

Our ref: CS/LG/CIO Consultation

6 November 2017

Dear friends

Incorporation of the Baptist Union of Great Britain ("BUGB") as Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("CIO")

On behalf of the BUGB Trustee Board, I am pleased to be able to invite you to participate in a consultation about the draft Constitution for the BUGB CIO. This has been drafted by Anthony Collins LLP in collaboration with a sub-committee of the BUGB Trustees, comprising of Rich Webb, John Levick, Joe Kapolyo and myself together with Richard Wilson, Stephen Keyworth and Caroline Sanderson from our Specialist Teams.

The draft CIO Constitution was approved by the BUGB Trustee Board on Thursday 14 September 2017 and also by the Council of the Baptist Union on 2 November 2017 and it is their recommendation that the draft CIO Constitution now be circulated to BUGB members for consultation.

The Constitution has been drafted to meet the requirements in the Charities Act 2011 for CIOs but otherwise mirrors as closely as possible the current BUGB Constitution for the unincorporated charity. The main differences between the current and new Constitutions, together with an explanation, are set out in a comparison chart, which is provided with the draft CIO Constitution. Both documents can be read on the Baptist Union website at www.baptist.org.uk/CIOconsult.

The timeline below is a reminder of the process we have followed so far and timings we are working towards in order to complete the incorporation of BUGB:

June 2016	Baptist Steering Group and BUGB Trustees make in principle decision to pursue incorporation as a CIO or Company Limited by Guarantee
Oct. – Nov. 2016	Consultation with stakeholders - including Baptist Pension Trust Limited, Wilkins Kennedy LLP (Auditors) and Baptist Insurance Company PLC
January 2017	Consultation letter from Lynn Green to BUGB member churches
February 2017	BUGB Trustees recommend incorporation as a CIO
March 2017	Council approve resolution for Assembly that BUGB incorporate as a CIO
May 2017	Q&A session for Assembly delegates. Assembly resolves that Council and BUGB Trustees should pursue incorporation as a CIO and prepare a draft Constitution.
September 2017	BUGB Trustees approve draft CIO Constitution
November 2017	Council consider CIO Constitution and approve for consultation

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Next steps

November 2017 – Consultation period for BUGB members to consider CIO Constitution
Jan 2018

February 2018 BUGB Trustees consider any amendments and approve final draft of Constitution

March 2018 Council consider final draft and approve resolutions to be taken to Assembly

May 2018 Assembly asked to adopt new CIO Constitution and transfer of assets to new CIO

If you have any questions or a response that you would like to submit to BUGB, a new email address has been set up for the purpose of the consultation. Please submit your responses to CIOconsult@baptist.org.uk by 31 January 2018.

Grace and peace

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Green". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Lynn Green
General Secretary