The Handbook Revision Committee asks Friends and Meetings in reviewing these changes to not concentrate on individual words but to ensure that the meaning is adequately conveyed. Much time has recently been taken up with changes to individual words which did not alter the meaning of the revision, and hampered the work of the committee.

The text in red is the new proposed text.

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| **Entry in the 7th edition** | **Proposed new text,** a rewrite of the section | Explanatory notes from the Handbook Revision Committee |
| **3.5.4** **Advice for Visitors to applicants for Membership**  …  **3.5.4.3 The report**  In preparing a report on the visit to be heard at the Regional Meeting for Worship for Business, Visitors are asked to include information about the applicant’s religious and spiritual journey towards the Society, and an assessment of where the applicant stands in relation to its principles and testimonies.  The visitors should:  1. Check the accuracy of all factual information contained in their report with the applicant.  2. Complete the report in full, including a recommendation about the application.  3. Finally, present the report to the Regional Meeting for Worship for Business. | **3.5.4 Advice for Visitors to applicants for Membership**  …  **3.5.4.3 The report**  In preparing a report for the Regional Meeting for Worship for Business about the visit, Visitors include information about the applicant’s religious and spiritual journey towards the Society, and an assessment of where the applicant stands in relation to our principles and testimonies.  The Visitors would:  1. Check with the applicant that no confidential information is included in the report, and the accuracy of factual information.  2. Complete the report in full, offering the Meeting guidance about the applicant’s readiness for membership.  3. Present the report to the Regional Meeting for Worship for Business. | Regional Meetings have different traditions regarding a recommendation for acceptance into membership.  The RM makes the decision about the acceptance into membership, not the Visitors. Although the Visitors may have gained knowledge about the application for membership, other Friends may have different information that may need to be taken into account when the decision for membership is made. |