

FINANCE NEWSLETTER 179

TO: Parish Treasurers, Presbytery and Parish clerks

FROM: Brendan Sweeney, Manager, Financial Services

DATE: 29 January 2016

1.	Power price offer to Presbyterian churches
2.	Health and Safety Workshop update

1. Power price offer to Presbyterian churches

Through All Churches Services and the member denominations, Presbyterian Churches has the offer of participating in a group power procurement programme with the intention of saving money on power. The group we are working with has achieved savings for members of a nationwide sporting organisation of 21% in average annual power costs, through leveraging group power use with a single supplier.

Your church will shortly be asked to complete a questionnaire on power use and supply with the objective of consolidating information and offering it as a package to suppliers

Please note

- You will save money on power because your church will be part of a much bigger group of churches and denominations to secure the best price.
- · The process will cost you nothing
- The provision of the information does not commit you to changing your power supplier
- There will be an annual market update to ensure continuation of best price. This
 will not require any input from you.

My opinion is that this is a good opportunity to achieve significant cost saving. It is my recommendation that your church participate in the scheme, however there is no requirement to do so. All Churches Services will provide further details and distribute the questionnaire in the next few weeks.

2. Update: Health and Safety workshops

Further to the November newsletter I have had several queries regarding the nationwide series of workshops on Health and Safety training that is being planned by the Interchurch Bureau. My apologies for not updating prior to Christmas but the break interrupted planning.

I have been advised that seminars are planned, initially for the Auckland area in late February, with subsequent nationwide events to follow. Locations and dates have not yet been confirmed but I will advise you as soon as they are. A workbook detailing requirements and processes will be available to attendees of the events. A communication from the ICB is reproduced below.

I can also report that subsequent to the roadshow, ongoing advice and support for Presbyterian Churches will be available from this office.



InterChurch Bureau

Health and Safety in Employment

The new legislation comes into force in April 2016. Generally if Church groups are complying with the current law they will not have to make significant changes to their practices.

To help Church groups and organisations understand the new law and their responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act, the InterChurch Bureau is arranging a series of interdenominational workshops throughout Aotearoa/New Zealand, starting in Auckland during the week from 22 February 2016 and then throughout New Zealand.

Details of dates and regional locations will be available shortly. Two members from each parish, trust or congregation are invited to attend.

Elizabeth Kay
Coordinator
Interchurch Bureau