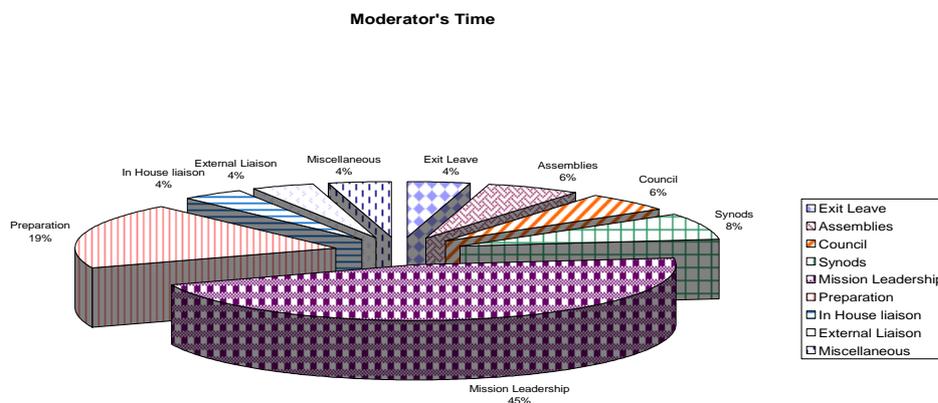


Moderator's Arrangements Task Group

Report

The 2004 General Assembly received a Task Group Report that gave more definition to the expectations for the work of the Moderator of the General Assembly. Through the two years of Right Rev Dr Graham Redding's term we have sought to live into this new framework (see the diagram below). It has proved to be a helpful framework for planning Graham's itinerary and setting a realistic schedule, especially with the emphasis on shorter, focused presbytery visits, over a three-day weekend that enabled room for Graham to undertake his other responsibilities and have appropriate rest.



Technically the Moderator is available to the wider church on a 50 percent basis over two years. But other realities come into play. The preparation time for the role and the multitude of issues that arose at very regular intervals are the two significant additions to the role that are difficult to plan for. The nature of these unknown issues varies to some degree according to the skill-set of the Moderator, but in Graham's term of office these have proved to be the major component as he has organised his time.

Every presbytery/UDC was given the opportunity to host Graham for three to four days and those that took this offer up were appreciative of the stimulus he provided in their life. The liaison people in each presbytery have been excellent to work with. It has also been easier for presbyteries to host the Moderator because of all transport costs being met by the Assembly Office.

The team in the Assembly Office has been of considerable help in providing practical assistance.

We wish the Rev Peter Cheyne and his support team the richness of God's grace in the next season.

Rev Martin Stewart
Convenor