The Church of Scotland
Nomination Committee

INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS IN 2027

NAME OF STANDING COMMITTEE/AGENCY: Faith Action Programme Leadership Team	
CONVENER/CHAIR:	Rev Tommy MacNeil
VICE-CONVENER(S):	Rev Sarah Brown, Rev David Clarkson, Rev Jonathan Fleming, Rev David Gray, & Rev Scott McRoberts
SECRETARY:	Kay Cathcart

REMIT:

FAPLT shall lead and deliver the Faith Action Programme to enable the delivery of the Church's identified priorities. It shall implement the strategic objectives of the General Assembly and the strategic priorities of the Assembly Trustees and shall work with the Assembly Trustees, the General Trustees, Presbyteries and other parts of the Church to achieve a collaborative approach with the purpose of nurturing the people of the Church in their witness, worship and service. In particular, it shall:

• **Support the ministries of the Church**

i. Review recruitment processes for the recognised ministries of the Church, creating pathways that attract and allow the Church to recruit the required number of leaders for the recognised ministries for which they are suited and called

ii. Review and administer the selection processes for recognised ministries

iii. Provide pastoral support for the recognised ministries

• **Equip inspirational leaders and disciples**

i. Create a single, integrated training programme supporting all levels and aspects of Church life

ii. Provide support to the local as required in respect of education, worship and mission and discipleship

iii. Assist Presbyteries as requested to create accessible platforms for the sharing of good practice across the Church

iv. Support and enable digital ministry both in delivery and roll-out.

• **Engage with congregations**

i. Resource congregations in the work of campaigning and advocacy for justice, peace, inclusion, neighbourliness and the integrity of creation

ii. Support and enable congregational engagement with the work of the Church outside Scotland and congregational involvement with Christian Aid

• **Engage with the wider world**

i. Develop and maintain mutually enriching relationships with partner churches at home and in the wider world

ii. Identify appropriate opportunities to engage with those displaced

iii. Identify appropriate opportunities to support peace-making and peacebuilding

iv. Build appropriate interfaith relationships which lead to mutual understanding and respect

• **Public Witness**

i. Share the ideas and experience of the Church with government, parliamentarians, ecumenical partners, faith groups, and civil society and support the exchange of information and opinions between national institutions and Presbyteries and congregations in the pursuit of justice, peace, and the integrity of creation

ii. Speak truth to power on issues of poverty, marginalisation, violence, peace and justice, environmental protection and sustainability

• Work with Presbyteries on Mission Planning

i. Together with the General Trustees, assist in ensuring appropriate and robust Presbytery Planning and necessary readjustments in the context of the Presbytery Mission Plan Act (Act VIII 2021) or replacement legislation

ii. Assist in the provision of Specialist Ministries

iii. Ensure appropriate MDS recruitment, deployment and management processes

iv. Identify needs for planting and growing of new contextually relevant worshipping communities

v. Work with other agencies to develop fresh expressions of Church.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE SOUGHT AT THIS TIME:

We need people

- Who are passionate about mission
- Who seek to live life in the way of Jesus and through the life of the Spirit
- Who will commit to sharing this work in the company of others

Experience **(NB we are not expecting people to have experience of all of these)**

- Of having tried new things within the life of the Church
- Of mission – in congregations, with individuals, in other organisations
- Of prophetic witness and social change
- Of training, discipleship, development – seeing how people grow
- Of business, money and enterprise
- Of charity governance

Skills

- Change and strategic planning
- Theological reflection
- Courage to ask the most important questions
- Deep curiosity as to the ideas of other people
- Committees and how to navigate them

EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS:

It is hoped that meetings of this group will be characterised by honest, inspiring, passionate and rigorous discussion.

To enable this, there is an emphasis on

- Good preparation (and papers being delivered to members in good time)
- Valuing the presence of each member
- Openness to new ways of thinking
- Commitment to creative approaches

Induction and training are provided.

MEMBERSHIP AND ANTICIPATED VACANCIES:

1 Convener
5 Programme Group Leaders (who serve as Vice-Conveners of the Leadership Team)
12 members appointed through a presbytery nomination process
5 members appointed through the Nomination Committee
1 member from each of the Theological Forum and the Ecumenical Relations Committee

It is anticipated that there will be one member vacancy among those appointed through the Nomination Committee, and a Convener vacancy, with a start date of June 2027.

FREQUENCY, TIMING AND VENUE OF MEETINGS:

5-6 meetings per year.

DETAILS OF SUB-COMMITTEES/GROUPS:

Other than Programme Group Leaders, members of this group are not members of any subgroups. However they may attend other groups to gain understanding of the work.

FURTHER DETAILS:

See details on the Assembly Trustees webpage including:

- Extended version of the Report of the D10 Group, which shows the Group's detailed working (an Appendix to the Trustees' Report to the General Assembly May 2022)
- Faith Action Leadership Team Report to the General Assembly 2025
- Faith Action Programme Leadership Team - Additional Information

Also see the Faith Action webpage