgical Commission – a small print run of a further slightly revised edition of the Prayer Book was printed in early 2024 as previous stock had quickly sold out. The TUIA Daily Prayer App is widely used with over 2500 subscribers. Two small working groups have been established to address the matters from Motion 13 of GSTHW 2024 – calendar and collects. Work is in progress and will be reported elsewhere to GSTHW 2026.

Council for Ecumenism – met in Fiji in 2024 and had GSSC formally receive the PCC Tuakoi 'Lei Declaration. Interfaith dialogue opportunities and various Inter-Denominational Dialogues continued progress, though the latter were reviewed in a special consultation in 2025, and this church had delegations to a CCA youth Assembly in early 2026. UCANZ (Uniting Congregations of Aotearoa New Zealand), who oversees co-operating and union parishes between Anglican/ Methodist/ Presbyterian churches, is undertaking a major review and we have three representatives on the Review Commission as noted above.

Archives and History – more resources were added to the 'online' catalogues of Pūmotomoto and Pūtake. Support and advice for archiving records and accessing historic material was offered across the church.

Tikanga Toru Youth Commission – in August of 2024 the Commissioner, The Rev'd Chaans Tumataroa-Clarke resigned, and as the Commission had not been populated to be quorate the Primates asked Bishop Andrew Hedge to consult with parties and report back, which he did in detail to the October 2024 GSSC. GSSC asked a SWG to undertake a positive closure process with the remnant Commission and seek their voice about future 3T youth possibilities. A consultation was held in late 2024 and reported back in full to GSSC in March 2025. It was resolved to let the inquorate Commission and the canonically required annual 'Tikanga Youth Synod' 'lay fallow' for a period, not to fill the vacant Commissioner position, to restructure the remaining staff position, and to ring fence the funding and budget to support a trial key leadership cohort development programme across the Tikanga. This has since been rolled out in stages over 2025 and into 2026.

CAWS – regular newsletters are circulated to GSSC.

Judicial Committee – members considered two related Appeals, which were rolled together, in 2024. Their minutes and report with Appeal determinations are published in the GSTHW papers.

Social Justice Subcommittee – GSSC has reviewed this area of three Tikanga ministry to determine a future shape and provision. The bulk of funding has been directed as a priority to the new Commission on Climate Change (see below).

The Unit previously supported the Disability Portfolio Group, whose work has progressed via two job sharing Disability Ministry Educators resourcing and networking across the church. In October 2024, this ministry came out from under the SJU and was established by GSSC independently with the Portfolio Group becoming its Oversight Group (the Rev'd Toby Behan was appointed to be GSSC representative on the Group) and later renaming this ministry as 'The Anglican Disability Network – Te Taura Whaikaha Mihinare.'

Commission on Climate Change

In October 2024, GSSC received and accepted a detailed proposal and Terms of Reference for the Climate Change Commission and the office of Commissioner, with related budgets. GSSC reassigned significant SJU funding as noted above, and in 2025 appointed Mr Fe'iloakitau Tevi as 'interim commissioner' to establish the Kaupapa and programmes. Efforts have focused on the 'Sails of Hope' ocean going Vaka educational project, and CIVA climate resilience and preparedness work.

Communications

Ms Julianne Clarke-Morris continues to edit and manage the Anglican Taonga online news website and worked with the Primate's Te Kurahautū project on researching strategic communications delivery and social media needs of audiences across this church, toward a restructure of provision in our communications. The canonically provided ACMO governance of this work has lain in abeyance for some years and GSSC provides some limited oversight until a future shape is determined.

Anglican Communications Ltd (ACL), a small charitable company set up to provide and resource videoconferencing provision via Zoom to support the church, chose to reposition out of Zoom provision and its video equipment previously leased was offered to users for purchase as individual Zoom accounts became more sustainable. ACL has since sought to support schools in Polynesia with communications provision and continues to look for new and emerging opportunities to support the work of the church.

Anglican Financial Care (AFC, aka Pension Board) – this committed team, offering retirement and support services to clergy, and growing the wider Christian KiwiSaver scheme available to all (but only on A/NZ), has submitted Annual reports on all the funds managed to the GSSC. GSSC engaged with AFC following the GSTHW 2024 around ethical investment, Tikanga equity, the compulsory nature of the Pension Fund, and limits of the KiwiSaver fund for Pasefika. As a result, GSSC convened a provincial hui on ethical investment at which most of the church's investing Trusts were present.

Anglican Missions Board (AMB) – GSSC has made contributions to the AMB in both 2024 and 2025, in support of communications to and for the wider church, climate-related educational work, and its work with youth through schools. National Director Rev'd Michael Hartfield presented at the July 2025 meeting on the wide and growing range of mission/ aid/ and development work AMB is doing on behalf of this church. A further discussion jointly with AMB and NZCMS is planned.

Te Kaunihera – in July 2024, GSSC endorsed the establishment of an independent trust in place of Te Kaunihera, but this has yet to eventuate due to ongoing changes at the college.

Te Kotahitanga – the advice on the church's priorities for annual SJCTB funding and scholarship rounds was provided, until a SJCTB change to bulk-funding for the years 2026-27.

The long-term strategic planning project 'Te Pae Tawhiti' produced an outcomes report in late 2024. Enacting work for that continues, including a series of Forums held, and report summaries have been produced.

Te Korowai Trust

The Trust was established by GSSC in July 2024, and Trustees appointed as noted above. The Trust acts as the legal entity on behalf of GSTHW and GSSC and only undertakes those tasks expressly delegated to it.

As noted above, these have included negotiating contracts with Kooyoora and MSC, and work with 3T employees.

Other matters delegated in this period have included: continuing church response to the Royal Commission (after the report was released mid/late 2024), developing provincial redress pathways, researching other safeguarding areas like policies/ education/ vetting, reviewing governance of the ASO.

Trustees have reported, often in person, to every GSSC meeting since. Funding was initially from GSTHW but has now passed to SJCTB as the scope of work has grown.

4.8 Special Commissions and Working Groups

Joint Chairs Working Group on Future SJCTB Funding and Equity

Representatives and Chairs of GSSC, SJCTB, and Te Kotahitanga have met several times over 2025 – 2026. This work and related matters have been a major topic of discussion and reporting at GSSC, and the resulting proposals seeking to empower Tikanga Māori to express Tino Rangatiratanga over SJCTB funds will come before GSTHW 2026.

St John's College Future

Following the partial implementation of recommendations of the review report by Ms Miriam Deans and Mr Doug Martin and then changes in programme and staffing at the College, and reports on funding and staffing levels, joint meetings between GSSC, Te Kotahitanga, Te Kaunihera, and SJCTB were held in 2025-26 to explore how to support the college flourishing, focus its delivery to better meet church needs, and build a more intentional on-site community.

Hopuhopu Land claim

A small group, from the Dioceses of Waikato & Taranaki and Auckland along with GSSC representation, has been meeting and working with a hapu group over land connected to the Waikato Hopuhopu base, originally gifted to the church and used for a school.

GSTHW Review

Over several meetings GSSC, via a small group, reviewed GSTHW processes, representation, hosting and use of time. The offer in 2026 of a 'select-committee' type opportunity via Zoom with draft legislation before submission was trialled. Orientation for new members, and the continued use of wānanga/ Talanoa/ conference modes was supported. Respective size and make up of Tikanga representation were also explored though no final proposals yet agreed.

4.9 Distribution Advisory Committee (DAC)

The DAC (Finance Committee), chaired by Sir Selwyn Parata, has the vital role of oversight of the budgets and finances of the General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui, and recommend to Standing Committee decisions based on ensuring that there is sufficient funding for the work and mission agreed upon. DAC meets each year with the General Church Trust Board and is grateful for their careful stewardship of the assets that allow the annual distribution for the work of this Church. The accountancy work of the General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui is carried out by Trust Management Ltd, and we are grateful for the support and assistance of their staff. The Auditors continue to be BDO Auckland, and unqualified audits have been received in each of the years reported on here.

DAC, in partnership with GCTB and with special funding in 2024-26, has offered an annual place on the full-time, week-long IoD governance course, which has been rotated around the Tikanga. They have also developed and run half-day governance training workshops for church governors/ trustees/ leaders, starting in 2025.

4.10 Elections of New Bishops

There have been elections of new bishops, for Dunedin, Bishop Anne van Gend (November 2024 ordained March 2025), and Te Waipounamu, Bishop Susan Wallace (April 2026 ordained June 2026). Sadly, as noted above, there has been two deaths of bishops in this period, being Bishop Afa' Vaka, and Bishop Brian Carrell.

4.11 GSTHW 2026 planning

An Order Paper Committee (OPC) was elected for GSTHW 2026 and in conjunction with the local Hosts, the Episcopal Unit/ Archdeaconry of Tonga for the Diocese of Polynesia, they and the General Synod Office Staff have developed plans and arrangements for GSTHW in August 2026 in Nuku'alofa, Tonga. OPC members are the Rev'd Toby Behan, Ven Mere Wallace, and Mr Fe'iloakitau Tevi, who work with the General Secretary and host representative Mr Sione Moala-Mafi.

GSTHW model – GSSC revisited discussion of a changed shape, make up, and purposes of GSTHW, and the trialed wānanga approach at GSTHW in 2022 and 2024 was endorsed, so will be experienced as Talanoa in Tonga. Further the opportunity for a 'select-committee' consideration of early draft Bills was offered in the two weeks leading up to the formal submission date. Feedback did lead to some amends in final Bills submitted.

4.12 Printing

The Standing Committee, acting as the Printing Committee of General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui, printed the Proceedings of the 66th General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui in 2024, and an update insert of the Canons in 2024. The Lectionary / Te Maramataka was also printed in each year, 2024 and 2025.

The biennial decision to print an updated issue of the Clerical Directory was made in May 2024, but revoked in February 2026, after House of Bishops advice not to print a full Directory but move to lists of 'licensed' and 'safeguarded' clergy only.

4.13 Regional Forum (Oceania FONO)

This group meets to collaborate over common issues emerging from the Oceania Region and involves Primates and General Secretaries of the four Anglican provinces of Oceania – Australia, PNG, Melanesia, and ourselves. Following the 2024 FONO in Australia, a special FONO on Theological Education was hosted in Fiji in August, prior to the Moana Water of Life Conference. The 2025 FONO met in New Plymouth and 2026 FONO in Vanuatu. Key topics continue to be climate resilience and education, migrant workers across the region, theological education and schooling, aid and development, and international Anglican affairs. In 2025 they met in again part with ORAC, part of the Anglican Alliance, though separate meetings were held in 2026.

4.14 Sub-Committees of GSSC

Four standing sub-committees exist, and report as required to GSSC, being the ESC (Employment Sub-Committee), responsible for all GSTHW staff; the OPC (Order Paper Committee), who plan and arrange GSTHW programme; the FRG (Funding Review Group), who review and recommend on the annual SJCTB common life applications (though is not required under the current bulk-funding); and the Social Justice Sub-Committee (who previously governed the Social Justice Unit, but are also now not required).

4.15 Small Working Groups (SWGs)

- (a) **Bicultural Partnership.** The residual piece of work for this Group is the deferred review of the two 'Treaty' Commissions, which are still elected at each GSTHW but never have call to meet.
- (b) **Climate Commission.** A small group met and developed proposals to GSSC in October 2024 which became accepted as the Commission, established in 2025, noted above.
- (c) **St Stephen's & Queen Victoria Schools Trust Board (SSQVSTB).** A small group met with representatives of the Trust Board to progress some historic complaints with a Tikanga appropriate process. This work was completed.
- (d) **Delegated Powers of GSSC.** The GSSC appointed a small group to review provisions of B/I and this group reported in full and its recommendations are in a Bill coming to GSTHW 2026.
- (e) **St John's College Apology.** A SWG proposed a process for this apology but further changes and challenges at college put the work on hold, and the Primates took up the responsibility for exploring any future options with Te Kaunihera.

4.16 Standing Committee Employees

The Employment Subcommittee, which oversees employment-related matters with respect to those employees contracted by the Church through the Standing Committee, has met as required to advise the Standing Committee, and the General Secretary as their agent in employment matters. Membership has been the Ven Mere Wallace, Mr Fe'iloakitau Tevi, Dr Penny Field, and the Rev'd Winston Tarere, with the General Secretary.

It is intended that Te Korowai Trust will negotiate with the above employees about moving under their oversight.

All employees of the Church through the Standing Committee and its bodies report regularly to the Standing Committee, to ensure good accountability and transparency of the work being done on its behalf. Staff accountable to Standing Committee in this period have included - General Secretary, GSO Administrator, Events and Projects Administrator, the Youth Commissioner and half-time Communications and Projects Administrator (until their resignation/ termination in 2024 and 2025 respectively), part-time Women's Studies Centre Administrator, Anglican Taonga Magazine Editor, and two (job share) Disability Ministry Educators.

4.17 Title D Further Revision and Ministry Standards Commission and Office

GSTHW 2024 further revised Title D to improve certain processes from the experience of the Commission, its Registrars, and Tribunals operating under this Canon. A fuller further revision is before the upcoming GSTHW 2026 to reflect subsequent changes.

The Commission members have changed, as noted in appointments above, as some establishment members retired or resigned, and new membership was recruited and appointed. Mr Matanuku Mahuika passed the chair to Ms Dianne Cameron, who subsequently passed it to Rev'd Stephen Hooper. MSC presented at a GSSC meeting in July 2025, alongside Te Korowai.

The second Registrar – Ms Wendy Ball resigned at the end of 2024 and was succeeded in 2025 by Mr Winston and Ms Alice McCarthy. Significant aspects of the intake and assessment work of MSC have been contracted out to Kooyoora, via the legal entity of Te Korowai Trust.

See MSC website for all details: <https://ministristandards.org/>

Early in 2025 management of the MSC accounts and budget moved from GSTHW to SJCTB, as they also picked up the funding for Te Korowai Trust once it was established and got operational. GSTHW now makes a contribution to the ongoing costs of MSC.

Conclusion

The items listed above are only some in the wide range of work done on behalf of the Church by the Standing Committee. Many items are covered in detail elsewhere in the reports. I am certain that the General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui would want to express its deep appreciation alongside my own to the members of Standing Committee for their commitment and dedication and hard work.

Michael Hughes (Rev'd Canon)

GENERAL SECRETARY

May 2026