The General Assembly:
1. Receive the Report.
2. Instruct the Council of Assembly to facilitate conversations among the Nomination Committee, the Legal Questions Committee and senior officers of the Church to recommend whether a better alternative method may be put in place for the nomination of persons to serve on bodies dealing with specific legal matters and report to the General Assembly in 2018. (Section 2)
3. Make alterations to Standing Committees and Councils as set forth in the Report. (Section 6)
2. Nomination of Members to ‘Legal’ Committees

The Committee, at its meeting in January, discussed with the Convener of the Legal Questions Committee the particular challenge of attracting nominations from the wider church to the Panels, Committees and Commissions of the Church which deal with a variety of legal matters. These bodies are often involved in highly sensitive, specialised work and very specific skills and experience are needed. The right people are not always known to the Nomination Committee, in the absence of recommendations from the wider Church, and the onus has been on the Legal Questions Committee to come up with possible names for consideration. Whilst this practice is permitted, and the Legal Questions Committee is well placed to know what skills and experience are needed for each of the bodies in question, the Nomination Committee asks the Council of Assembly to facilitate a conversation between the Committee, the Legal Questions Committee and senior officers to discuss whether a different process might be needed for bringing forward nominations to these bodies.

3. Barriers to Involvement

3.1 The General Assembly of 2015 instructed the Committee, in partnership with the Council of Assembly and other relevant Councils or Committees, to explore the barriers involved for people in employment and students in becoming members of a Council or Committee and how these can be minimised to allow greater participation and diversity and report back to a future General Assembly. The Committee brought an interim report to the 2016 General Assembly.

3.2 Consideration of these matters is continuing and, at the time of writing, the Committee is planning to conduct a short questionnaire in a sample group of congregations from across the country, aided by the Rev Dr Fiona Tweedie, Mission Statistics Co-ordinator. The Committee is also considering the use of technology and the potential for greater participation in meetings from remote locations, and has invited one of its members who has relevant experience from the business world to present a paper to its next meeting.

3.3 Whilst the Committee will continue to research the practical barriers to involvement, it remains of the view that the Church’s complex governance structure and its reliance on meetings lie at the heart of this matter and that these are issues requiring reflection by the whole Church. We acknowledge that the Council of Assembly’s current work on bringing forward a strategic plan may have a bearing on the future structure and workings of the Church’s national committees and await that outcome before making any further recommendations.

4. Statistical Information

4.1 The Committee provides some statistical details to the Assembly as a means of highlighting and encouraging the engagement of the Church as a whole with the Nomination Committee process.

4.2 Approximately 3,000 e-mails inviting nominations were sent out to Ministers, Session Clerks, Presbytery Clerks, the National Office of the Guild, members of the Nomination Committee and Secretaries of Assembly Councils and Committees.

4.3 These letters produced a total of 209 proposed nominations, broken down as follows (with some individuals proposed for more than one committee, and some forms supported by more than one category eg Minister and Kirk Session):

- 45 nominations from 27 Ministers (compared with 52 from 28 last year and 39 from 26 in 2015), with 20 being approached;
- 32 nominations from 18 Kirk Sessions (compared with 9 from 6 last year and 19 from 10 in 2015), with 8 being approached;
- 38 nominations from 13 Presbyteries (compared with 17 from 6 last year and 21 from 9 in 2015), with 15 being approached;
4.4 A total of 116 vacancies required to be filled this year.

5. Charity Governance

5.1 The voting members of the Council of Assembly are the General Assembly’s designated charity trustees for the Unincorporated Councils and Committees (The Church of Scotland, Scottish Charity Number SC011353). The Nomination Committee is charged with implementing an open recruitment process for new Trustees as set out in 2010 by the Special Committee on the Review of Charity Governance.

5.2 The Nomination Committee arranged for an advertisement to be placed in Life and Work and on the Church’s website, seeking applications for trustee vacancies. Interviews for shortlisted candidates were held in December, with the Nomination Committee providing the chairman and members of the interview panel and the Convener and Secretary of the Council of Assembly attending as observers. The nominations for two new members are contained within Section 6 along with a proposed reappointment. The Nomination Committee wishes to thank the applicants who so willingly submitted themselves to a rigorous recruitment exercise.

6. Nominations for Appointment to Councils and Committees

6.1 The Committee wishes to nominate Philip Brodie for a second term, for three years, as one of the Conveners of the Appeals Committee of the Commission of Assembly. This reappointment can only be made if the General Assembly agree to suspend Standing Order 122 and it is anticipated that the Business Convener will arrange for that question to be put to the Assembly at an appropriate point in the proceedings.

6.2 The Committee recommends the following appointments:

* denotes second term

Appeals Committee of the Commission of Assembly
Convener Retiring Carole Hope
Conveneres Appointed Philip Brodie* (Edinburgh: High (St Giles')) (3 yrs) subject to the General Assembly suspending Standing Order 122, Alan Hamilton (Bearsden: Killermont)
Vice-Convener Appointed Grahame Lees (Dunblane: Cathedral)

Philip Brodie, Alan Hamilton, Conveners
Helen Jamieson, Grahame Lees, Vice-Conveners

Arbitration Panel
Member Retiring Colin Armstrong

Assembly Arrangements Committee
Convener Retired Derek Browning
Convener Appointed Judith Pearson (Aberdeen: Queen’s Cross) (from March 2017)
Vice Convener Appointed Fiona Smith (Inverness: Ness Bank) (from March 2017)
Minister Retiring Neil Gardner
Ministers Appointed Alexander Horsburgh (Dalkeith: St Nicholas’ Buccleuch), Gillian Paterson (Methil: Wellesley)

Judith Pearson, Convener
Fiona Smith, Vice-Convener
Audit Committee
Minister Appointed Gary Peacock (Irongray, Lochrutton and Terregles)
Member Retiring Charles Scott

Grant Macrae, Convener

Chaplains to HM Forces Committee
Vice-Convener Retiring John Murdoch
Vice-Convener Appointed Carolyn Macleod (Bracadale and Duirinish)
Minister Retiring Scott Rae
Minister Resigned David Gemmell
Ministers Appointed John Duncan (Leuchars: St Athernase), Fiona Ogg (Acharacle l/w Ardnamurchan), Lisa-Jane Rankin (Hawick: Wilton l/w Teviothead)
Member Retiring Jo Young
Member Appointed Ethne Brown (Lochgelly and Benarty: St Serf’s)

Gordon Craig, Convener
Carolyn Macleod, Vice-Convener

Church and Society Council
Ministers Retiring Valerie Allen, Alan Hamilton-Messer, Peter Nimmo, John Povey
Minister Appointed Peter Nimmo* (Inverness: Old High St Stephen’s)
Members Retiring John McConnachie, Iain Mitchell, Glenn Walker
Members Appointed Sheila Brumby (Rothes), Gordon Mackay (Aberdalgie and Forteviot), John McConnachie* (Bellie and Speymouth), Elizabeth Mclachlan (Carluke: Kirkton), Gordon Sharp (Dundee: West), William Walker (Edinburgh: Greyfriars Kirk)

Richard Frazer, Convener
Pauline Edmiston, Wendy Young, Vice-Conveners

Council of Assembly
Members Retiring Elizabeth Fox, Anne Lamont
Member Resigned Hilary Cameron
Members Appointed Alistair Gibb (Edinburgh: Cramond), Anne Lamont* (Edinburgh: Leith North), Ronald Wright (Dunblane: Cathedral)

Sally Bonnar, Convener
Catherine Coull, Vice-Convener

Church Art and Architecture Committee
Ministers Retiring David Logan, Harry Mowbray
Ministers Appointed Harry Mowbray* (Blairgowrie), Wayne Pearce (Stornoway: High)
Member Retiring Alice Merilees
Member Resigned William Riddick
Members Appointed Andrew McCreath (Aberdeen: Midstocket) (1 yr), Alice Merilees* (Aberdeen: Kirk of St Nicholas Uniting)

William Hogg, Convener
James Alexander, Vice-Convener

Ecumenical Relations Committee
Convener Reappointed Alison McDonald* (Musselburgh: Northesk) (1 yr)
Minister Retiring Aniko Schütz Bradwell
Minister Resigned Glenn Chestnutt
Ministers Appointed Ross Blackman (Hamilton: Old) (2 yrs), Aniko Schütz Bradwell* (Humbie l/w Yester, Boulton and Saltoun)

Alison McDonald, Convener
Calum MacLeod, Vice-Convener
Judicial Commission
Ministers Retiring Christine Goldie, Bruce McNicol, Fiona Smith, Stuart Smith
Ministers Appointed Marian Cowie (Aberdeen: South Holburn), Gordon McCracken (Clerk to the Presbytery of Hamilton), Jan Mathieson (Glasgow: Williamwood), MaryAnn Rennie (Dunfermline: Abbey)
Elders Retiring Robin Braidwood, John Crichton, Angus Hogg, Isabell Montgomerie, Nigel Orr, James Wallace
Elders Appointed Steuart Dey (Kilmarnock: New Laigh Kirk), Chris Dunn (Cumbernauld: Kildrum), Douglas Hamill (Kirkcaldy: Linktown), Pauline Weibye (Edinburgh: Craigmillar Park)

Robert Brodie, Morag Mylne, Conveners
David Lunan, Colin Renwick, Vice-Conveners

Judicial Proceedings Panel
Ministers Retiring Alan Hamilton, Alistair May, Val Ott, Sally Russell, Lindsay Schlüter, David Sutherland, Alison Swindells
Ministers Appointed Alan Hamilton* (Bearsden: Killermont), Alistair May* (Rutherglen: Stonelaw), Val Ott* (Gatehouse and Borgue I/w Tarff and Twynholm), Thomas Pollock (Glasgow: Sherbrooke St Gilbert’s), Sally Russell* (Corsock and Kirkpatrick Durham I/w Crossmichael, Parton and Balmaghie), Lindsay Schlüter* (Barra I/w South Uist), David Sutherland* (Dumfries: Maxwelltown West)
Elders Retiring Veronica Crerar

Legal Questions Committee
Minister Appointed Adam Dillon (Kirkpatrick Juxta I/w Moffat: St Andrew’s I/w Wamphray)
Elders Retiring James McLean
Minister Appointed James McLean* (Edinburgh: St Cuthbert’s)

George Cowie, Convener
Alistair May, Vice-Conveners

Life and Work Advisory Group
Minister Retiring James Stewart
Minister Appointed James Stewart* (Perth: Letham St Mark’s)
Elders Retiring Bill Livingstone
Minister Resigned Bill McIntosh
Elders Appointed Tina Kemp (Presbytery of Dumbarton), Andrew Nicoll (Dundee: Broughty Ferry New Kirk)

John Ferguson, Convener

Ministries Appeal Panel
Vice-Convener Retiring Carole Hope
Vice-Convener Appointed Robin Stimpson (Edinburgh: Morningside)
Minister Appointed Isabell Montgomerie (Ochiltree)

David Arnott, Convener
Robin Stimpson, Vice-Convener
Ministries Council  
*Vice-Conveners Retiring* Colin Brough, Marjory MacLean, Derek Pope  
*Vice-Conveners Appointed* David McLachlan (Glasgow: Langside), Eleanor McMahon (Glasgow: Govan and Linthouse), Sarah Ross (Blantyre: Old)  
*Ministers Retiring* David McLachlan, Leslie Milton, Val Ott, Sarah Ross, Terry Taylor, James Teasdale  
*Ministers Resigned* Glen Chestnutt, Hilary McDougall  
*Ministers Appointed* Ian McDonald (Lausanne), Moira MacDonald (Edinburgh: Corstorphine Old), Peter Macdonald (Cockenzie and Port Seton: Chalmers Memorial Member), Alison Notman (Ardler Kettins and Meigle), James Teasdale* (Glasgow: Eastwood)  
*Members Retiring* Anne Noble, Allan Sim  
*Members Appointed* Scott Burton (Edinburgh: Holy Trinity), Hilary Peppiette (Edinburgh: Fairmilehead), Allan Sim* (Edinburgh: St Andrew’s and St George’s West) (1 yr)  

Neil Glover, *Convener*  
John Dent, David McLachlan,  
Eleanor McMahon, Sarah Ross, *Vice-Conveners*

Nomination Committee  
*Convener Retiring* Kenneth Stott  
*Convener Appointed* Lynsey Kimmitt (Dundee: Coldside)  
*Vice-Conveners Retiring* Ann Lyall DCS  
*Vice-Conveners Appointed* John Collard (Coatbridge: Blairhill Dundyvan I/w Coatbridge: Middle)  
*Ministers Retiring* Mark Nicholas, Muriel Willoughby, Andrew Wilson  
*Ministers Appointed* Catherine Buchan (Laggan I/w Newtonmore), Karen Harbison (Greenock: Westburn), Andrew Philip (Crieff), Lezley Stewart (Edinburgh: Greyfriars Kirk), Colin Sutherland (Dumfries: St George’s)  
*Members Retiring* Irene Crosthwaite, Marian Macintyre, Elspeth Smith  
*Members Resigned* Alasdair Maclean  
*Members Appointed* Barbara Leppard (Dunfermline: St Leonard’s), Andrew MacPherson (Broxburn), Elspeth McPheat DCS (Presbytery of Edinburgh), John Stewart (Paisley: Oakshaw Trinity)  

Lynsey Kimmitt, *Convener*  
John Collard, *Vice-Conveners*

Mission and Discipleship Council  
*Vice-Conveners Reappointed* Daniel Carmichael* (Lenzie: Union) (1 yr)  
*Ministers Retiring* Fiona Bullock, Daniel Manastireanu, Abi Ngunga  
*Ministers Appointed* Marc Bircham (St Madoes and Kinfauns), Andrea Boyes (Larkhall: Chalmers), Fiona Bullock* (Dun and Hillside)  
*Members Resigned* Elspeth McCallum, Iain McLarty  
*Members Appointed* Murdo Macmillan* (Auchterarder), Andrew Simpson (Macduff)  

Norman Smith, *Convener*  
Daniel Carmichael, Martin Fair,  
Jamie Milliken, *Vice-Conveners*

Panel on Review and Reform  
*Vice-Conveners Retiring* David Cameron  
*Vice-Conveners Appointed* Jennifer Adams (Duffus, Spynie and Hopeman)  
*Minister Retiring* Gordon McCracken  
*Minister Appointed* Alistair Cumming (London: St Columba’s)  
*Member Appointed* Ross Watters (Gorebridge)  

Graham Duffin, *Convener*  
Jennifer Adams, *Vice-Conveners*
Registration of Ministries Committee *(subject to the General Assembly establishing this Committee)*
Convener Appointed Neil Dougall (North Berwick: St Andrew Blackadder)
Vice-Convener Appointed Hazel Hastie (Edinburgh: Drylaw)
Minister Appointed Marjory MacLean (Abernyte l/w Inchtur and Kinnaird l/w Longforgan) (2 yrs)

Neil Dougall, Convener
Hazel Hastie, Vice-Convener

Safeguarding Appeal Panel
Members Appointed Sheena-Jane Clark (London: St Columba's), David Dick (Closeburn), Hugh McGregor (Larkhall: Trinity), Anne Noble (Bathgate: St John's)

Solicitor of the Church, Secretary

Safeguarding Committee
Vice-Convener Retiring Sheila Ritchie
Vice-Convener Appointed Caroline Deerin (Biggar)
Minister Appointed David Logan (Caerlaverock l/w Dumfries: St Mary's-Greyfriars')

Karen Campbell, Convener
Caroline Deerin, Vice-Convener

Social Care Council
Vice-Convener Resigned Richard Begg
Vice-Convener Appointed Irene McGugan (Dunnichen, Letham and Kirkden)
Ministers Retiring David Gray, Ramsay Shields
Minister Resigned Kenneth Russell
Ministers Appointed David Gray* (Dundee: Logie and St John's (Cross)), George Mackay (Glasgow: Broomhall l/w Glasgow Hyndland), Ramsay Shields* (Milingavie: St Luke's)
Members Retiring Adrian Bark, Martha Bogle, Mary Ford, Brenda Graham, Kathleen MacPherson, Sheila Robertson, Bill Usher

Members Appointed Martha Bogle* (Bo'ness: St Andrew's), Peter Donaldson (Inverurie: St Andrew's), Mary Ford* (Stevenston: High), John Graham (Edinburgh: Mayfield Salisbury), Iain Hunter (Aberdeen: Mannofield), Sheila Robertson* (Cromar), Sarah Wood (Ceres, Kemback and Springfield), Alan Young (Netherlee)

Bill Steele, Convener
Irene McGugan, Hugh Stewart, Vice-Conveners

Theological Forum
Convener Retiring Iain Torrance
Convener Appointed Donald MacEwan (Chaplain University of St Andrews)
Vice-Convener Appointed Sarah Lane Ritchie (Edinburgh: Greyfriars Kirk)
Minister Resigned Glenn Chestnutt
Ministers Appointed Jean Kirkwood (Dunfermline: Townhill and Kingseat), Paul Middleton (University Lecturer, Presbytery of England), Alastair Symington (Troon: Old retired)
Member Retiring Anette Hagan

Donald MacEwan, Convener
Sarah Lane Ritchie, Vice-Convener

World Mission Council
Vice-Convener Retiring Valerie Brown
Vice-Convener Appointed Maureen Jack (St Andrews: St Leonard's)

Ministers Retiring Alison Burnside, Alistair Donald, Aftab Gohar, Tina Kemp, Aniko Schütz Bradwell
Ministers Appointed Richard Baxter (Fort William: Duncansburgh Maclntosh l/w Kilmonivaig), Kleber Machado (Corby: St Ninian's) (1 yr), Monica Michelin-Salomon (Glasgow: Causeway (Tollcross)), Ian Stirling (Fisherton l/w Kirkoswald)
Members Retiring Valerie Macniven, Mukami McCrum, Douglas Short
Member Resigned Gillian MacPherson
Members Appointed  Rosemary Johnston (Abernethy and Dron and Arngask), Gigha Lennox (Troon: Portland), Valerie Macniven* (Edinburgh: Greenbank), Irene McLellan (Dunfermline: Abbey), Lily Stevenson (Dalbeattie and Kirkgunzeon)

Iain Cunningham, Convener
Susan Brown, Maureen Jack, Vice-Conveners

In the name of the Committee

KENNETH STOTT, Convener
ANN LYALL DCS, Vice-Convener
MARTIN SCOTT, Secretary

ADDENDUM

Rev Kenny Stott, Convener
Rev Kenny Stott comes to the end of his term as Convener of the Nomination Committee in 2017. Kenny has brought to the Committee his experience of the Church gained from his 28 years in ministry in Partick: South and Dundee: Chalmers-Ardler. He has led the Committee with fairness and openness, encouraging all of the members to contribute and taking on board the variety of opinions voiced around the table. His leadership skills have helped steer the Committee in balancing the needs of the individual Councils and Committees with the desire for fresh involvement from a wider circle of Church people. His passion for the Gospel and his pragmatism have worked well together in this very practical but strategic area of the Church’s work. We ask for God’s continued blessing on Kenny’s ministry, and thank him for his dedicated service on the Nomination Committee.

Ann Lyall DCS, Vice-Convener
Ann Lyall DCS completes a three-year term as Vice-Convener of the Nomination Committee, having been a member of the Committee since 2012. Ann’s involvement in both the Diaconate and the Interim Ministries Team has benefited the Committee in terms of her personal knowledge of people from a variety of backgrounds and geographical locations across the Church. She has been persistent in her encouragement to the Church and the Committee to consider ‘new’ people for nomination, and has often been relied upon to suggest names from her wide network for those difficult-to-fill places. Ann has challenged the Committee in its thinking and that has been of great benefit. We pray God’s blessing on Ann and her continued work within Interim Ministry.

MARTIN SCOTT, Secretary