



FINANCE NEWSLETTER 168

TO: Parish Treasurers, Presbytery and Parish clerks
FROM: Brendan Sweeney, Manager, Financial Services
DATE: 26 November 2014

1.	Accounting Standards Presentations Update
2.	Police Checks
3.	June 2014 Statistics

1. Accounting Standards Presentations Update

The first two of 30 or so seminars explaining new accounting standards, planned to be held throughout the country, were held in Auckland last week. The meetings outlined the work that churches will have to do to prepare for the first reports under the new standards, due in 2016, and the reasons for and process of church charities registration, to be completed by 30 June 2015.

There is another Auckland seminar this Saturday (29 November), and perhaps one more prior to Christmas. Seminars are not scheduled to recommence until February, and a very provisional draft schedule is being developed with presbyteries:

- Christchurch and South Canterbury: February 23 - 27
- Central Presbytery area: March 2 – 6
- Southern Presbytery area: March 9 – 13
- Nelson / Marlborough: March 17 and 18
- Kaimai presbytery area: To be advised

I have produced some material to back up the presentation:

- Seminar power point presentation and notes
- Support tools available to parishes
- Financial Accounting Standards for Tier 3 and Tier 4 Churches
- Charities Registration process and backup documentation

The material is in a dropbox on the PCANZ website: www.presbyterian.org.nz Go to “find something fast” tab and then “Treasurers Information”

Or use link: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/845y95894gtrom9/AADaDAYL2SQ-C9Zh-dNtcZq5a?dl=0>

Pending meetings, much of this documentation will have limited meaning to you. It is posted at this stage for your information only. Please also note an update of the Church Management Support Guide incorporating this material will be posted on the website within the next two weeks

2. Police checks on new employees

Please refer to section 2.2.6 (page 57) of the CMS guide. An extract is reproduced here:

*It was agreed at the 2006 General Assembly that everyone who is paid to work with children, youth and families **must** undergo a police check prior to their appointment. It is strongly advised to undertake police checks for volunteers. Ministers are also required to undergo police checks in order to obtain a Certificate of Good Standing (refer Section 3.4.1).*

The section refers to and has links to two forms:

- a consent form, completed by the employee, volunteer or applicant
- an instruction to this office, completed by the church, instructing us to request the check to be done by the police

Note that these forms have changed and are now issued by the police. The updated forms are here:

http://presbyterian.org.nz/sites/public_files/hr/Application_for_Police_check.pdf

and here:

http://presbyterian.org.nz/sites/public_files/hr/Police_check_consent_form.pdf

These links will be posted on the updated CMS guide. Please refer to the guide of the process and note the forms should be supported by photographic identification of the applicant.

3. Parish Statistics

Church finance and membership statistics to June 30 were due to be returned to this office by 30 November. About 40% of churches have not returned statistics. The requirement to produce statistics is documented in the Book of Order. If you have not completed this task please do so as soon as possible, or advise me why it can't be done, or if you require any support or advice, please call me. Thank you to those treasurers who have already contacted me in this regard.