



Thames North Synod Synod Executive Report

**Paper J
22 October
2022**

Synod Executive

The Executive have met 3 times since the last Synod meeting.

Reporting

Our meetings always begin with convenors from the main committees in attendance and who present reports from their committees. The Executive are able to ask questions, offer guidance and take any decisions that are required.

Finance

The Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer are ex officio members of the Executive. The Executive receive budgets and accounts for scrutiny and as Synod Trustees we agree the Annual Report.

Risk Register

We regularly review the Risk Register for the Synod.

Human Resources

The Executive are effectively the employers of the Synod Staff and so are responsible for their recruitment and management. Recently there has been a lot of work involved with the recruitment of replacement and new Synod Staff. We have agreed a new Synod Staff Handbook which is constantly under review. We are fortunate to have some expertise in this area but would welcome additional members with HR experience. We also review salaries and staff terms and conditions.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is a standing item on our agenda since it is an essential part of our governance. Although not always aware of the detail the Executive are kept informed of safeguarding issues.

Lumen

We have had close oversight of the work at Lumen and its future use.

Various

There are always ad hoc issues which come to the Executive for consideration. We recently discussed the current cost of living crisis (including the rising cost of gas and electricity) and the impact on people and churches. This was passed onto the Resources Committee urging them to find suitable ways of providing support.

At our last meeting we spent some considerable time looking at our vision and values which will feed into the discussion at the Synod Meeting.

We would welcome new members who can represent the breadth of the Synod and who could bring appropriate skills. Please speak to the Moderator or the Synod Clerk if this is something you are interested in or if there is someone else you think might be suitable.

George Watt
Executive Committee Convenor
18 October 2022