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Circular 20 | 29/03/2022

Circulation to: EC; all Branches; SOGs; SOC; Irish Committee; Divisional Councils

Dear Colleagues,

The SOC call for amendments to the emergency motion Em1. To be included in the Annual Conference Agenda.

Due to the continuing threat of covid the SOC intend to reduce the amount of paper distributed in the Conference Hall. The closing date for amendments is Tuesday 19th April 2022.

NB: As per Circular 71a/ 14th Oct 2021.

In past years, concern has been expressed about the number of emergency motions being placed before the SOC during the course of the Conference. In this respect, motions in the Final Agenda for Conference are submitted following consideration and approval by the Branch concerned. The SOC see no reason why, where feasible, emergency motions should not likewise have been the subject of the same consideration and approval by the Branch.

For these reasons, an emergency motion is unlikely to be accepted by the SOC unless it has been discussed and agreed beforehand at a Branch meeting and authorised by two different branch/SOG officers and received some days in advanced of Conference.

The SOC emphasises that matters arising later than this, which prompt Branches, SOGs or delegates to submit an emergency motion to Conference, may be considered acceptable by the SOC, but will only be presented for debate in exceptional circumstances. Such motions not scheduled for debate will be remitted to the EC.

The SOC will not accept a motion as an emergency if the terms could have been covered in a legitimate motion or an amendment to a motion published in the Preliminary Agenda.

Gerry Kennedy, Chair SOC