

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2020

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NOTES

TRAINING

Please ensure you sign up for the one of the training events, on which information will be emailed to you separately.

Please also see the Notices section at the end for information on Motions.

COMMISSIONERS' TRAVELLING EXPENSES AND SUBSISTENCE EXPENSES

Please note that as this is a fully online event, expenses will not be paid.

CONTACT US

In the first instance please email: [**pcoffice@churchofscotland.org.uk**](mailto:pcoffice@churchofscotland.org.uk) with any queries.

ASSEMBLY OFFICE-BEARERS

Title	Name	No
Moderator	Rt Rev Dr Martin Fair	845
Chaplains	Rev Catherine Beattie	846
	Rev Gregor McIntyre	847
Principal Clerk	Rev Dr George J Whyte	848
Depute Clerk	Ms Christine Paterson	849
Procurator	Ms Laura Dunlop QC	850
Law Agent	Miss Mary Macleod	851
Chief Steward	Mr Alexander F Gemmill	
Depute Steward	Mr Neil Proven	
Assembly Officer	Mr William Mearns	
Depute Assembly Officer	Mrs Karen McKay	

PROCEDURE COMMITTEE

Convener	Rev Donald McCorkindale	852
Vice-Convener	Mrs Susan Pym	853

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Roll of Commissioners

1. Presbytery of Edinburgh

Minister

1	Very Rev Dr Russell Barr, Edinburgh: Cramond
2	Rev Matthew Bicket, (Carnoustie: Panbride)
3	Very Rev Dr Derek Browning, Edinburgh: Morningside
4	Rev David Cameron, Dalmeny l/w Queensferry
5	Rev Dr Karen K Campbell, Edinburgh: Marchmont St Giles'
6	Rev Dr John Cowie, Edinburgh: Stockbridge
7	Rev Dr Richard Frazer, Edinburgh: Greyfriar's Kirk
8	Rev Jack Holt, Edinburgh: Polwarth
9	Rev Stuart Irvin, Edinburgh: St Catherine's Argyle
10	Rev Alistair H Keil, Edinburgh: St Andrew's Clermiston
11	Rev Cameron Mackenzie, Edinburgh: Tron Kirk (Gilmerton and Moredun)
12	Rev Angus R Mathieson, Interim Head, Faith Nurture Forum
13	Rev Fiona M Mathieson, Edinburgh: Carrick Knowe
14	Rev Moira McDonald, Edinburgh: Corstorphine Old
15	Rev Marjory McPherson, Presbytery Clerk
16	Rev Douglas Nicol, (Hobkirk & Southdean l/w Ruberslaw)
17	Rev Andrea E Price, Edinburgh: St Michael's
18	Rev Daniel Robertson, Edinburgh: Davidson's Mains
19	Rev Donald Scott, Edinburgh: Priestfield
20	Very Rev Colin A M Sinclair, Edinburgh: Palmerston Place
21	Rev Dr Easter Smart, Edinburgh: Currie

22	Rev Peter Sutton, Edinburgh: St Cuthbert's
23	Rev John M Tait, (Edinburgh: Pilrig St Paul's)
24	Rev Dr Rita M Welsh, Edinburgh: Holy Trinity OLM
25	Rev Jenny Williams, Edinburgh: Drylaw
26	Rev Bill Wishart, Edinburgh: St Martin's

Elder

27	Mr Tim Bell, Edinburgh: Leith North
28	Mrs Margaret B P Bisset, Ratho
29	Mrs Rachel Cadell, Edinburgh: Greenbank
30	Mr Alastair Cameron, Edinburgh: Liberton
31	Mr Graeme Clark, Edinburgh: Reid Memorial
32	Mr Gordon Clephane, Edinburgh: Currie
33	Mr Michael Craig, Edinburgh: Portobello and Joppa
34	Mr Richard Evans, Edinburgh: Leith South
35	Mr Brian Falla, Edinburgh: Colinton
36	Mr Alan Fisher, Edinburgh: The Old Kirk and Muirhouse
37	Mrs Patricia A Fraser, Ratho
38	Mr Ian Graham, Edinburgh: Palmerston Place
39	Mrs Helen Hannan, Edinburgh: Inverleith St Serf's
40	Dr Hazel Hastie, Edinburgh: Drylaw
41	Mr Ian Irvin, Edinburgh: Stockbridge
42	Mrs June Kemp, Edinburgh: Cramond
43	Prof Herbert Kerrigan, Edinburgh: Greyfriar's Kirk
44	Dr Heather McHaffie, Edinburgh: Wardie
45	Mrs Karen W F McKay, Kirkliston
46	Mrs Susan Menzies, Edinburgh: Davidson's Mains

47	Mr Ian Moss, Edinburgh: Marchmont St Giles'
48	Mrs Jane Stewart, Edinburgh: Canongate
49	Mr Robin M Stimpson, Edinburgh: Morningside
50	Mr Eddie Thorn, Edinburgh: Blackhall St Columba's
51	Mrs Pauline Weibye, Edinburgh: Craigmillar Park
52	Mr Ross Wilkinson, Edinburgh: Inverleith St Serf's

Deacon

53	Miss Anne Mulligan DCS, (Chaplain)
54	Mrs Pauline Robertson DCS, Chaplain

2. Presbytery of West Lothian

Minister

55	Rev Sandra Boyd, Blackburn & Seafield
56	Rev Dr Liam J Fraser, Linlithgow: St. Michael's
57	Rev Christopher Galbraith, Bathgate: Boghall
58	Rev Derek Henderson, Abercorn with Pardovan, Kingscavil and Winchburgh OLM
59	Rev Gordon Jamieson, (Head of Stewardship)
60	Rev Marc B Kenton, (Strathbrock)
61	Rev Thomas S Riddell, Linlithgow: St. Michael's, Auxiliary

Elder

62	Mr Keith Burnett, Blackburn & Seafield
63	Mrs Elizabeth Ferguson, Whitburn: Brucefield
64	Mrs Annette Frater, Strathbrock
65	Mr Alistair F Marquis, Livingston United
66	Mrs Lynne McEwen, Strathbrock
67	Mr Alan Miller, Linlithgow: St. Michael's
68	Mrs Marie Williams, Bathgate: Boghall

3. Presbytery of Lothian

Minister

69	Rev Robin N Allison, Cockenzie and Port Seton: Chalmers Memorial
70	Rev Graham D Astles, Penicuik: North
71	Very Rev Dr John B Cairns, Aberlady with Gullane
72	Rev Alan R Cobain, Army Chaplain
73	Rev Suzanne G Fletcher, Dunglass
74	Rev Tom J Gordon, (Chaplain)
75	Rev Fred Harrison, Newbattle, OLM
76	Rev Alexander G Horsburgh, Dalkeith; St Nicholas Buccleuch
77	Rev Dale K London, The Tyne Valley Parish
78	Rev Louise I Purden, Bonnyrigg
79	Rev Gayle J A Taylor, Transition Minister, Newbattle
80	Rev David J Torrance, Ormiston with Pencaitland

Elder

81	Mrs Joan E Cape, Penicuik: St Mungo's
82	Mrs Jennifer A Grahame, The Tyne Valley Parish
83	Mrs Margaret L Hurst, Loanhead
84	Mrs Elizabeth M Macaulay, Newbattle
85	Mr Connor MacFadyen, Tranent
86	Mr Alastair MacGregor, Penicuik: North
87	Mrs Joyce E MacLean, Penicuik: South and Howgate
88	Mr John D McCulloch, Presbytery Clerk
89	Mrs Jeanette K Millican, Roslin
90	Mrs Catherine Munro, Musselburgh: Northesk
91	Mr John I Purves, Gorebridge
92	Mrs Helen A M Symon, Glencorse

Deacon

93	Mr Gordon R Steven DCS, Musselburgh: St Clement's and St Ninian's
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4. Presbytery of Melrose and Peebles

Minister

94	Very Rev David Arnott, (St Andrews: Hope Park with Strathkinness)
95	Rev Marion E Dodd, (Kelso Old & Sprouston)
96	Rev Rosemary Frew, Bowden & Melrose
97	Very Rev Dr Finlay Macdonald, (Principal Clerk)
98	Rev Sheila W Moir, Maxton & Mertoun l/w Newtown l/w St Boswells
99	

Elder

100	Mrs Fiona Burnett, Broughton
101	Mr John Henderson, Bowden & Melrose
102	Mrs Isobel Hunter, Skirling
103	Ms Susan McDonald, Innerleithen, Traquair and Walkerburn
104	Mrs Mary McElroy, Carlops
105	

5. Presbytery of Duns

Minister

106	Rev Dr Adam Hood, Berwick Upon Tweed St and Wallace Green and Lowick
107	Rev Norman Whyte, Ayton and District Churches

Elder

108	Mrs Marianne Karsgaard, Coldingham & St Abbs
109	Mrs Veronica Walker,

6. Presbytery of Jedburgh

Minister

110	Rev Alistair W Cook, Hawick St Mary's & Old l/w Hawick Teviot & Robertson
111	Rev Colin D Johnston, Cheviot
112	Rev Stephen Manners, Kelso Country Churches

Elder

113	Mr R S Elliot, Hawick: Burnfoot
114	Miss Helen Howden, Kelso Country Churches l/w Oxnam
115	Mr Robert Scott, Hawick: Trinity

7. Presbytery of Annandale and Eskdale

Minister

116	Rev Neil Campbell, Chaplain HMP Dumfries & Greenock
117	Rev Eric T Dempster, Lockerbie: Dryfesdale OLM
118	Rev David G Pitkeathly, The Border Kirk
119	Rev Paul R Read, Applegarth Sibbaldie & Johnstone l/w Lochmaben
120	

Elder

121	Mrs Cheryl Fairholm, Moffat: St Andrew's
122	Mrs Alice Forster, Liddesdale
123	Mrs Sue Jackson, Annan: St Andrew's
124	Mrs Anne Sanders, Moffat: St Andrew's
125	

Deacon

126	Mrs Angela Brydson DCS, Presbytery Deacon
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8. Presbytery of Dumfries and Kirkcudbright

Minister

127	Rev Dr David Bartholomew, Balmaclellan, Kells & Dalry with Carsphairn
128	Rev Alison Burnside, Bengairn Parishes l/w Castle Douglas
129	Rev Donald Campbell, Dumfries: St George's
130	Rev Douglas Irving, (Kirkcudbright)
131	Rev John Notman, Dumfries: Troqueer
132	Rev Gary J Peacock, Irongray Lochrutton & Terregles

133	Rev Sally M F Russell, Corsock & Kirkpatrick Durham l/w Crossmichael, Parton
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Elder

134	Mrs Kath Aitken, Dunscore
135	Mrs Gwen Corson, Gatehouse & Borgue
136	Mrs Louise Finch, Kirkcudbright
137	Mr Stewart McKean, Urr
138	Ms Shirley Parker, Irongray, Lochrutton & Terregles
139	
140	

Elder

159	Mrs Janet Armour, Monkton & Prestwick North
160	Mr Bill K Duncan, Alloway
161	Mr James A S Kirk, Straiton
162	Mr Gordon MacDonald, Prestwick: Kingcase
163	Mr Ian McGregor, Coylton
164	Mr Kenneth McKelvie, Troon: Portland
165	Mrs Lorna Paterson, Ayr: St Columba
166	Mrs Margery G Paterson, Old Cumnock
167	Mr David Reid, Troon: Old
168	

9. Presbytery of Wigtown and Stranraer

Minister

141	Rev Alexander I Currie, Glasserton and Isle of Whithorn l/w Whithorn St Ninian's Priory
142	Rev Stuart Farnes, Kirkmabreck l/w Monigaff
143	Rev Stephen Ogston, Inch l/w Luce Valley
144	
Elder	
145	Mrs Gillian Lynn, Kirkmaiden l/w Stoneykirk
146	Mrs Ann Rodgers, Inch l/w Luce Valley
147	Mr Sam Scobie, Presbytery Clerk
148	

11. Presbytery of Irvine and Kilmarnock

Minister

169	Rev Ian W Benzie, Irvine: Girdle Toll l/w St Andrew's
170	Rev H. Taylor Brown, Kilmarnock: South
171	Rev P. Jill Clancy, Prison Chaplain
172	Very Rev William C Hewitt, Clerk to the Presbytery of Annandale and Eskdale
173	Very Rev Dr David W Lacy, (Kilmarnock: Kay Park)
174	Rev George K Lind, (Stewarton: St Columba's)
175	Rev Jamie Milliken, Dreghorn and Springside
176	Rev Kim Watt, Irvine: Girdle Toll l/w St Andrew's OLM

10. Presbytery of Ayr

Minister

149	Rev Alwyn Landman, Coylton l/w Drongan: the Schaw Kirk
150	Rev Ian Paterson, Ayr: St Columba
151	Rev John W Paterson, Lugar l/w Old Cumnock: Old
152	Rev Barbara Suchanek-Seitz, Ayr: St James'
153	Rev Alastair Symington, (Troon: Old)
154	

Elder

177	Ms Janet Gibson, Irvine: Relief Boutreehill
178	Mrs Margaret A. Hamilton, Kilmarnock: South
179	Mrs Elizabeth Higton, Darvel

180	Mrs Jane Johnston, Kilmarnock: St John's Onthank
181	Miss Claire McDougall, Irvine: St Andrew's
182	Mr Peter Neish, Stewarton: St Columba's
183	Mrs Gillian Rooney, Kilmarnock: St Kentigern's
184	Mrs Davina Scrimgeour, Dreghorn and Springside

201	Rev Dr Elijah O Obinna, Carluke: St John's
202	

12. Presbytery of Ardrossan

Minister

185	Rev Hilary Beresford, Kilwinning Mansefield Trinity
186	Rev Roderick I T Macdonald, Beith
187	Rev Dr Graham McWilliams, Fairlie l/w Largs: St Columba's
188	Rev David Sutherland, Stevenston: Ardeer l/w Stevenston: Livingstone
189	Rev Martin Thomson, Dalry Trinity
190	Rev Elizabeth R L Watson, Whiting Bay & Kildonan

Elder

191	Mrs Margaret Green, Whiting Bay & Kildonnan
192	Mr James Hodge, Dalry: St Margaret's
193	Mrs Jean C Q Hunter, Brodick l/w Corrie l/w Lochranza & Pirnmill l/w Shiskine
194	Mrs Deirdre Murray, West Kilbride
195	Mr Allan Richardson, Beith
196	

Deacon

197	Mrs Isobel Beck DCS, Kilwinning: Old
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13. Presbytery of Lanark

Minister

198	Rev Iain D Cunningham, Carluke: Kirkton
199	Rev Bryan Kerr, Lanark: Greyfriars
200	Rev Louise E Mackay, Lanark: St Nicholas

Elder

203	Mr Alan Boyd, Lanark: Greyfriars
204	Mr David Hall, Kirkmuirhill
205	Mr William M Love, Lanark: St Nicholas'
206	Mrs Valerie A MacSween, Carluke: Kirkton
207	Mr Scott M Paget, Lanark: Greyfriars

16. Glasgow

Minister

208	Rev Norman Afrin, Glasgow: Sandyhills
209	Rev Sandra Black, Glasgow: Baillieston Mure Memorial l/w Baillieston St Andrew's, Interim Minister
210	Rev Sarah A Brown, Glasgow: Castlemilk
211	Rev Stuart J Crawford, Newton Mearns
212	Rev David Denniston, Glasgow: Queen's Park Govanhill, Interim Minister
213	Rev Jane M Denniston, Campsie
214	Rev Adam J Dillon, Kirkintilloch: St David's Memorial Park
215	Rev Morris M Dutch, (Costa Del Sol)
216	Rev Jeremy C Eve, Busby
217	Rev Dr Sandy Forsyth, University of Edinburgh
218	Rev Sally Foster-Fulton, Head of Christian Aid
219	Rev R Stuart M Fulton, Glasgow: Newlands South
220	Rev Fiona M E Gardner, Glasgow: Temple Anniesland
221	Rev Peter M Gardner, Pioneer Minister: Arts Community Glasgow
222	Rev Dr D Stewart Gillan, Glasgow: St John's Renfield
223	Rev Rhona E Graham, Glasgow: Tron St Mary's
224	Rev Tara Granados, Glasgow: Ibrox

225	Rev Jonathan A Keefe, Glasgow: Robroyston
226	Rev Gordon Kirkwood, Glasgow: Kelvinbridge
227	Rev Mark Lowey, Glasgow: Ruchill Kelvinside
228	Very Rev Dr David W Lunan, (Presbytery Clerk, Glasgow)
229	Rev Calum D Macdonald, Giffnock: The Park
230	Rev Stuart D MacQuarrie, (Chaplain, University of Glasgow)
231	Rev Daniel Manastireanu, Glasgow: St Paul's
232	Rev I Scott McCarthy, Glasgow: Garthamlock and Craigend East
233	Rev Hilary N McDougall, Congregational Facilitator
234	Rev Mark McKeown, Chryston Associate Minister
235	Rev Dr John McPake, Ecumenical Officer, Church of Scotland
236	Rev Douglas M Nicol, Glasgow: St Christopher's Priesthill & Nitshill
237	Rev Linda E Pollock, Glasgow: Possilpark
238	Rev W Louis T Reddick, Glasgow: Shettleston New
239	Rev Bruce H Sinclair, Glasgow: Jordanhill
240	Rev Timothy Sinclair, Glasgow: Partick Trinity
241	Rev Jim R Teasdale, Glasgow: Eastwood
242	Rev Dr Allan S Vint, Kilsyth: Anderson
243	Rev Linda A W Walker, Auxiliary Minister
244	Rev William T S Wilson, Burnside - Blairbeth
245	
246	

Elder

247	Mr Robert Barclay, Glasgow: St Andrew and St Nicholas
248	Mr Graeme D I Barrie, Glasgow: Easterhouse

249	Mr Robert Binnie, Glasgow: Newlands South
250	Mr Ralph P Boettcher, Glasgow: Merrylea
251	Mr John Boyle, Glasgow: Broomhill Hyndland
252	Mrs Jean Brannigan, Glasgow: Partick South
253	Mrs Christina L Brownlie, Glasgow: Cardonald
254	Mrs Fiona Crawford, Newton Mearns
255	Mrs Alison Fenton, Giffnock: South
256	Mr David S Forsyth, Kirkintilloch: St David's Memorial Park
257	Mrs Mary Y Frame, Lenzie: Old
258	Mr William Izzard, Glasgow: Pollokshields
259	Miss K Irene Kay, Rutherglen: Old
260	Mr James Kerrigan, Mearns Kirk
261	Miss Helen Knox, Glasgow: St David's Knightswood
262	Mr Callum Macfarlane-Grieve, Glasgow: St George's Tron
263	Mr David Mackie, Giffnock: The Park
264	Mrs Kathleen MacPherson, Lenzie: Union
265	Mr Alistair M Mathison, Glasgow: Pollokshaws
266	Mr Alex McCall, Glasgow: Dennistoun New
267	Mrs Elspeth McCallum, Glasgow: Partick Trinity
268	Mr John G F McCallum, Kirkintilloch: St Columba's
269	Mrs Isabel McDerment, Glasgow: Scotstoun
270	Mr Robert McFarlane, Glasgow: Knightswood St Margaret's
271	Miss Catherine Morrison, Glasgow: Knightswood St Margaret's
272	Mrs Irene Munro, Newton Mearns
273	Dr Garry K Osbourne, Glasgow: Sandyford Henderson Memorial
274	Mrs Jessie Pickett, Glasgow: Merrylea
275	Mr Eddie Romeo, Glasgow: St Andrew's West

276	Ms I Victoria Rudebark, Glasgow: Maryhill
277	Ms Moira Shaw, Rutherglen: Stonelaw
278	Mr David W H Smith, Rutherglen: West & Wardlawhill
279	Mr Jack Stuart, Glasgow: Kelvinbridge
280	Ms Margaret Watson, Glasgow: Langside
281	Mr Andrew Wilkin, Kirkintilloch: St David's Memorial Park
282	Mr George Younger, Glasgow: Possilpark
283	
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301	Rev Fiona L McKibbin, Uddingston: Old
302	Rev Elaine W McKinnon, Newarthill & Carfin
303	Rev Christopher A Rankine, Hamilton: Hillhouse
304	Rev Terry A Taylor, East Kilbride: South
305	Rev Alan B Telfer, Strathaven: Avendale Old & Drumclog Memorial
306	Very Rev Dr Hugh R Wyllie, (Hamilton: Old)

Deacon

286	Mrs Mary S Gargrave DCS, Glasgow: Carnwadric
287	Mr Jim E Hamilton DCS, Glasgow: Maryhill
288	Mrs Karen M Hamilton DCS, Cambuslang
289	Mrs Claire Herbert DCS, Glasgow: Lodging House Mission

17. Hamilton

Minister

290	Rev Ross Blackman, Hamilton: Old
291	Rev Sharon E F Colvin, (Airdrie: Jackson)
292	Rev Kevin De Beer, Bellshill: Central
293	Rev Dr Peter Donald, Airdrie: Cairnlea l/w Calderbank
294	Rev Alan W Gibson, Motherwell: South
295	Rev Kay Gilchrist, Airdrie: Jackson
296	Rev Robert A Hamilton, Airdrie: New Wellwynd
297	Rev Joanne C Hood, Hamilton: St John's
298	Rev Lorna I MacDougall, Overtown
299	Rev Kevin MacKenzie, East Kilbride: Westwood
300	Rev Dr Gordon A McCracken, Presbytery Clerk

Elder

307	Ms Lesley Auld, Hamilton: St John's
308	Mr J Scott Bennie, Strathaven: Trinity
309	Mr William C Calder, Blantyre: Livingstone Memorial
310	Mr Fraser Graham, Motherwell: Dalziel St Andrew's
311	Mrs Joan Harvey, Dalserf
312	Mr Derek R Hotchkiss, Hamilton: Hillhouse
313	Mr William Howson, Hamilton: St John's
314	Ms June Irvine, Newmains: Coltness Memorial
315	Mr Ian H Jaques, Hamilton: South
316	Mr Gordon M Kidd, Hamilton: Hillhouse
317	Mr Andrew Main, Airdrie: Jackson
318	Mr Douglas Pearson, Uddingston: Burnhead
319	Mr Iain C Proudfoot, Blantyre: Old
320	Mr James Reid, Larkhall: St Machan's
321	Mr George Robertson, Hamilton: Old
322	Mr Colin Russell, Wishaw: Old
323	Mrs Elizabeth Scott, Blantyre: Old

18. Clyde

Minister

324	Rev Gordon Armstrong, Paisley: Oakshaw Trinity
325	Rev Fergus Buchanan, Baldernock l/w Milngavie: St Paul's

326	Very Rev John C Christie, Depute Presbytery Clerk
327	Rev Peter Gill, Paisley: Wallneuk North
328	Rev Kenneth Gray, Bridge of Weir: Freeland
329	Rev Dr Alan J Hamilton, Bearsden: Killermont
330	Very Rev Dr Lorna Hood OBE, (Renfrew: North)
331	Rev Ian C Johnson, Dumbarton: Riverside l/w St Andrew's l/w West Kirk
332	Rev Ann Knox, Inchinnan
333	Rev Margaret McArthur, Cardross
334	Rev Ann McCool, Johnstone: High
335	Rev Ruth H B Morrison. Clydebank: Waterfront l/w Dalmuir: Barclay
336	Rev Christine Murdoch, Craigrownie l/w Garelochhead l/w Rosneath: St Modan's
337	Rev David Nicolson, Erskine
338	Rev Gary Noonan, Houston and Killellan
339	Rev Barbara A O'Donnell, Bonhill l/w Renton: Trinity
340	Rev Eileen M Ross, Linwood
341	Rev Dr Alistair Shaw, Howwood with Johnstone St Paul's
342	Rev Yvonne Smith, Bishopton
343	Rev Alan Sorensen, Greenock: Wellpark Mid Kirk
344	Rev Stuart Steell, Renfrew: Trinity
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Elder

347	Mr James Auld, Dumbarton: Riverside
348	Mr Paul Baird, Greenock: Wellpark Mid Kirk
349	Mrs Mary Bell, Clydebank: Faifley
350	Mr Derek Bisset, Paisley: Wallneuk North
351	Mrs Gladys Black, Skelmorlie & Wemyss Bay
352	Mr James Blair, Bishopton

353	Mrs Helen Eckford, Port Glasgow: New Parish
354	Mr John O Hawthorn, Old Gourock & Ashton
355	Mr Stephen Henderson, Bishopton
356	Mrs Christine Johnston, Bonhill
357	Mr Robert M Kinloch, Lomond
358	Mr David Linley, Bearsden: Baljaffray
359	Mrs Elizabeth McAdam, Inchinnan
360	Ms Anne McGregor, Kilmacolm: Old
361	Dr John Morrice, Kilmacolm: Old
362	Mr Andrew Nisbet, Rhu & Shandon
363	Mrs Mary Pollock, Greenock: Lyle Kirk
364	Mr Stewart Renton, Erskine
365	Mr Dennis Taylor, Bridge of Weir: St Machar's Ranfurly
366	Mr Neil Turnbull, Helensburgh
367	Mrs Maureen Walker, Cardross
368	
369	

19. Argyll

Minister

370	Rev Scott Burton, West Kintyre
371	Rev Dugald Cameron, Kilmore & Oban
372	Rev Dr Roderick D Campbell, West Lochfyneside
373	Rev Jenny Earl, Kilfinichen, Kilvickeon, Ross of Mull l/w Iona
374	Rev Owain Jones, The United Charge of Bute
375	Rev Janet MacKellar, Kirn and Sandbank
376	Rev David Mitchell, Kilfinan l/w Kilmodan & Colintrave l/w Kyles
377	Rev Hilda Smith, Lochgilphead

Elder

378	Mr Douglas Allan, The United Church of Bute
379	Morag Allan, The United Church of Bute
380	Mr Stuart Carmichael, Appin

381	Mrs Marion Fyfe, Kirn and Sandbank
382	Ms Alison MacCorquodale, Appin
383	Mr Douglas McHugh, Strachur & Strathlachlan
384	Mr W Stewart Shaw, Presbytery Clerk
385	Mrs Elizabeth Speirs, Rothesay: Trinity

22. Falkirk

Minister

386	Rev Robert Allan, Falkirk: Trinity
387	Rev Raheel Arif, Denny: Old l/w Haggs
388	Very Rev Albert O Bogle, Sanctuary First
389	Rev Melville Crosthwaite, Larbert: East
390	Rev Dr Jean Gallacher, Dunipace
391	Rev Derek Gunn, (Airdrie: Clarkston)
392	Rev Alistair M Horne, Falkirk: St Andrew's West
393	Rev Joyce A Keyes, Cumbernauld: Abrohill
394	Rev Amanda J MacQuarrie, Bo'ness: Old
395	Rev Ronald Matandakufa, Grangemouth: Kirk of the Holy Rood
396	Rev Alison Meikle, Grangemouth: Zetland

Elder

397	Mrs June Annan, Larbert: West
398	Mr Matthew Baxter, Falkirk: St Andrew's West
399	Mr Andrew Christie, Cumbernauld: St Mungo's
400	Mr Tom Davidson, Grangemouth: Abbotsgrange
401	Mr Ernest Firth, Haggs
402	Mr John Haston, Grangemouth: Abbotsgrange
403	Mrs Diane McCabe, Bo'ness: Old
404	Mrs Janet Rhodes, Denny: Old
405	Mrs Wilma Wilson, Redding and Westquarter
406	Mr George Young, Falkirk: Laurieston
407	

Deacon

408	Mr David Nicholson DCS, Cumbernauld, Kildrum l/w St Mungo's
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23. Stirling

Minister

409	Rev Drew Barrie, Tullibody: St Serf's
410	Rev Alison E P Britchfield, Tillicoultry
411	Rev Rae A Clark, Clackmannan
412	Rev Dr Janet Foggie, Pioneer Minister - University of Stirling
413	Rev Dan Harper, Bridge of Allan
414	Rev Ellen Larson Davidson, Kippen l/w Norriston
415	Rev Sigrid Marten, Balfroun l/w Fintry
416	Rev Gary John McIntyre, St Ninian's: Old
417	Rev Alan F Miller, Stirling: Church of the Holy Rude l/w Stirling: Viewfield Erskine
418	Rev Graham Nash, Cambusbarron: The Bruce Memorial

Elder

419	Mrs Elspeth Burnett, Norrieston
420	Mrs Patricia Craib, Tullibody: St Serf's
421	Mrs Marjory Davidson, Tullibody: St Serf's
422	Mrs Morag Ferrier, Kilmadock
423	Mr Daniel Gunn, Dunblane: St Blane's
424	Mr Alan Hunter, Tillicoultry
425	Mr Ian McVean, Balfroun
426	Mrs Anne Paterson, Clackmannan
427	Ms Pauline Perry, Cambusbarron: The Bruce Memorial
428	Mrs Val Rose, Alloa: Ludgate

Deacon

429	Mrs Jean T Porter DCS, Stirling: St Mark's Parish Church, Stirling
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24. Dunfermline

Minister

430	Very Rev Dr John Chalmers, (Principal Clerk)
431	Rev Brian Dobby, Rosyth
432	Rev Dr Iain M Greenshields, Dunfermline: St Margaret's
433	Rev Andrew Morrice, Dunfermline: East
434	Rev Monika Redman, Dunfermline: St Leonard's
435	Rev Alec Shuttleworth, Saline & Blairingone
436	Rev Muriel F Willoughby, Dunfermline: St Andrew's Erskine

Elder

437	Ms Caroline Bowman, Cowdenbeath: Trinity
438	Mr Kenneth Brown, Dunfermline: East
439	Mrs Lorraine M D Brown, Dunfermline: St Andrews' Erskine
440	Mrs Lorraine E Fraser, Dunfermline: Abbey
441	Mrs Elizabeth Grant, Rosyth
442	Mrs Lesley Henderson, Townhill & Kingseat
443	Mr Alasdair MacRae, Saline and Blairingone

Deacon

444	Miss Morag Crawford DCS, Rosyth
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25. Kirkcaldy

Minister

445	Rev Elisabeth Cranfield, Methilhill & Denbeath
446	Rev Dr Andrew Gardner, Glenrothes: Christ's Kirk
447	Rev Alan W D Kimmitt, Glenrothes St Columba's
448	Rev Donald Lawrie, Auchterderran Kinglassie
449	Rev Robin J McAlpine, Kirkcaldy: Bennoch

450	Rev David J Smith, Glenrothes: St Ninian's
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Elder

451	Mr Alex Bell, Methil: Wellesley
452	Mr Graham Harrower, Kirkcaldy: Bennoch
453	Mrs Margaret A Hunter, Kirkcaldy: St Bryce
454	Ms Mary Ann Peace, Auchtertool
455	Miss Iona M Pringle, Kennoway, Windygates & Balgonie: St Kenneth's
456	Mrs Morna Scriven, Kirkcaldy: Abbotshall

Deacon

457	Mrs Jacqueline Thomson DCS, Buckhaven and Wemyss
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26. St Andrews

Minister

458	Rev Gavin Black, Cupar: St. John's & Dairsie United
459	Rev John Duncan, Leuchars: St Athernase
460	Rev William F Hunter, Howe of Fife
461	Rev Allan McCafferty, St Andrews: Hope Park & Martyrs l/w Strathkinnes
462	Rev Nigel J Robb, Presbytery Clerk
463	Rev David Scott, (Traprain)
464	

Elder

465	Mrs S Boyd, St Athernase
466	Mrs Pauline Craig, Cupar: St John's and Dairsie United
467	Miss Elaine Dowie, St. Andrews: Hope Park and Martyrs
468	Mr William Imlay, Newport-on-Tay
469	Mr Andrew Millar, East Neuk Trinity
470	Mrs Elizabeth Simmers, Howe of Fife
471	

27. Dunkeld and Meigle

Minister

472	Rev Andrew Graham, Bendochy l/w Coupar Angus Abbey
473	Rev Mary M Haddow, Pitlochry
474	Rev Robert Nicol, Fortingall, Glenlyon, Kenmore & Lawers
475	Rev R F Penny, Dunkeld

Elder

476	Dr David Frame, Pitlochry
477	Mr Peter Godfrey, Coupar Angus: Abbey
478	Mr Andrew J A Ogilvy-Wedderburn, Alyth
479	Mrs Wendy Stewart, Ardler, Kettins and Meigle

28. Perth

Minister

480	Rev Stan Kennon, Abernethy & Dron & Arngask
481	Rev Maudeen MacDougall, Scone and St Martin's
482	Rev Robert J Malloch, Almondbank Tibbermore l/w Methven and Logiealmond
483	Rev Lynn McChlery, Auchterarder
484	Rev Alex M Millar, Presbytery Clerk
485	Very Rev Dr Angus Morrison, Orwell and Portmoak
486	Rev Mairi Perkins, Blackford l/w Ardoch
487	Rev David Rankin, Perth: Riverside
488	Rev Elisabeth M Stenhouse, Fossoway St Serf's and Devonside l/w Cleish
489	Rev Steven Thomson, Collace l/w Cargill Burrelton

Elder

490	Mrs Fiona Bruce, Perth: St Matthew's
491	Ms Ruth A Buchan, Auchterarder
492	Miss Patricia A Eadie, Orwell and Portmoak

493	Mrs Janet Harper, Fossoway: St Serf's & Devonside l/w Cleish
494	Mrs Catriona Harrison, Aberdalgie and Forteviot l/w Aberuthven & Dunning
495	Mrs Rosemary H Johnston, Abernethy and Dron & Arngask
496	Mrs Margaret D MacArthur, Perth: St Leonard's-in-the-Fields
497	Mr Tom Morrison, Perth: St Matthew's
498	Ms Elizabeth Paterson, Ardoch
499	Mr Brian Swan, Perth: North

Deacon

500	Miss Patricia M Munro DCS, (Perth: St John's Kirk l/w Perth: St Leonard's-in-the-Fields & Trinity)
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29. Dundee

Minister

501	Rev Leslie Barrett, (Chaplain, University of Abertay)
502	Rev Catherine E E Collins, Dundee: Broughty Ferry New Kirk
503	Rev David A Collins, Auchterhouse l/w Monikie & Newbigging & Murroes & Tealing
504	Rev David Gray, Dundee: Logie & St John's Cross
505	Rev Keith F Hall, Dundee Parish Church (St Mary's) l/w Broughty Ferry St Stephen's & West
506	Rev Dr Marjory A MacLean, Abernyte l/w Inchturre & Kinnaird l/w Longforgan
507	Rev Nardia Sandison, Dundee: Balgay
508	Rev Willie Strachan, Dundee: Lochee OLM
509	Rev James L Wilson, Dundee: Whitfield

Elder

510	Mr Kenneth G Andrew, Dundee: Broughty Ferry St Luke's & Queen Street
511	Mrs Joyce Beattie, Dundee: Douglas & Mid Craigie
512	Mrs Vivien Buchan, Longforgan

513	Miss Sheona Chisholm, Dundee: Chalmers Ardler
514	Mr J William Joss, Dundee: Strathmartine
515	Mrs Lindley MacLeod, Invergowrie
516	Miss Jean Mitchell, Dundee: Camperdown
517	Mrs Jennifer Park, Dundee: Stobswell
518	Miss Margaret Robertson, Dundee: Meadowside St Paul's

536	Rev Shuna M Dicks, Cults
537	Rev Dr John A Ferguson, Peterculter
538	Rev Dr Frances M Henderson, Shetland Transition Minister
539	Rev Peter (James) N Johnston, Aberdeen: Ferryhill
540	Rev Laurene M Lafontaine, Kingswells
541	Rev Scott M Rennie, Aberdeen: Queen's Cross
542	Rev Dr Robert L Smith Jnr, Aberdeen: Rubislaw
543	Rev Maggie Whyte, Aberdeen: St Stephen's

30. Angus
Minister

519	Rev Annette Gordon, Carnoustie: Panbride
520	Rev Michael S Goss, Barry l/w Carnoustie
521	Rev Ian Gray, Montrose: Old & St Andrew's OLM
522	Rev Maggie Hunt, Forfar: St Margaret's
523	Rev John K Orr, The Glens & Kirriemuir United l/w Oathlaw Tannadice
524	Rev Peter Phillips, Colliston l/w Friockheim & Kinnell l/w Inverkeilor
525	Rev Carleen Robertson, Eassie, Nevay & Newtyle

Elder

526	Mrs Morag Dale, Brechin: Gardner Memorial
527	Mr Gavin Dobson, The Glens & Kirriemuir United
528	Mrs Joan E Hainsworth, Arbroath: St Andrew's
529	Mrs Irene Hoar, Carnoustie
530	Mrs Linda Hunter, Arbroath: St Andrew's
531	Mrs Lexi Smart, Forfar: East & Old
532	Mr David Taylor, Dun & Hillside

31. Aberdeen & Shetland
Minister

533	Rev Keith Blackwood, Aberdeen: Mannofield
535	Rev Jonny Clipston, Newhills

Elder

544	Dr Stella A Anderson, Cults
545	Mr Bill Diack, Newhills
546	Mr Iain H Hunter, Aberdeen: Mannofield
547	Mr Colin G McAlister, Aberdeen: Woodside
548	Miss Alice Merrilees, Aberdeen: Kirk of St Nicholas Uniting
549	Mr Alan G Morrison, Aberdeen: Midstocket
550	Ms Judith J H Pearson, Aberdeen: Queen's Cross
551	Mrs Penelope A Smith, Shetland
552	Mr Malcolm A Steel, Aberdeen: St Mark's
553	Mr Andrew J Williamson, Shetland

32. Kincardine and Deeside
Minister

555	Rev David Barr, Glenmuick
556	Rev Dr Melvyn Griffiths, Maryculter Trinity
557	Rev Andrew Morrison, Arbuthnott, Bervie & Kinneff
558	Rev Brian D Smith, West Mearns
559	Rev Holly Smith, Mid Deeside

Elder

560	Mr James M Clark, Glenmuick
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561	Mr David E Laing, Banchory-Ternan: East
562	Mrs Marion McNeil, Drumoak-Durris
563	Mr David Middleton, West Mearns
564	Ms Gloria Potter, Stonehaven: Fetteresson

587	Mrs Karen Brown, New Deer: St Kane's
588	Mrs Maureen H Esson, Cruden
589	Mr Robert M Esson, Cruden
590	Miss Ursula R Mackenzie, Peterhead: New
591	Ms Ali MacLeod, Deer
592	

33. Gordon

Minister

565	Rev Stella Campbell, Skene
566	Rev Dr Mary Cranfield, Culsalmond & Rayne l/w Daviot
567	Rev Euan Glen, Cluny l/w Monymusk
568	Rev Neil Meyer, Kintore
569	
570	
571	

Elder

572	Miss Ann Brown, Kemnay
573	Mrs Joyce Pinnel, Skene
574	Mrs Irene Reid, Kemnay
575	Mrs Val Reid, Kintore
576	Mrs Ann Wilkinson, Cluny l/w Monymusk
577	Ms Eva Will, Skene
578	Mrs Janet Wilson, Upper Donside

34. Buchan

Minister

579	Rev Robert A Fowlie, Longside
580	Rev Kevin Gruer, Turriff: St Ninian's & Forglen
581	Rev Alison Jaffrey, Fyvie w Rothienorman
582	Rev Sheila M Kirk, Presbytery Clerk
583	Rev Hugh O'Brien, Macduff
584	Rev Stephen J Potts, Auchaber United l/w Auchterless
585	Rev Dr David S Ross, (Prison Chaplain)

Elder

586	Mr John Anderson, Lonmay
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35. Moray

Minister

593	Rev Jenny Adams, Duffus, Spynie and Hopeman
594	Rev Averil Attenburrow, Dallas & Rafford l/w Forres St Leonard's
595	Rev Jaco Boonzaaier, Findochty l/w Portnockie
596	Rev Wes Brandon, Buckie: South & West l/w Enzie
597	Rev Deon Oelofse, Elgin: St Giles' and St Columba's South
598	Rev Douglas F Stevenson, Cullen and Deskford

Elder

599	Mrs Ann M C Bowie, Bellie & Speymouth
600	Mr Stuart Foster, Knockando, Elchies and Archiestown
601	Mrs Suzanne Foster, Knockando, Elchies and Archiestown
602	Mr Tom Foster, Keith, North, Newmill, Boharm and Rothiemay
603	Mrs Anne Marie Simpson, Keith, St. Rufus, Botriphnie & Grange
604	Ms Nicola Smith, Keith, St. Rufus, Botriphnie & Grange

36. Abernethy

Minister

605	Rev Mary Duncanson, Locum: Tomintoul, Glenlivet, & Inveraven OLM
606	Rev Mary Ellen Thomson, Chaplain to care homes OLM

Elder

607	Mrs Helen Banks, Boat of Garten, Carrbridge, and Kincardine
608	Mrs Anne Goodall, Boat of Garten, Carrbridge, and Kincardine

37. Inverness

Minister

609	Rev Seoras L Mackenzie, Kiltarlity
610	Rev Ian A Manson, Kilmorack & Erchless
611	Rev T Douglas McRoberts, (Malta)
612	Rev Alison C Mehigan, Nairn: Old
613	Rev Douglas R Robertson, Inverness: Crown
614	Rev Michael Robertson, Culloden: The Barn

Elder

615	Mrs Annie Burtwell, Nairn: Old
616	Mrs Isobel Freudenthal, Culloden: The Barn
617	Mr Hamish MacLennan, Kiltarlity
618	Mrs June MacLennan, Kilmorack & Erchless
619	Mrs Judith Macleod, Inverness Crown
620	Mr Andrew Ramsay, Culloden: The Barn

Deacon

621	Mrs Dorothy Getliffe DCS
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38. Lochaber

Minister

622	Rev Richard Baxter, Fort William: Duncansburgh Macintosh l/w Kilmonivaig
623	Rev Anthony Jones, Fort Augustus l/w Glengarry
624	Rev Fiona Ogg, Acharacle l/w Ardnamurchan

Elder

625	Mr Cameron Donnelly, Fort Augustus
626	Mr William Skene, Kilmonivaig
627	

39. Ross

Minister

628	Rev Dr Warren R Beattie, Avoch l/w Fortrose & Rosemarkie
629	Rev Bruce Dempsey, Dingwall: St Clement's
630	Rev Drausio Goncalves, Dingwall: Castle Street
631	Very Rev Dr Alan D McDonald, (Cameron l/w St Andrews: St Leonards)
632	Rev Irene E Munro, OLM
633	

Elder

634	Mrs Fiona A Brown, Dingwall: Castle Street
635	Mrs Catherine M Chambers, Presbytery Clerk
636	Mr Thomas Fulton, Dingwall: St Clement's
637	Mr Andrew M Love, Rosskeen
638	Mrs Linda Simpson, Fortrose & Rosemarkie
639	

40. Sutherland

Minister

640	Rev Dr Beverly W Cushman, Altnaharra and Farr l/w Melness and Tongue
641	Rev John MacPherson, Eddrachillis
642	Rev Dr John B Sterrett, Altnaharra and Farr l/w Melness and Tongue
643	Rev Mary J Stobo, Kincardine, Croick & Edderton OLM
780	Very Rev Dr Susan Brown, Dornoch Cathedral

Elder

644	Mr Sydney L Barnett, Clyne l/w Kildonan & Loth Helmsdale
645	Mrs Mhari Mackay, Dornoch Cathedral
646	Mrs Gladys McCulloch, Kincardine, Croick & Edderton
647	Mrs Judith Thomas, Golspie: St Andrews'
781	

41. Caithness

Minister

648	Rev David Macartney, North Coast Parish
649	Rev John Nugent, Wick: St Fergus
650	Rev Heather Stewart, Presbytery Clerk OLM

Elder

651	Mrs Elizabeth Geddes, Pentland Parish
652	Mr Alan Sinclair, Wick: St Fergus
653	Mrs Lorraine Sinclair, Parish of Latheron

42. Lochcarron - Skye

Minister

654	Rev Dr Roderick A R MacLeod, Strath & Sleat
655	Rev Stuart Smith, Gairloch & Dundonnell
656	

Elder

657	
658	
659	

43. Uist

Minister

660	Rev Ian Murdo MacDonald, Tarbert
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Elder

661	Mr Kenneth Macleod, Tarbert
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44. Lewis

Minister	
662	Rev Dr Ben Johnstone, Strath & Sleat
663	Rev Thomas MacNeil, Stornoway: Martin's Memorial
664	Rev Hugh M Stewart, Lochs-in Bernera l/w Uig

Elder

665	Mr Noel Eadie, Uig
666	Mr Colin S Mackenzie, Lochs-in-Bernera
667	Mr Iain Macleod, Stornoway: Martin's Memorial Church

45. Orkney

Minister

668	Rev John Butterfield, Stromness
669	Rev June Freeth, Flotta l/w Hoy & Walls l/w Orphir & Stenness OLM
670	Rev James Wishart, (Deer)
671	

Elder

672	Mrs Sue Hollands, Hoy & Walls
673	Mrs Ingrid Morrison, Stromness
674	
675	

47. England

Minister

676	Rev Dr David Coulter, Guernsey: St Andrews' in the Grange
677	Rev Alistair Cumming, Presbytery Clerk
678	Rev Graeme Glover, Jersey: St Columba's
679	Rev Dr Cameron Langlands, Healthcare Chaplain
680	Rev Philip J Majcher, London, Crown Court
681	Very Rev Dr John H McIndoe, (London St Columba's)
682	Rev John McMahon, Healthcare Chaplain

683	
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CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Assembly Trustees

Elder

684	Mrs Katie Bennie, Jersey: St Columba's
685	Mr Graham Cumming, London: St Columba's
686	Ms Elspeth Gordon, London: Crown Court
687	Mrs Elaine Milligan, Corby: St Andrew's
688	Miss Ethel Robb, Guernsey: St Andrew's in the Grange
689	Mrs Catharine Robertson, London: St Columba's
690	Mr Ian Russell, London: St Columba's
691	

704	Prof Elizabeth Ashcroft
705	Mr Alan Campbell
706	Mrs Jean Couper
707	Mr David Harrison
708	Ms Linda Irvine
709	Mr Jamie Lockhart
711	Mr James McNeill
712	Mr Geoff Miller
713	Ms Ann Nelson
714	Mrs Norma Rolls
715	Rev Aniko Schuetz Bradwell
716	Mr Raymond Young

48. International Charges

Minister

692	Rev Joanne H G Evans-Boiten, Colomba Le Roc Retreat Centre, Montcuq, France
693	Rev Eric W Foggitt, (Dunbar)
694	Rev Dr Peter McEnhill, Rome: St Andrew's
695	Rev Aaron C Stevens, Budapest: St Columba's
696	Rev Laurence H Twaddle, Geneva

Chief Officer

717	Mr Dave Kendall
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Church of Scotland Pension Trustees

718	Ms Lin Macmillan
-----	------------------

Committee on Church Art and Architecture

719	Rev William Hogg
-----	------------------

Deputy Treasurer – Congregational Finance

720	Mr Archie McDowall
-----	--------------------

Elder

697	Mr John Barber, Budapest : St Columba's
698	Karen Bloomer, Brussels : St Andrew's
699	Mr Laurent Djamen, Geneva
700	Mr John McGhie, Rome: St Andrew's
701	Mrs Ingrid Sorensen, Amsterdam: English Reformed Church

Ecumenical Relations Committee

721	Rev Eileen Miller
-----	-------------------

Faith Nurture Forum

722	Mrs Barbara Finlayson
-----	-----------------------

Faith Impact Forum

723	Rev Ian Alexander
724	Mrs Mary Sweetland

49. Jerusalem

Minister

702	Rev Dr John McCulloch
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General Treasurer

725	Mrs Anne Macintosh
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Elder

703	Mr Andrew Donohoe
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General Trustees

726	Mr David Robertson
-----	--------------------

Head of Communications

727	Ms Ruth MacLeod
-----	-----------------

Head of Human Resources

728	Mrs Elaine McCloghry
-----	----------------------

Legal Questions Committee

729	Rev Dr Grant Barclay
-----	----------------------

Life and Work Editor

730	Mrs Lynne McNeil
-----	------------------

Safeguarding Committee

732	Ms Julie Main
-----	---------------

Scottish Churches' Parliamentary Officer

733	Mr David Bradwell
-----	-------------------

Social Care Council

734	Mrs Viv Dickenson
-----	-------------------

735	Mr Jo Elliot
-----	--------------

The Guild

736	Mr Iain Whyte
-----	---------------

Theological Forum

737	Rev Dr Donald MacEwan
-----	-----------------------

Trustees of the Housing and Loan Fund

738	Rev MaryAnn Rennie
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YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES

Youth Representatives appointed at the National Youth Assembly 2019

739	Lauren Asher
740	Rebecca Craig
741	Hannah Dunlop
742	Dana McQuater
743	Rebecca Pennykid
744	Matthew Philip
745	Bethany Pringle
746	Tara Shannon
747	Nicola Shirlaw
748	Lisa Whyte

PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATION

Lothian

749	Miss Kate MacFadyen
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Dumfries and Kirkcudbright

750	Mr Rory McLatchie
-----	-------------------

Ayr

751	Mr Ross McKay
-----	---------------

Ardrossan

752	Ms Deborah Nicol
-----	------------------

Lanark

753	Miss Allie Sinclair
-----	---------------------

Glasgow

754	Scott Macfie
-----	--------------

Hamilton

755	Miss Megan L Graham
-----	---------------------

Clyde

756	Seonaid Knox
-----	--------------

757	Miss Fiona Reid
-----	-----------------

Falkirk

758	Mr Reese MacQuarrie
-----	---------------------

Dunfermline

759	Jack Shuttleworth
-----	-------------------

Dundee

760	Iona Kimmitt
-----	--------------

Angus

761	Carla Ingram
-----	--------------

Aberdeen & Shetland

762	Fraser Borland
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Moray

763	Kirsty Watkins
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Edinburgh

764	Ishbel Wright
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GA 2020 – 2-3 October 2020

DAY 1: FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER 2020 (evening)

1. Open for joining *from 5.15pm*
2. Practical session on use of the technology *from 6pm*

SESSION 1

OPENING OF GA 2020 – from 7pm

1. Constitution of Assembly
2. Submission of Roll of Commissioners
3. Her Majesty's Letter to be read and order given for recording it
4. Report of the Standing Committee on Commissions
5. Submission of Standing Orders
6. Submission of Minutes of cases
7. Submission of Minutes of Commissions of Assembly (November 2019, May 2020 and July 2020)
- 8. Report of the Procedure Committee**
- 9. Report of the Assembly Business Committee (to include taking sections of deliverance on Standing Orders in the Report of the Legal Questions Committee)**
- 10. Report of the Legal Questions Committee (cont) (legislative matters)**
- 11. Report of the Faith Nurture Forum (legislative matters)**
- 12. Report of the Principal Clerk**
- 13. Report of the Safeguarding Committee**
- 14. Report of the Nomination Committee**

Day 2: SATURDAY 3 OCTOBER 2020 (all day)

SESSION 2 – from 9.15am

1. Open for joining *from 8.30am*
2. Constitution of Assembly
- 3. Report of the Procedure Committee**
4. Approval of proposed Answer to Her Majesty's Letter
- 5. Report of the Assembly Trustees**

Circulation break

SESSION 3:

6. **Report of the Assembly Trustees (cont)**

Lunch

SESSION 4

7. **Report of the Faith Nurture Forum (cont)**
8. **Report of the Faith Impact Forum**
9. **Report of the National Youth Assembly 2019**
10. **Report of the General Trustees**

Circulation break

SESSION 5

11. **Report of the Legal Questions Committee (cont)**
12. Protestations called for
13. Report on the Publication of Acts
14. Appointment of Committee to prepare Minutes
15. Act appointing Commission of Assembly
16. Act appointing diet of next General Assembly
17. Moderator addresses the General Assembly
18. Dissolution of the General Assembly
19. THE BENEDICTION

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MINUTE 1

**MINUTE OF THE APPEAL HEARING
BEFORE THE JUDICIAL COMMISSION
IN THE MATTER OF AN APPEAL AGAINST A DECISION OF THE PRESBYTERIAL COMMISSION GIVEN
ON 9 JANUARY 2019
HELD AT THE ASSEMBLY HALL, MOUND PLACE, EDINBURGH ON MONDAY 24 JUNE 2019 AT 10.30AM**

Sederunt: Mr Richard McFarlane Convener of the Judicial Commission
The Rev Colin Renwick, Vice-Convener of the Judicial Commission

The Rev Dr George J Whyte, Principal Clerk
Ms Christine Paterson, Depute Clerk

And ten members of the Judicial Commission ("the Commission") as per the signed Sederunt sheet

For the Appellant:

Mr Martin Stephen, Solicitor, Wright, Johnston & Mackenzie LLP

For the Special Committee of the Presbytery of Annandale and Eskdale:

The Rev Dr Ian McLean, Convener of the Special Committee
The Rev Dr John Ferguson, member of the Special Committee
Mrs Helen McLeod, member of the Special Committee

Introductions were made. The Hearing was opened with prayer.

Mr Stephen explained that the Appellant was not able to attend the Hearing as he is convalescing from major surgery, but confirmed that he had instructions to proceed in his client's absence. The Convener asked that the Commission's wishes for a speedy recovery be passed to the Appellant.

The Convener made some prefacing remarks, explaining the history of the matter now before the Commission and confirming the procedure to be followed.

In terms of Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure set out in Schedule 2 to the Appeals Act (Act 1 2014) ("the Act"), the appeal proceeded as follows:

- each Party made comment supplementary to their Written Argument and Supplementary Note (if any), and was given the opportunity to make response to the Written Argument and Supplementary Note (if any) lodged by the other Party;
- each Party answered questions put to them by members of the Commission; and
- the Appellant was given the last word.

The Parties were removed and the Commission discussed its decision. The Parties were then recalled and the decision of the Commission, including a brief oral summary of the main reason for the decision, was given by the Convener.

The decision of the Judicial Commission was to dismiss the appeal and uphold the censure imposed by the Presbyterial Commission on 10 January 2019.

The decision was unanimous.

As with the Presbyterial Commission, the Judicial Commission in making its decision placed no weight upon the issue of conduct admitted at the funeral (charge 1). It was noted that the Appellant had apologised unreservedly for his conduct.

The Judicial Commission took the view that the various “consequences” referred to in the Note of reasons accompanying the Presbyterial Commission’s decision were understood and did not need to be enumerated. The Appellant’s failures to discharge his duties occurred over many years with serious consequences, both actual and potential. He should have been aware that those failures would have adverse consequences and were contrary to what he should have known were the standards of good governance to be applied in Church courts. His failures in turn exposed the Church to considerable risk not just to reputation. The Judicial Commission is satisfied that in reaching its decision, the Presbyterial Commission took proper account of the mitigating circumstances, carried out an appropriate balancing exercise and reached an appropriate decision on the material before it.

The Judicial Commission in reaching its decision determined that the Written Argument submitted by Mr Stephen was not incompetent, contrary to the argument of the Special Committee that it introduced new grounds of appeal.

The Convener thanked everyone present for their attendance. The Hearing was closed at 1.05pm with the Benediction.

MINUTE 2

MINUTE OF MINISTRIES APPEAL PANEL 27 JUNE 2019 (1)

At Edinburgh, and within the Church Offices, 121 George Street, Edinburgh, the twenty seventh day of June 2019 the Ministries Appeal Panel met and was duly constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Robin Stimpson (Convener), Rev Robert Allan and Rev Sheila Kirk

Apologies: Very Rev David Arnott, Mrs Isabell Montgomerie

The Appellant appeared via video conference

For the Recruitment Task Group of the Ministries Council: Rev Eleanor McMahon, Mrs Margaret Kimmitt and Rev Lezley Stewart

In attendance: Rev Dr George J Whyte, Principal Clerk and Ms Christine Paterson, Depute Clerk
The Ministries Appeal Panel took up consideration of an Appeal in terms of the Admission and Readmission of Ministers Act (Act IX 2002) section 12 against a decision of the Recruitment Task Group of the Ministries Council not to grant a Certificate of Eligibility to the Appellant.

The Appellant appeared, via online video conference, for herself.

Parties were heard.

Questions were asked.

Parties were removed.

Following deliberation the Ministries Appeal Panel resolved unanimously to uphold the Appeal to the extent of annulling the Appellant's attendance at, and the decision of the Recruitment Task Group not to grant the Appellant a Certificate of Eligibility following, the Admissions Conference in March 2019.

The Ministries Appeal Panel took the view that there was concern as to the Appellant's state of health at the Conference, which may have affected her ability to participate effectively in the process. There was also uncertainty around the terms of the Assessors' Report Form on what the Appellant had said regarding the specifics of her call, which led the Panel to conclude that the decision may have been influenced by incorrect material fact.

The judgement was intimated to the parties by email.

The meeting was closed with saying the Grace.

ROBIN STIMPSON, Convener
GEORGE J WHYTE, Clerk

MINUTE 3

MINUTE OF MINISTRIES APPEAL PANEL 27 JUNE 2019 (2)

At Edinburgh, and within the Church Offices, 121 George Street, Edinburgh, the twenty seventh day of June 2019 the Ministries Appeal Panel met and was duly constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Robin Stimpson (Convener), Rev Robert Allan and Rev Sheila Kirk

Apologies: Very Rev David Arnott, Mrs Isabell Montgomerie

The Appellant appeared via video conference

For the Recruitment Task Group of the Ministries Council: Rev Eleanor McMahan, Mrs Margaret Kimmitt and Rev Lezley Stewart

In attendance: Rev Dr George J Whyte, Principal Clerk and Ms Christine Paterson, Depute Clerk

The Ministries Appeal Panel took up consideration of an Appeal in terms of the Admission and Readmission of Ministers Act (Act IX 2002) section 12 against a decision of the Recruitment Task Group of the Ministries Council not to grant a Certificate of Eligibility to the Appellant.

The Appellant appeared, via online video conference, for himself.

Parties were heard.

Questions were asked.

Parties were removed.

Following deliberation the Ministries Appeal Panel resolved unanimously to dismiss the Appeal and uphold the decision of the Recruitment Task Group of the Ministries Council not to grant the Appellant a Certificate of Eligibility.

The Ministries Appeal Panel did not identify any incorrect material fact which influenced the decision, nor did the Ministries Appeal Panel identify any irregularities in the process or breach of the principles of natural justice which affected the decision reached.

The judgement was intimated to the parties by email.

The meeting was closed with saying the Grace.

ROBIN STIMPSON, Convener
GEORGE J WHYTE, Clerk

MINUTE 4

**MINUTE OF THE APPEAL HEARING
BEFORE THE APPEALS COMMITTEE OF THE COMMISSION OF ASSEMBLY
UNDER THE APPEALS ACT (ACT I 2014) (AS AMENDED)
IN THE MATTER OF AN APPEAL FROM THE KIRK SESSION OF GARTHDEE AGAINST A DECISION
OF THE PRESBYTERY OF ABERDEEN, IN RESPECT OF WHICH THE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE'S
CONCURRENCE WAS REPORTED TO PRESBYTERY ON 5 MARCH 2019, TO DISSOLVE THE GARTHDEE
CONGREGATION
HELD AT 121 GEORGE STREET, EDINBURGH
ON FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2019 AT 10.30AM**

Sederunt: The Very Rev Bill Hewitt, Convener of the Appeals Committee of the Commission of Assembly
Mr Grahame Lees, Vice-Convener of the Appeals Committee of the Commission of Assembly

The Rev Dr George J Whyte, Principal Clerk
Ms Christine Paterson, Depute Clerk

For the Appellants:

Mrs Hilda Smith, Session Clerk, Garthdee
Mr Arnold Strachan, member of the Garthdee congregation

For the Presbytery of Aberdeen (the Respondent):

Rev Dr John Ferguson, Presbytery Clerk
Rev Scott Rennie, Convener, Planning and Deployment Committee

Also present for the Presbytery Planning Task Group ("PPTG"):

Mr Daran Golby, Partnerships and Development Secretary
And 15 members of the Appeals Committee as per the Sederunt sheet.

The Convener gave a preliminary explanation of expected procedure. Parties were called and the staff member of PPTG also took his seat.

The Hearing before the Appeals Committee of the Commission of Assembly ("the Committee") was constituted with prayer. Further introductions were made.

Mr Lees formally disclosed that he is a General Trustee, but noted that as a General Trustee, he had not had, and will not have, any involvement in the matter which is now before the Appeals Committee. In terms of Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure set out in Schedule 2 to the Appeals Act (Act I 2014) ("the Act"):

- each Party made comment supplementary to their Written Argument, with the opportunity to make response to the Written Argument lodged by the other Party;
- PPTG were given the opportunity to speak and Mr Golby confirmed PPTG's concurrence in the Presbytery Plan;
- the Appellant was given a short right of reply;
- each Party answered questions put to them by members of the Committee;
- each Party was permitted to make their final presentations to the Committee, with the Appellant having the last word.

Parties were removed. PPTG also left the room.

After discussion a decision was reached.

Parties and PPTG were recalled and the decision of the Committee, including a brief oral summary of the main reasons for the decision, was read over by the Convener, as follows:

The Committee's decision was **that the appeal is refused.**

Ground 1: error in Church law: refused. The Appeals Committee did not identify any error in Church law. It did not think that the Presbytery had been negligent.

Ground 2: breach of the principles of natural justice and material irregularity in process: refused: No procedural irregularity or breach of the principles of natural justice was identified. The Presbytery had been proactive in their communications and imaginative in their proposed solutions.

Ground 3: decision influenced by incorrect material fact: refused. The Appeals Committee did not identify any incorrect fact which was material to the Presbytery's decision.

Ground 4: the decision is, in all the circumstances, unreasonable: refused. The Appeals Committee cannot conclude that the Presbytery's decision was unreasonable in the sense of being a decision that no reasonable Presbytery properly exercising its powers and fulfilling its duties under the 2003 Act could have made.

The Convener confirmed that all decisions were taken unanimously.

The Convener confirmed that written reasons for the Committee's decision will follow within twenty one days.

The Convener thanked the Parties for their participation and added that although this is not the decision that the congregation would have wanted, the Committee's good wishes were conveyed for their Christian witness and worship to continue with the Presbytery's blessing and backing.

The Hearing was closed at 12.10pm by saying the Grace.

MINUTE 5

**MINUTE OF THE APPEAL HEARING
BEFORE THE JUDICIAL COMMISSION
IN THE MATTER OF AN APPEAL AGAINST A DECISION OF THE PRESBYTERIAL COMMISSION GIVEN
ON 30 MAY 2019
HELD AT 121 GEORGE STREET, EDINBURGH ON MONDAY 9 DECEMBER 2019 AT 10.30AM**

Sederunt: Mr Richard McFarlane, Convener of the Judicial Commission
The Rev Colin Renwick, Vice-Convener of the Judicial Commission

The Rev Dr George J Whyte, Principal Clerk
Ms Christine Paterson, Depute Clerk

And eleven members of the Judicial Commission (“the Commission”) as per the signed Sederunt sheet

For the Appellant:

Mr Paul Harvey, Advocate
Mr Paul Santoni, Freelands Solicitors

For the Special Committee of the Presbytery of Hamilton:

Mrs Barbara Finlayson, member of the Special Committee
The Rev Sally Russell, member of the Special Committee
The Rev Dave Sutherland, member of the Special Committee
Mr David Stihler, Solicitor

Introductions were made. The Hearing was opened with prayer.

The Convener made some prefacing remarks, explaining the history of the matter now before the Commission and confirming the procedure to be followed.

In terms of Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure set out in Schedule 2 to the Appeals Act (Act 1 2014) (“the Act”), the appeal proceeded as follows:

In respect of Grounds 1, 2 and part of Ground 5 [competency matters]:

- each Party made comment supplementary to their Written Argument and was given the opportunity to make response to the Written Argument lodged by the other Party;
- each Party answered questions put to them by members of the Commission; and
- each Party was given the opportunity to make final comments, with the Appellant being given the last word.

The Parties were removed and the Commission discussed its decision. The Parties were then recalled and the decision of the Commission, including a brief oral summary of the main reason for the decision, was given by the Convener.

The decision of the Judicial Commission was:

Ground 1 [unreasonable delay in the proceedings]

This ground is incompetent. The Appellant exercised discretion to challenge the competency of the proceedings on the ground of delay at the first diet before the Presbyterial Commission and having been unsuccessful, did not challenge that decision by way of appeal as she was entitled to do. Therefore the question of delay was no longer before the Presbyterial Commission and it follows that this ground of appeal is incompetent.

Ground 2 [inability of the Appellant to participate in the Procedural Review Committee]

This ground is incompetent. This appeal is against the decision of the Presbyterial Commission issued on 30 May 2019. The issue of the Review process was not before the Presbyterial Commission. The Judicial Commission is constrained by the wording in section 2(1) of the Appeals Act (Act I 2014).

Ground 5 [the Presbyterial Commission failed to properly apply the Code of Conduct]

The Judicial Commission reserved its position and will hear Parties on the merits.
The Convener confirmed that all these decisions were unanimous.

The Commission's sitting was suspended at 1.05pm for lunch and the Commission reconvened at 1.45pm.

In respect of Grounds 3, 4, 5 and 6:

- each Party made comment supplementary to their Written Argument and was given the opportunity to make response to the Written Argument lodged by the other Party;
- each Party answered questions put to them by members of the Commission; and
- each Party was given the opportunity to make final comments, with the Appellant being given the last word.

The Parties were removed and the Commission discussed its decision. The Parties were then recalled and the decision of the Commission, including a brief oral summary of the main reason for the decision, was given by the Convener.

The decision of the Judicial Commission was:

Having considered all of the remaining grounds of appeal, the Judicial Commission decided that charge (ii) should not be upheld but charges (iv) and (vi) should be.

Ground 3 [redacted affidavits were before the Presbyterial Commission without appropriate written direction in the Presbyterial Commission's decision]

This ground of appeal is rejected. The decision of the Presbyterial Commission states that all evidence was considered. The Judicial Commission did not find anything in the Presbyterial Commission's decision which suggested that the redacted text affected or tainted the Presbyterial Commission's decision.

Ground 4 [the Presbyterial Commission erred in its drawing of conclusions on the evidence]

This ground is partly upheld and partly rejected. The Presbyterial Commission's decision had to be based on the balance of probabilities; it erred in finding charge (ii) proved. The other charges (iv) and (vi) were upheld.

On the first point, the Judicial Commission did not find any basis in the Presbyterial Commission's decision upon which to interfere with the Presbyterial Commission's approach to its consideration of the evidence.

On the second point, the Judicial Commission took the view that the Appellant is ultimately responsible for the document that was presented to the Sheriff Court. She was given the opportunity to correct it and failed to do so.

Ground 5 [the Presbyterial Commission failed to properly apply the Code of Conduct]

The Judicial Commission took the view that the Appellant, after 30 years' experience in ministry, should have been more careful in use of the term "next of kin". The Judicial Commission was satisfied that the Presbyterial Commission did not err in its decision.

Ground 6 [severity of censure]

The Judicial Commission noted that the Special Committee of Presbytery did not, before the Presbyterial Commission, seek a more severe censure than that which was imposed. The Judicial Commission took the view that the censure was not unduly lenient nor unduly severe and therefore upheld it.

The Judicial Commission took the view that the recommendation that the Appellant be offered counselling was within the powers of the Presbyterial Commission.

The Convener confirmed that all these decisions were unanimous.

The Convener confirmed that written reasons for the Commission's decision will follow within twenty one days.

The Convener thanked everyone present for their attendance. The Hearing was closed at 4.32pm with the Benediction.

MINUTE 6

COMMISSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

21 November 2019

CONCERNING THE MERGER OF THE MINISTRIES COUNCIL WITH THE MISSION AND DISCIPLESHIP COUNCIL AND THE MERGER OF THE CHURCH AND SOCIETY COUNCIL WITH THE WORLD MISSION COUNCIL AND THEN THE NAME, STRUCTURE, REMIT AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE TWO NEW GROUPINGS

At Edinburgh, and within the Assembly Hall, the 21st day of November 2019 at 10.40am.

The Commission of the General Assembly was constituted with prayer by the Moderator, the Very Rev Dr Russell Barr.

The List of Commissioners was laid on the Table.

The Commission took up consideration of a Report of the Assembly Trustees which was given in by the Very Rev Dr John Chalmers, Convener.

It was moved and seconded-

The Commission of the General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2.
 - a) Approve the merger of the work of the Ministries Council (other than as set out in paragraph 1.4.6 below and paragraphs 7 and 15 of the remit of the Faith Nurture Forum in Appendix I) with the work of the Mission and Discipleship Council under the working title Faith Nurture Forum, to take effect on 1 January 2020, and to have the structure, principal remits and membership set out in Appendix I to this Report.
 - b) Approve the merger of the work of the Church and Society Council with the work of the World Mission Council (other than as set out in paragraph 1.4.6 below and paragraphs 7 and 15 of the remit of the Faith Impact Forum in Appendix I) under the working title Faith Impact Forum, to take effect on 1 January 2020, and to have the structure, principal remits and membership set out in Appendix I to this Report.
 - c) Thank and discharge the current members of the Church and Society Council, the Ministries Council, the Mission and Discipleship Council and the World Mission Council (Section 1 and Appendix I) noting that the Ministries Council shall remain as a constituent committee of the Faith Nurture Forum and that the World Mission Council shall remain as a constituent committee of the Faith Impact Forum for the purposes of acting as the statutory employer for the Church of Scotland Pension Scheme for Ministers and Overseas Missionaries and the Church of Scotland Pension Scheme for Ministries Development Staff.
3.
 - a) Instruct the Assembly Trustees, in consultation with the Faith Nurture Forum, to identify and propose to the 2020 General Assembly a detailed remit setting out those parts of the work of the relevant former Councils which should be carried out by the Faith Nurture Forum, those parts which should be carried out by Presbyteries, those parts which it is no longer necessary to carry out and how the work of the Forum is to be prioritised as from June 2020.
 - b) Instruct the Assembly Trustees in consultation with the Faith Impact Forum to identify and propose to the 2020 General Assembly a detailed remit setting out those parts of the work of the relevant former Councils which should be carried out by the Faith Impact Forum, those parts which should be carried out by Presbyteries, those parts which it is no longer necessary to carry out and how the work of the Forum is to be prioritised as from June 2020.
4. Approve that Ecumenical Relations and the Theological Forum sit within the management and

departmental structure of the Faith Nurture Forum.

5. Approve that Interfaith work sits within the management, departmental structure and policy framework of the Faith Impact Forum.
6. Approve the Remit of the Audit Committee set out in Appendix II to this Report.

It was moved and seconded as an amendment of Sections 2 a) and b) of the Deliverance:

Add at the end of Section 2 a)

“but subject to the following amendment to paragraph 1 of Appendix I under the heading The Faith Nurture Forum:

Delete ‘or employee of the Church’ ”

Add at the end of Section 2 b)

“but subject to the following amendment to paragraph 1 of Appendix I under the heading The Faith Impact Forum:

Delete ‘or employee of the Church’ ”

On a vote being taken For or Against the amendment it carried Against.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment of Sections 2 a) and b) of the Deliverance:

Add at the end of Section 2 a)

“but subject to the following amendment to paragraph 7 of Appendix I under the heading The Faith Nurture Forum:

Delete ‘the statutory employer’ and substitute ‘one of the statutory employers.’”

Add at the end of Section 2 b)

“but subject to the following amendment to paragraph 7 of Appendix I under the heading The Faith Impact Forum:

Delete ‘the statutory employer’ and substitute ‘one of the statutory employers.’”

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment of Section 2 b) of the Deliverance:

Add at the end of Section 2 b)

“but subject to the following amendment to paragraph 23 under the heading The Faith Impact Forum:

Delete ‘five’ and substitute ‘the’

and the following amendments to the Schedule headed The Salvesen Trust

Delete paragraph 3 and substitute ‘the Trustees shall be the members of the Forum and shall serve for the period of their membership of the Forum.’

In paragraph 5, line 2 delete ‘shall’ and substitute ‘may’ ”

It was moved and seconded:

Add a new Section 4 and renumber

‘Instruct the Assembly Trustees to produce for the General Assembly of 2020 a Scheme of Delegation to clarify the relative roles and responsibilities of the Assembly Trustees and the Chief

Officer on the one hand, and the Convener and members of each Forum on the other hand, in directing the staff of the Forum in line with the overall policies set by the General Assembly.'

*On a vote being taken For or Against the amendment it carried Against.
It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment of the Deliverance:*

Add new Sections 7, 8 and 9 at the end:

7. Following the decisions made by the General Assembly of 2019 under the Report of the Special Commission on Structural Reform, authorise the Clerks to amend the Standing Orders of the General Assembly:
 - (a) to replace references as follows:
 - (i) to the "Council of Assembly" with "Assembly Trustees",
 - (ii) to the "Assembly Arrangements Committee", with the "Assembly Business Committee",
 - (iii) to the "Business Committee" with the "Procedure Committee",but with the following exceptions:
 - (iv) in SO 33. 2., delete "the Secretary of the Council of Assembly" and substitute "the Chief Officer", and
 - (v) amend SO 33. 3., to read "The Assembly Trustees, including the Administrative Trustee, as the Charity Trustees of the Unincorporated Councils and Committees of the General Assembly, shall also be Corresponding Members when not Commissioners", and
 - (b) to delete all references to "the Panel on Review and Reform".
8. Acknowledge that in terms of existing powers the Clerks will amend the Acts and Regulations of the Assembly, to replace references to the "Council of Assembly" and "Assembly Arrangements Committee" with "Assembly Trustees" and "Assembly Business Committee" respectively.
9. Following the decisions made by this Commission of Assembly of 21 November 2019:
 - (i) authorise the Clerks to amend the Standing Orders of the General Assembly to replace references to "Ministries Council" and "Mission and Discipleship Council" with "Faith Nurture Forum", and "Church and Society Council" and "World Mission Council" with "Faith Impact Forum",
 - (ii) acknowledge that in terms of existing powers the Clerks will add "Audit Committee" to the list of Standing Committees in SO 113, and
 - (iii) acknowledge that in terms of existing powers the Clerks will amend the Acts and Regulations of the Assembly, to replace references to the "Ministries Council" and "Mission and Discipleship Council" with "Faith Nurture Forum", and "Church and Society Council" and "World Mission Council" with "Faith Impact Forum".

The Deliverance as amended was then agreed.

The Commission took up consideration of a Report of the Assembly Business Committee which was given in by the Rev Fiona Smith, Convener.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Commission of the General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report in terms of section 7 of the Commission of Assembly Act (Act VI 1997).
2. Instruct the Nomination Committee to populate the Faith Nurture Forum and the Faith Impact Forum through making interim appointments of Conveners, Vice-Conveners and members, such interim appointments to be effective from 1st January 2020 until the General Assembly of 2020.
3. Instruct the Nomination Committee to bring forward to the GA of 2020 nominations for the Convener, Vice-Convener and members of each Forum, such appointments to reflect the priorities of the Forums agreed with the Assembly Trustees.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Appoint the Clerks as a Committee to Prepare the Minute.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Instruct the Legal Questions Committee to report the proceedings and decisions to the General Assembly of 2020 in terms of sections 15 and 16 of the Commission of Assembly Act (Act VI 1997).

The Commission of Assembly concluded at 12.21 pm with the Benediction pronounced by the Moderator.

ASSEMBLY HALL
EDINBURGH, 21 November 2019, 12.21 pm

MINUTE 7

COMMISSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5 May 2020

CONCERNING CERTAIN STRAIGHTFORWARD, TIME-CRITICAL AND NON-CONTROVERSIAL MATTERS REQUIRING TO BE DEALT WITH AFTER CANCELLATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2020

On 17th March 2020, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the General Assembly 2020 was cancelled.

At their meeting on 18th March 2020 the Assembly Business Committee agreed that there were certain straightforward, time-critical and non-controversial decisions which did need to be made at this time. They, therefore, requested that the Legal Questions Committee (LQC) call the Commission of Assembly appointed by the General Assembly of 2019. The Commission of Assembly Act (Act VI 1997) under "Meetings" enables the LQC to call a meeting of the Commission on its own initiative and under "Powers" says that such a Commission can "*dispose of any matter affecting the interests of the Church at home and abroad when the Church would be adversely affected by postponing consideration until the time of the next General Assembly.*"

The LQC subsequently concurred with this request.

On 20th April 2020 a Letter and Order of Proceedings was sent by email by the Principal Clerk, the Rev Dr George J Whyte, to the Commission of the General Assembly 2019. This set out in the form of a proposed deliverance, certain matters, characterised as "*straightforward, time-critical and non-controversial*", on which decisions needed to be made at this time.

The methodology proposed was as follows. Commissioners were advised that if they were happy to approve the proposed sections of deliverance they need take no action. If on the other hand they believed that one or more of the items being proposed should instead be discussed at a meeting of the Commission, they were asked to send an email to the Clerks' office by close of business on 4th May 2020 requesting a meeting of the Commission and specifying the item(s) of business which they required to be discussed. They were told that if four or more Commissioners made such a request by the deadline given then a virtual meeting of the Commission would be held on 16th May 2020.

One Commissioner replied to ask that there be a discussion as regards section 5 of the proposed deliverance. No other such requests were received. Therefore on 5th May 2020 it was recorded that the following sections of deliverance had been agreed to by the Commission of Assembly:

The Commission of the General Assembly:

1. Elect the Rev Dr Martin Fair (Arbroath: St Andrew's) as Moderator of the General Assembly 2020-2021. (*see section 1*)
2. Pass an Act uniting the Presbyteries of Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy, and St Andrews to form the Presbytery of Fife as set out in the Overture received from the Presbyteries. (*see section 2*)
3. Pass an Act uniting the Presbyteries of Aberdeen and Shetland to form the Presbytery of Aberdeen and Shetland as set out in the Overture received from the Presbyteries. (*see section 3*)
4. Pass an Act uniting the Presbyteries of Dumbarton and Greenock & Paisley to form the Presbytery of Clyde as set out in the Overture received from the Presbyteries. (*see section 4*)
5. Note the process undertaken to streamline the governance arrangements proposed, agree that membership of the Social Care Council will with effect from 1st June 2020 be reduced to 12 in accordance with a revised nomination process and thank the existing members of the Social Care Council for their

outstanding commitment and contributions. (see Report of the Social Care Council at section 5)

6. Appoint the Rev Donald McCorkindale as Convener of the Assembly Business Committee (see Report of the Nomination Committee at section 6)
7. Appoint the Rev Thom Riddell as Convener of the Social Care Council. (see Report of the Nomination Committee at section 6)
8. Make alterations to Standing Committees and Forums as set forth in the Report of Nomination Committee. (see Report of the Nomination Committee at section 6)
9. Make appointments to Trusts as set out in section 7 and as requested by these Trusts. (see section 7)
10. Agree that the Ecumenical Relations Committee shall act on behalf of the General Assembly in the dissolution of Local Ecumenical Partnerships. (see Report of the Ecumenical Relations Committee at section 8)
11. Amend Regulation I 2013 in the terms set out in the Appendix to the Report of the Assembly Business Committee. (see Report of the Assembly Business Committee at section 9)
12. Instruct the Nomination Committee to populate the Committee to Nominate the Moderator in terms of the amended Regulation I 2013.
13. Pass the Act amending the Income Protection and Ill-Health Act (Act VI 2019) as set out in the Appendix to the Report of the Faith Nurture Forum. (see Report of the Faith Nurture Forum at section 10)

In the schedule to this minute there is set out the detailed reports submitted and the appointments and legislation agreed to.

The Clerks have incorporated some minor adjustments to sections 6 and 7 in the schedule as follows:

Section 6 – Nomination Committee

Elsbeth McKay is a minister rather than a member who resigned from the Legal Questions Committee.

Section 7 – Appointments to Trusts

Ian Townsend is an additional re-appointment (as Vice-Chair) to the General Trustees.

Raymond Young's reappointment to the General Trustees is as Chair.

Harry Findlay is a re-appointment rather than a new appointment to the Trustees of the Housing and Loan Fund.

The decisions recorded in this minute will be reported to the General Assembly of 2021.

The Rev Dr George J Whyte
Principal Clerk

EDINBURGH, 5 May 2020

SCHEDULE to the Minute of the Commission of Assembly dated 5 May 2020

1. Joint Report of the Committee to Nominate the Moderator of the General Assembly and the Assembly Business Committee

As required by Regulation I 2013 the Committee to Nominate the Moderator have decided to nominate the Rev Dr Martin Fair, Minister of Arbroath: St Andrew's, as Moderator of the General Assembly 2020. It is expected that Dr Fair will initially be based in Arbroath as a parish minister, but will be available for Moderatorial duties as required. There will be a review of this situation in the summer or as conditions allow.

2. Act Uniting the Presbyteries of Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy and St. Andrews.

1. With effect from 1st January 2021 the Presbyteries of Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy and St. Andrews shall be united in terms of the Basis of Union agreed by them all.
2. The name of the united Presbytery shall be the Presbytery of Fife.
3. The Presbytery shall be a charity registered with OSCR.
4. All ministers and deacons having seats in the Presbyteries of Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy and St. Andrews in terms of Act III 2000 [as amended] shall be members of the Presbytery of Fife.
5. All Presbytery elders, whether commissioned by Kirk Session or appointed by the Presbytery, shall so long as their commission or appointment run be members of the Presbytery of Fife.
6. All property or funds belonging to or held on behalf of the Presbyteries of Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy and St. Andrews shall belong to the Presbytery of Fife. Any trust or other special funds held by the Presbyteries of Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy or St. Andrews shall, from the date of the Union, be dealt with in such a way as is competent and as may be agreed to by the united Presbytery, subject to obtaining legal advice on any question as may arise.

Initial Arrangements

1. Initially the united Presbytery shall meet on the First Saturday in February, the Third Saturday in June and the Third Saturday in September.
2. The united Presbytery's first meeting will be in St Bryce Kirk, Kirkcaldy on 6th February 2021.
3. The Presbytery shall at its first meeting appoint a Clerk.
4. The united Presbytery to establish Presbytery Office Space and administrative assistance.
5. The Presbytery shall endeavour to appoint a full-time Mission Advisor.
6. The Standing Orders for the united Presbytery to be approved by the united Presbytery at its first meeting.
7. The new Presbytery shall apply to become a charity in its own right.
8. The Committee Structure of the united Presbytery to comprise of the following: Business Committee, Nomination Committee, Board of Mission and Board of Management, with appropriate sub committees.
9. A Transition Task Group shall meet between May and December 2020 to finalize the arrangements for the initial structure and membership of the Committees and Boards of the uniting Presbytery.
10. Local Forums shall be set in place and shall meet three times per year initially mirroring the current boundaries of the Presbyteries of Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy and St. Andrews.

3. Act Uniting the Presbyteries of Aberdeen and Shetland.

1. The Presbytery of Aberdeen (SC013064) and the Presbytery of Shetland shall be united as of 1st June 2020.
2. The united Presbytery shall be made up of the existing boundaries of the Presbytery of Aberdeen and the Presbytery of Shetland.
3. The united Presbytery shall be known as the Church of Scotland Presbytery of Aberdeen and Shetland.
4. The united Presbytery shall, in the first instance, meet four times a year in September, November, March and June and at other times as it may determine from time to time.
5. The Moderator of the Presbytery shall, in the first instance, be appointed for two years.
6. The Presbytery shall, at its first meeting, appoint a Clerk and Depute Clerk.
7. The Standing Orders for the Presbytery shall be approved by the Presbytery at its first meeting.
8. The Presbytery shall have charitable status and shall retain the existing Charity Number of the Presbytery of Aberdeen (SC013064).
9. All ministers and deacons who had seats in the Presbytery of Aberdeen and of Shetland shall be members of the Presbytery of Aberdeen and Shetland.

10. All Presbytery of Aberdeen elders, whether appointed by the Presbytery or the Kirk Session, and all corresponding members of the Presbytery of Aberdeen shall be members or corresponding members of the Presbytery of Aberdeen and Shetland.
11. Three Presbytery Elders (in the first instance) from the Presbytery of Shetland (two of which, in the first instance, are Balancing Elders), whether appointed by the Presbytery or the Kirk Session, and all corresponding members of the Presbytery of Shetland shall be members (so long as their commissions run) or corresponding members of the Presbytery of Aberdeen and Shetland.
12. The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of the Presbytery of Shetland shall be transferred to the Presbytery of Aberdeen for benefit of the united Presbytery and any transference necessary shall be duly effected.

4. Act Uniting the Presbytery of Dumbarton and the Presbytery of Greenock & Paisley

1. The Presbyteries of Dumbarton and Greenock & Paisley shall be united on 1st September 2020.
2. The initial arrangements for the united Presbytery shall be as detailed in the Basis and Plan of Union appended to this Act, which has been agreed by both existing Presbyteries.
3. The name of the united Presbytery shall be the Presbytery of Clyde.
4. All ministers and deacons having seats in the Presbyteries of Dumbarton and Greenock and Paisley in terms of Act III 2000 [as amended] shall be members of Clyde Presbytery.
5. All Presbytery elders of the Presbyteries of Dumbarton and Greenock and Paisley, whether commissioned by Kirk Session or appointed by the Presbytery, shall, so long as their commissions or appointments run, be members of Clyde Presbytery.
6. All property or funds belonging to or held on behalf of the Presbyteries of Dumbarton and Greenock and Paisley shall belong to Clyde Presbytery. Any trust or other special funds held by the Presbyteries of Dumbarton and Greenock and Paisley shall, from the date of the Union, be dealt with in such a way as is competent and as may be agreed to by the united Presbytery, subject to obtaining legal advice on any question as may arise.
7. The Presbytery shall have charitable status and shall retain the existing Charity Number of the Presbytery of Greenock and Paisley (SC016779).

Basis and Plan of Union

1. The united Presbytery shall be created by uniting the existing Presbyteries of Dumbarton and Greenock and Paisley, the united Presbytery to comprise the 66 charges as at present.
2. The united Presbytery shall be known as Clyde Presbytery.
3. Initially, the united Presbytery shall meet at 7 pm on 1st September. Thereafter, the united Presbytery shall meet on such days and at such times as it shall decide and as enable it to fulfil its role and purpose as a presbytery of the Church of Scotland.
4. The united Presbytery shall meet for its first meeting in Inchinnan Parish Church. Thereafter, the united Presbytery shall meet at such locations as it shall decide.
5. The united Presbytery shall appoint a clerk and secretary at its first meeting.
6. The united Presbytery shall establish a Presbytery Office with appropriate clerical assistance. Initially, the Presbytery Office shall be at 'Homelea', Faith Avenue, Quarrier's Village, Bridge of Weir PA11 3TF.
7. The Standing Orders for the united Presbytery shall be based upon the Standing Orders of each of the existing Presbyteries and shall be approved by the united Presbytery at its first meeting.
8. The Committee Structure of the united Presbytery shall comprise the following:
9. Business Committee. Convener, Vice Convener (Nominations), Moderator, treasurer, clerk + conveners of Mission, Ministry, Local Church Review, Planning, Property and Stewardship and Finance.

Mission / Outward (including World Mission & ecumenical matters)

- Representatives from each of the Local Mission Areas
- Will support the work of the Mission Facilitator

Inward

- Ministry
- Local Church Review (to converge over 2 years)
- Planning (to converge over 2 years)
- Superintendence / Complaints
- Vacancy Procedure

Resources

- Stewardship and Finance
- Property (to converge over 2 years)
- Safeguarding

5. Report of the Social Care Council

Following a period of prayer and reflection the Social Care Council considered the debates and deliverances arising from General Assembly 2019 around the potential for it to become a more self-sustaining organisation at 'arms-length' within SC011353 and have, as was instructed, engaged with the Assembly Trustees on that issue. As a result of discussions it has become clear that there are a number of areas which require further consideration and clarification as its place within charity number SC011353 limits the degree of 'arms-length' possible at this time. However it was thought that a good starting place would be a review of the way in which the Social Care Council operates. It was believed that whilst much about the current Council arrangements were good, the size of the membership, and the way in which it conducted its business, did not give the best possible critical oversight of a large and complex social care organisation such as CrossReach which would be needed to support its efforts to become a more financially robust organisation.

Due to the increasing pressures being placed on the social care sector, in both terms of regulation and finance, it has become increasingly difficult for the current Council of 25 people to be fully engaged in overseeing and supporting its delivery of social care services by interrogating performance and strategy with the level of detailed understanding needed. The Council agenda has traditionally been heavily populated by standard reporting items from other past Councils and associated bodies who have members assigned to the Social Care Council but which are heard with no real strategic tie up to the business of these other bodies. This has detracted from the careful and critical attention needed to give the most appropriate governance to its core business. In order to overcome this problem much of the business of governance has, in effect, been carried out by an Executive Committee which meets monthly. This has led to an onerous element of double reporting, some confusion about where ultimate decisions lie, and late debate on issues already considered by Executive but where Social Care Council members might have more experience or knowledge around a certain topic.

The makeup of the Social Care Council has also brought about its own challenges. This has been the business to date of the Nomination Committee who have traditionally worked to the same process of assigning people to the Social Care Council as they have to other Church of Scotland Forums and Committees and who have necessarily had to try to balance the needs of all equally, rather than primarily focussing on what is the absolute best make up for any one Council. However it should be recognised that there has been some strength in the current make-up of the Social Care Council in helping its work to be visible to and supported by the wider Church. It has also allowed for operational decision making to be balanced with a clear theological perspective on the importance of this aspect of the Church of Scotland's ministry.

The Council therefore proposed to the Assembly Trustees in January that with effect from June 2020 its membership should be reduced to 12 people who would work under the fullest delegated authorities possible, as agreed with the Assembly Trustees, to manage operational matters whilst continuing to give the Trustees appropriate oversight of the charity as a whole. The Council would in practice work in the way that a charitable board operates in terms of its accountability to the charitable objectives, whilst recognising that overall responsibility for these remains with the Assembly Trustees. It was also proposed that whilst it would be important for this board to ensure that Christian values remained at the heart of the organisation there was a need to attract people with the appropriate skill sets needed to help think into some of the most pressing issues facing the organisation and to support good controls around

quality, regulatory and financial compliance. Finally, it was proposed that the Council should consider the name under which it would operate at a later date. All of these proposals were approved by the Assembly Trustees as being conducive to good governance.

The make-up of the new slim-lined Council was also discussed. It was agreed that there should be a Convener and Vice Convener and that at least one member should be a Church of Scotland minister. The CEO should also be a non-voting *ex officio* member. Nominations would be sought with a view to ensuring a balance of skillsets, and should take into consideration, in addition, gender balance, age, and geography. The skills and experience needed to populate this board type body as opposed to the traditional Council membership in the past were to be matched against a skills matrix allowing for the appropriate balance of skills to be available to the Council in the future. Nominations for ordinary membership were to be sought through an open process run under the oversight of the Nomination Committee. Selection for the post of Convener and Vice Convener were, in this instance, to come from within the current Social Care Council membership to allow for continuity given the complexity of the operating environment.

It was also agreed that the Convener and Vice Convener would not serve for the same time period, so that continuity could also be provided in the leadership of the Council when a period of service came to an end. Any existing members of the Social Care Council appointed to the slim-lined Council would serve for three years, and all others for four. A further period could be allowed for depending on overall time served.

The final list of names was to be proposed by the Nomination Committee before going to the General Assembly for approval.

A process for recruiting afresh to the Council in its new guise commenced in February with the support and oversight of the Nomination Committee. The Convener and Vice Convener were selected from within the membership of the Social Care Council following an open and transparent selection process, which included an interview and the taking up of references in line with selection for the Faith Nurture Forum and Faith Impact Forum. A broad call then went out through the Nominations process to attract members and with selection now complete the names are brought forward to the Commission of the General Assembly through the report of the Nomination Committee for final agreement.

The Social Care Council would wish to express sincere gratitude to all who currently serve as a member or who have given service in the past and who have generously contributed their time and talents to support its work.

In the name of the Council

THOM RIDDELL, Interim Convener

VIV DICKENSON, Council Secretary and Chief Executive of CrossReach

6. Report of the Nomination Committee

6.1 Nominations to the Faith Impact Forum and the Faith Nurture Forum

- 6.1.1 The Nomination Committee was invited to conduct a process, in September-October 2019, for the interim membership of the new Forums.
- 6.1.2 The Assembly Trustees produced a document with criteria for appointment to the new Forums. The Commission of the General Assembly in November 2019 instructed the Nomination Committee to populate the Faith Nurture Forum and the Faith Impact Forum through making interim appointments of Conveners, Vice-Conveners and members, such interim appointments to be effective from 1 January 2020 until the General Assembly of 2020. The Commission of the General Assembly is now invited to approve these.
- 6.1.3 Interviews for Convener and Vice-Convener of the Faith Nurture Forum took place in December 2019 and the Committee met to agree the names for interim appointments for membership of the forums. Due to an insufficient number of applications being received for the Faith Impact Convener ship the deadline was extended. Interviews

then took place prior to the January Committee meeting at which the remaining interim appointments were confirmed.

- 6.1.4 All of the interim appointments were subject to review and the Committee now brings forward nominations for membership to serve 1-3 years.
- 6.1.5 The names for membership of the Forums with effect from 1 June 2020 are reported within Section 6.3.

6.2. Social Care Council

- 6.2.1 The Social Care Council has brought forward proposals for a revised governance structure.
- 6.2.2 With the hope that these proposals would be agreed by the General Assembly (*now the Commission of Assembly*) nominations were sought in March 2020 of persons who might serve on the reshaped Council. A separate interview process was also conducted for the roles of Convener and Vice-Convener of the Council, in which the Nomination Committee was consulted.
- 6.2.3 The Convener and Vice-Convener of the Committee acted under delegated authority in taking decisions to bring forward nominations for the Convener, Vice-Convener and members of the Council. Such nominations reflect the desirable criteria set out in the skills matrix provided by the Social Care Council.
- 6.2.4 The names for membership of the Social Care Council with effect from 1 June 2020 are reported within Section 6.3. The Committee notes that there are still vacancies within this body and that there is an issue in terms of gender balance. It is hoped that this can be resolved under delegated powers in the near future.

6.3. Nominations for Appointment to the Unincorporated Entities

- 6.3.1 A total of 93 vacancies were considered this year. 5 vacancies remain unfilled at the time of going to print and the Committee will act under delegated authority to fill these.
- 6.3.2 The Committee noted that the Convener of the Assembly Business Committee resigned in December 2019. As the appointee is an ex officio Charity Trustee of the Unincorporated Entities, the Nomination Committee engaged with the Assembly Trustees as well as the Assembly Business Committee to ensure that processes for identifying nominations for Convener were robust and transparent and that due account was taken of the skills and qualities needed for charity trusteeship as well as for convenership. Under delegated authority the Committee approved interim arrangements for convenership. The Committee brings to the Commission of the General Assembly the nomination of the Rev Donald McCorkindale, Minister at Ardgour and Kingairloch linked with Morven linked with Strontian, as Convener of the Assembly Business Committee.
- 6.3.3 The Committee recommends the following appointments:

** denotes a reappointment*

Assembly Business Committee

Convener Resigned Fiona Smith Dec 2019

Interim Convener Appointed Donald McCorkindale Dec 2019-May 2020

Interim Vice-Convener Appointed Susan Pym Dec 2019-May 2020

Convener Appointed Donald McCorkindale (Ardgour and Kingairloch linked with Morven linked with Strontian)

Vice-Convener Appointed Susan Pym (London St Columba's)

Minister Retiring Sheila Kirk

Minister Appointed Sheila Kirk* (Deer)

Member Retiring Susan Pym

Member Appointed James Houston (Garelochhead)

Assembly Trustees

Minister Retiring Iain Torrance

Minister Resigned George Cowie

Members Retiring Sandra Carter, Gary Macfarlane, David Watt

Members Appointed Jean Couper (Glasgow Cathcart Trinity Church), David Harrison (Garelochhead), Linda Irvine (Motherwell, Dalziel St Andrew's), Geoff Miller (Glenrothes St Margaret's) Ann Nelson (Edinburgh Davidson's Mains) (1yr)

Audit Committee

Member Retiring Allan Munn

Chaplains to HM Forces Committee

Vice-Convener Retiring Carolyn MacLeod

Vice-Convener Appointed John Duncan (Leuchars St Athernase)

Member Retiring Rosemary Hoskins*

Member Resigned John Duncan

Member Appointed Jacqueline Thomson (Buckhaven and Wemyss)

Church and Society Council Discharged Dec 2019

Church Art & Architecture Committee (CARTA)

Convener Retiring Bill Hogg

Convener Appointed Bill Hogg* (1yr)

Ministers Retiring Susan Cord, Allan McCafferty*

Minister Appointed Susan Cord* (Killearnan linked with Knockbain)

Members Retiring Alasdair Donaldson*, Yvonne Grant, Gordon McFarlane*

Members Appointed James Alexander (Inverness Old High St Stephen's) (2yrs), David Inglis (Monifieth),

Yvonne Grant* (Dundee Coldside), Alistair Smith (Orwell and Portmoak) (3yrs)

Ecumenical Relations Committee

Vice-Convener Retiring Kevin Mackenzie

Vice-Convener Appointed Eileen Miller (Glenrothes St Margaret's)

Ministers Retiring Liam Fraser, Nikki Macdonald

Minister Appointed Nikki Macdonald* (The Upper Clyde), Gary Peacock (Irongray Lochrutton and Terregiles)

Minister Resigned Anikó Schütz Bradwell May 2019

Member Appointed Gemma King Jul 2019

Faith Impact Forum

Interim membership to continue as follows:

Convener Appointed Susan Brown (Dornoch Cathedral) (3yrs)

Vice-Convener Appointed Alan Miller (Stirling Church of the Holy Rude linked with Stirling Viewfield Erskine) (2yrs)

Ministers Appointed Richard Baxter (Fort William Duncansburgh MacIntosh linked with Kilmonivaig) (2yrs), Stuart Fulton (Glasgow Newlands South) (2yrs), Karen Hendry (Glasgow Yoker) (2yrs), Peter Johnston (Aberdeen Ferryhill) (3yrs), Peter Nimmo (Inverness Old High St Stephen's) (3yrs), Justin Taylor (Kirkcaldy Abbotshall) (3yrs)

Members Appointed Caroline Cowan (Edinburgh Canongate) (3yrs), Rebecca Gebauer (Glasgow Wellington) (3yrs), Maureen Jack (St Andrew's and St Leonard's) (1yr), Peter Lloyd (Perth St Matthew's) (2yrs), Valerie Macniven (Edinburgh Greenbank) (2yrs), Mary Sweetland (Lomond) (1yr), Barry Watson (Glasgow Castlemilk) (1yr)

Faith Nurture Forum

Interim membership to continue as follows:

Convener Appointed Rosemary Frew (Bowden and Melrose) (3yrs)

Vice-Convener Appointed Karen Campbell (Edinburgh Marchmont St Giles') (2yrs)

Ministers Appointed Michael Goss (Barry linked with Carnoustie) (1yr), Alan Hamilton (Bearsden Killermont) (3yrs), Fraser Macnaughton (Kirkwall St Magnus Cathedral) (1yr), Hanneke Marshall (St Machar's Ranfurly Church) (1yr), Scott McCarthy (Glasgow Garthamlock and Craigend) (2yrs), Andrew Morrice (Dunfermline East) (2yrs)

Members Appointed Lesley-Ann Calvert (Dundee The Steeple) (3yrs), Barbara Finlayson (Edinburgh St

Andrew's and St George's West) (3yrs), Stefanie Fowler (Aberdeen St Columba's Bridge of Don) (3yrs), Richard Lloyd (Dalgety) (2), Ruth Mackenzie (Peterhead New) (2), Murdo McMillan (Auchterarder) (3), Sue Thomson (Aberdeen St Columba's Bridge of Don) (1yr)

Iona Community Board

Member Retiring Morag Michael*

Minister Appointed Willie Strachan (Dundee Lochee)

Legal Questions Committee

Minister Retired Alexander Forsyth

Minister Appointed Marjory McPherson (Presbytery Clerk, Edinburgh)

Minister Resigned Sept 2018 Elspeth McKay

Member Retired Robin Stimpson*

Member Appointed David McClements (Lenzie Old), Katherine Taylor (Edinburgh Duddingston)

Appointment to Legal Bodies

Appeals Committee of the Commission of Assembly

Convener Retiring Philip Brodie

Convener appointed Philip Brodie* (St Giles' Cathedral)

Vice-Conveners Retiring Helen Jamieson*, J G Grahame Lees

Vice-Conveners appointed Janet Foggie (Pioneer Minister, Stirling University), J G Grahame Lees* (Dunblane Cathedral)

Judicial Panel

Ministers Retiring Grant Barclay, John Christie, Janet Foggie, Robin Hill

Ministers Appointed John Christie* (Dumbarton Presbytery), Robin Hill* (Gladsmuir linked with Longniddry)

Elders Retiring David Alexander, William Imlay, Colin Mackenzie, Hugh Millar, Leslie Moffat, Sam Scobie

Elders Appointed David Alexander* (Uddingston Viewpark), William Imlay*, Leslie Moffat* (Udny and Pitmedden), Sam Scobie* (Wigtown and Stranraer)

Judicial Proceedings Panel

Ministers Retiring John Ferguson, William Hewitt, Alistair May*, Val Ott*, Thomas Pollock, Sally Russell*, Lindsay Schlüter*, David Sutherland*, Alison Swindells

The Discipline of Ministry Act (Act III 2001) provides that anyone who has an active case remains on the Judicial Proceedings Panel until their case is complete. The following Ministers are retained: *William Hewitt (Kilmarnock St Andrew's and St Marnock's), Thomas Pollock (Glasgow Sherbrooke Mosspark),*

Elders Retiring Barbara Finlayson, Myrtle Gillies

Presbyterial Commission/Discipline Tribunal

Vice-Convener Withdrawn Graeme Dalgleish

Ministries Appeal Panel

Convener Retiring David Arnott

Convener Appointed Robin Stimpson

Vice-Convener Retiring Robin Stimpson (Edinburgh Morningside)

Vice-Convener Appointed Leslie Milton (Musselburgh St Andrews High)

Ministers Retiring Robert Allan, Sheila Kirk

Minister Appointed Catherine Collins (Dundee Broughty Ferry New Kirk)

Member Appointed Andrew Gibb (Edinburgh Corstorphine St Ninian's)

Life & Work Advisory Committee

Convener Retiring John Ferguson

Convener Appointed James Stewart (Perth Letham St Mark's)

Ministers Retiring Marion Dodd, Anne Paton*

Ministers Appointed Ewen Gilchrist (Scone and St Martin's), John Paterson (Lugar linked with Old Cumnock)

Ministries Council Discharged Dec 2019

Vice-Conveners Resigned Ruth Halley Jun 2019, Sarah Ross Nov 2019

Mission and Discipleship Council Discharged Dec 2019

Nomination Committee

Convener Retiring Lynsey Kimmitt

Convener Appointed Julie Rennick (Larbert West)

Minister Resigning Julie Rennick

Member Retiring Patricia McEwan

Members Appointed Christine Mackenzie (Inverness Old High St Stephen's), Iain MacLeod (Stornoway Martin's Memorial), David Murie (Dundee Broughty Ferry St James')

Registration of Ministries Committee

Vice-Convener Retiring Hazel Hastie

Vice-Convener Appointed Hazel Hastie* (Edinburgh Drylaw) (1yr)

Safeguarding Committee

Vice-Convener Retiring Caroline Deerin

Vice-Convener Appointed Caroline Deerin* (Biggar) (1yr)

Member Retiring Robert McCabe

Member Appointed Robert McCabe* (Edinburgh Palmerston Place)

Social Care Council

Convener Passed Away Bill Steele Oct 2019

Interim Convener Appointed Thomas Riddell Nov 2019-May 2020

Convener Appointed Thomas Riddell (Linlithgow St Michael's)

Vice-Convener Appointed Sarah Wood (Ceres, Kemback and Springfield)

Minister Appointed Ramsay Shields (Milngavie St Luke's)

Members Appointed Mike Cantlay (Callender), Jo Elliot (Edinburgh Greyfriars Kirk) (3yrs), John Graham (Edinburgh Mayfield Salisbury) (2yrs), Douglas Hamilton (North Berwick St Andrew Blackadder), Iain Hunter (Aberdeen Mannofield) (3yrs), Christine Johnson (Edinburgh Liberton) (3yrs)

Theological Forum

Vice-Convener Retiring Sarah Lane Ritchie

Vice-Convener Appointed Liam Fraser (Linlithgow St Michael's)

Minister Retiring Lance Stone

Minister Appointed Lance Stone* (Amsterdam)

Members Retiring Lindsay Sawyer*, Scott Spurlock

Member Appointed Paul Nimmo (Kemnay), Glen Pettigrove (Milngavie Cairns)

World Mission Council Discharged Dec 2019

Convener Resigned John Chalmers May 2019

Interim Convener Appointed Susan Brown (Dornoch Cathedral) Jun-Dec 2019

Member Resigned (the late) Peter Chirnside Jun 2019

In the name of the Committee

LYNSEY KIMMITT, *Convener*
BILL WISHART, *Vice-Convener*
DAVE KENDALL, *Secretary*

Addendum

Lynsey Kimmitt

Lynsey Kimmitt comes to the end of her term of office as Convener of the Nomination Committee this May. In serving as a member of the Committee and then as Convener, Lynsey has offered thoughtful and valued contributions to all aspects of the Committee's work. On behalf of the Committee we would like to thank Lynsey for her leadership, support and guidance and wish her well for the future.

In the name of the Committee

BILL WISHART, *Vice-Convener*

DAVE KENDALL, *Secretary*

7. Report of the Clerk – Nominations to Trusts

At the request of the Trusts listed below I bring forward the names of those the Trusts believe should be added to their number:-

Pension Trustees:

Raymond Martin (new appointment) and Lin Macmillan (change to Employer Nominated Trustee)

General Trustees:

Richard Bell, Robert Bell, Nigel Hicks, Kenneth Mackenzie, and Scott Rennie (new appointments)
Ian Townsend (as Vice-Chair), Raymond Young (as Chair) (re-appointments)

Church of Scotland Trust:

Iain Cunningham and Christopher Mackay (both to be re-appointed)

Church of Scotland Investors Trust:

Susan Boyd (new appointment), David D Campbell and Thomas M Walker (both to be re-appointed)

Housing and Loan Fund:

Harry D W Findlay (re-appointment)

GEORGE J WHYTE, *Principal Clerk*

8. Report of the Committee on Ecumenical Relations

In the course of engagement with presbyteries, the question of the dissolution of a Local Ecumenical Partnership (a "LEP") is an issue that has been raised. In general terms, the dissolution of a LEP to which the Church of Scotland is a party requires the consent of the General Assembly. In order to facilitate any such dissolution, should such an action be proposed, the Committee requests that it be granted powers to act, in consultation with the Principal Clerk, the Law Department and the relevant Presbytery, on behalf of the General Assembly with respect to the dissolution of a LEP.

In the name of the Committee

ALEXANDER HORSBURGH, *Convener*

JOHN McPAKE, *Secretary*

9. Report of the Assembly Business Committee

In 2013 the General Assembly agreed to change the process by which an Assembly received at its opening session a nomination for the person to be the Moderator for the ensuing year.

Previously there had been a large Committee formed by a representative from each Presbytery and some former Moderators. This Committee itself said that the process was unsatisfactory.

After discussion it was agreed that instead each General Assembly would elect from its own number a Nomination Committee of fifteen persons to nominate a candidate to the following year's Assembly. This was seen to be a parallel to the Nominating Committee elected by a congregation in a time of vacancy. The whole church membership would be invited to recommend people to the Committee and because of its reduced size this new format of Nomination Committee could meet prospective candidates for a discussion – an opportunity which the previous body with perhaps fifty members could not practicably do.

However, experience has shown us that Commissioners have not demonstrated any great enthusiasm for putting forward names for election to the Nomination Committee which has meant that the Selection Committee has had to meet on several occasions to fill in the gaps. In addition, there have also been occasions when several members of one Presbytery have been elected and once there were three members of the same congregation appointed.

The Assembly Business Committee would therefore like to propose that the Regulation I 2013 which sets out the process for the Nomination of the Moderator should be amended so that the Committee to Nominate the Moderator would be populated in the same way as every other Committee, Council and Forum is populated – namely through the work of the Nomination Committee of the General Assembly. In this way the General Assembly would still appoint the Committee to Nominate the Moderator but the Nomination Committee could ensure that there was an appropriate breadth of membership.

In the exceptional circumstances of the coronavirus pandemic what is being proposed is that firstly the Regulation is amended in the way set out above and since the 2020 General Assembly has been cancelled that the Nomination Committee should work over the next few months to appoint the Committee to Nominate the Moderator for 2021. This will mean that this Committee can carry out its work in the summer and autumn of this year as the Regulation stipulates. Next year, if all is well, the Nomination Committee would bring the list of names to the General Assembly for approval in the usual way.

The Assembly Business Committee seeks the approval of the Commission of Assembly for the amendment and the use of this temporary process.

In the name of the Committee

DONALD McCORKINDALE, *Convener*
GEORGE J WHYTE, *Secretary*

Appendix to Report of the Assembly Business Committee

I. NOMINATION OF THE MODERATOR OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGULATIONS

Edinburgh, [] May 2020

If the amendments are approved these Regulations shall take effect from 1 June 2020 and in the following form:-

Definitions

1. In these Regulations, the following definitions apply:
 - (1) 'the Committee' shall mean the Committee to Nominate the Moderator referred to in Regulation 2;
 - (2) "minister" includes an individual who has been ordained to ministry as defined in section 1(d) of the Selection and Training for Full-Time Ministry Act (Act X 2004), an individual who has been ordained to ministry as defined in the Ordained Local Ministry Act (Act IX 2011) and an individual who has been ordained to ministry as defined in the Auxiliary Ministry Act (Act XIII 2003).
 - (3) "deacon" shall mean an individual who has been ordained to ministry as defined in the Deacons Act (Act VIII 2010).
 - (4) 'elder' shall mean a person ordained to that office (whether or not he or she is a member of a Kirk Session) who is neither a minister nor a deacon; and
 - (5) 'the Moderator-Designate' shall mean the person nominated by the Committee to be Moderator of the next General Assembly.

Appointment of a Committee to Nominate the Moderator

2. The Moderator of the General Assembly shall be nominated by a Committee of up to fifteen persons, comprising up to eight ministers and deacons and up to seven elders. All members of the Committee shall be appointed by the General Assembly through the nomination procedure on the recommendation of the Nomination Committee, which shall seek to recommend a Committee which is representative of the diversity of the whole Church.
3. The Committee shall be convened by the immediate past-Moderator of the General Assembly whom failing by another former Moderator of the General Assembly. Where the Committee is convened by another former Moderator, the same former Moderator shall not convene the Committee in consecutive years. The Convener of the Committee shall not be a member of the Committee. The clerk to the Committee, who shall not be a member of the Committee, shall be the Principal or Depute

- Clerk whom failing another suitable person selected by the Committee from outwith its membership.
4. Members of the Committee shall serve for a period of one year only. No-one may be a member of the Committee more than once in any three year period.
 5. In the event of the death, resignation or supervening incapacity of persons on the Committee such that the number of ministers and deacons on the Committee drops below six or the number of elders drops below five, steps shall be taken to bring the number of ministers and deacons back up to six or the number of elders back up to five, as the case may be, by seeking further recommendations of suitable appointees from the Nomination Committee.

Process at the Committee to Nominate the Moderator

6. The Committee shall receive recommendations from any member of the Church of Scotland (excluding members of the Committee, who shall not be eligible to make recommendations) of names of ministers, deacons or elders proposed as the next Moderator. The Committee shall take reasonable steps to publicise its willingness to receive recommendations, which recommendations may be submitted to any member of the Committee or to the Office of the General Assembly.
7. The Committee itself shall decide how best to proceed in its task in a fair and efficient manner having due regard to confidentiality at all stages. The quorum for meetings of the Committee shall be nine persons.
8. In considering persons recommended to it, the Committee shall:
 - (1) consider the circumstances of the Church;
 - (2) having sought the advice of the immediate three past Moderators, decide the gifts, experience and other qualities which are required for the post of Moderator in order to benefit the Church and the kingdom of God and examine the candidates in the light of these requirements ;
 - (3) prepare a short-list from among the recommendations which it has received;
 - (4) obtain the consent of each person on the short list to be nominated as Moderator, if chosen, together with a full curriculum vitae and such other information as it considers to be helpful;
 - (5) meet with all persons on the short list; and
 - (6) select its nominee from among those on the short-list or, if this is not possible, prepare another short-list from which to select its nominee.
9. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, the Committee shall inform the Principal Clerk of the name of the Moderator-Designate no later than 31 October each year. Thereafter, the name of the Moderator-Designate shall be made public by the Principal Clerk.
10. In the event of the death, resignation or supervening incapacity of the Moderator-Designate, the Convener of the Committee shall call an extraordinary meeting of the Committee for the purpose of nominating another person to be Moderator. The Committee shall follow regulations 7 and 8 insofar as they are able to do so in the circumstances and shall nominate another person to be Moderator from among those recommended in terms of regulation 6.
11. In the event of any difficulty inhibiting process in terms of these regulations, the Committee shall have a general discretionary power to take any other steps appropriate in the circumstances to fulfil the intention of these regulations.

10. Report of the Faith Nurture Forum – Amending the Ill-Health Act (Act VI 2019)

The General Assembly of 2019 received the report of the formal Consultation regarding ill health provisions for ministers, and passed the new Income Protection and Ill Health Act. On that basis the Faith Nurture Forum proceeded to have these provisions underwritten in order to renew the Income Protection (“IP”) contract as anticipated in January 2020.

Our brokers, PwC, consulted but it subsequently proved impossible to achieve this, as neither our current IP provider nor the wider market was willing to underwrite on the terms agreed. It was possible for IP provision to be payable at 52 weeks as proposed, but no providers were willing to allow stipend to be paid beyond that point as agreed at the General Assembly of 2019.

Following endorsement by the Faith Nurture Forum, a further period of Consultation with eligible members took place during November 2019 with the proposal of IP provision to commence at 78 weeks (instead of 52 weeks) which would allow payment of stipend up to 18 months (or state retirement age if earlier) as agreed previously by the Forum and the General Assembly in 2019.

The revised proposal was accepted by the majority of members who responded, and achieves much that was sought at the outset: reduction in the deferment period for IP assessment (from 104 weeks to 78 weeks); clarity around receipt of stipend; the bringing together of these combined provisions into the framework of the new Act; and renewal of the IP contract from January 2020 as anticipated. It was thought then that there would be ample time to bring the necessary amendments to the Act as passed to the General Assembly of 2020, which would have occurred before those who are eligible for IP assessment come under the new Act's terms.

What the revised proposal did not achieve was having the final decision for IP eligibility at 52 weeks, which would have allowed earlier clarity for those facing long term ill health.

The renewal of the IP contract from January 2020 on this basis has now been approved and actioned within the Forum, and the proposed revisions to the Income Protection and Ill Health Act now reflect these changes.

Section 9 has been re-written to make clearer the financial provisions for those eligible for IP assessment/ those not eligible for IP assessment (due to the fact they will have reached their state retirement age). This is not seeking to change anything that was agreed at the General Assembly of 2019, but instead makes this more clear in practice and process. Payment for those eligible for IP is to 18 months (18 months is the IP deferred period while demission/severance occurs at 15 months as per the Act). Payment for those not eligible for IP is to 15 months (when demission/severance occurs as per the Act).

The rationale of the Forum decision to pay stipend to those eligible for IP assessment to 18 months was to provide a cushion of income during a time when much readjustment would take place – moving manse, family, community, and ongoing reduction in income. These circumstances differ from those reaching state retirement age (and therefore not eligible for IP assessment), as they would have access to state pension benefits, and other pension benefits by virtue of their age at the date of demission/severance of tie.

It will be important to have these Ill Health provisions agreed by the Commission so that the IP contract now renewed at January 2020 and the Act are in synch for those who will come under its provisions this year.

In the name of the Forum

ROSEMARY FREW, *Convener*
ANGUS MATHIESON, *Interim Head*

Appendix to Report of the Faith Nurture Forum

[] ACT AMENDING THE INCOME PROTECTION AND ILL-HEALTH ACT (ACT VI 2019)

Edinburgh, [] May 2020

The General Assembly hereby enact and ordain that the Income Protection and Ill-Health Act (Act VI 2019), shall be amended as follows:

1. *Amend the definition of "Income Protection by deleting "fifty-two" and substituting "seventy-eight".*
 2. *Delete the existing section 7(2)(d) and re-letter subsequent paragraphs accordingly.*
 3. *Delete the existing section 9 and substitute the following:*
- "9. (1) A minister who is absent in terms of this Act and who is eligible to be assessed for Income Protection benefit shall be considered as follows:
- (a) He or she shall be entitled to receive payment of an amount equivalent to (i) full stipend appropriate to the charge and years of service at the date absence commenced, (ii) the appropriate employer's pension contribution, and (iii) if applicable, Car Allowance, all subject to deduction of tax and National Insurance contributions, for one or other of the following periods:

- (A) where this Act is triggered by six months' continuous absence, a maximum period of eighteen months in total from when the absence commenced, or
 - (B) where this Act is triggered by an absence of 300 days out of a twenty-two-month period, during that absence and then for a maximum further period of twelve months from the Trigger Date.
- (b) Subject to sections 9(1)(c) and 9(1)(d), where such a minister is found, in terms of the final Medical Assessment, to be eligible for Income Protection, he or she shall be entitled to receive payment of an amount equivalent to one third of stipend appropriate to the charge and years of service at the date absence commenced (subject to appropriate deductions) plus the appropriate employer's pension contribution. Payment will begin on:
- (i) where this Act is triggered by six months' continuous absence, the date eighteen months after absence commenced, or
 - (ii) where this Act is triggered by an absence of 300 days out of a twenty-two-month period, the date twelve months after the Trigger Date.
- Payment will continue until the minister is assessed by the Income Protection Provider as able to return to work, or as no longer eligible for Income Protection, or until the date of the minister's UK State Pension Age, whichever of the three is earliest.
- (c) During the whole time that a minister is in receipt of payments in terms of this section 9(1), the minister shall require to provide regular medical certificates (fit notes) to the Forum.
 - (d) The minister's eligibility for Income Protection will be determined according to the rules and procedures of the Income Protection Provider as they exist from time to time, which rules may include regular reassessment of the minister as to eligibility.
 - (e) The amount payable to the minister in terms of this section 9(1) may be reduced if income over a certain amount (determined by the Income Protection Provider) is earned by the minister while he or she is in receipt of payments under section 9(1).
- (2) A minister who is absent in terms of this Act and who is not eligible to be assessed for Income Protection benefit shall be considered as follows:
- He or she shall be entitled to receive an amount equivalent to (i) full stipend appropriate to the charge and years of service at the date absence commenced, (ii) the appropriate employer's pension contribution, and (iii) if applicable, Car Allowance, all subject to deduction of tax and National Insurance contributions, for one or other of the following periods:
- (i) where this Act is triggered by six months' continuous absence, a maximum period of fifteen months in total from when the absence commenced, or
 - (ii) where this Act is triggered by an absence of 300 days out of a twenty-two-month period, during that absence and then for a maximum further period of nine months from the Trigger Date;
- (3) Notwithstanding sections 9(1) and (2), the Forum may agree that a minister who is absent in terms of this Act may, once payments under section 9(1) or (2) have expired and where the pastoral tie has not been severed, receive payment equivalent to one-third of stipend appropriate to the charge and years of service at the date absence commenced (subject to appropriate deductions) and employer's pension contribution, for such period as it may determine is appropriate, in its sole discretion, in the following circumstances:
- (a) the minister falls under section 8(1) and the Presbytery has not severed the pastoral tie because the minister is undergoing medical treatment and the prognosis is that he or she will be able to return to work imminently; or
 - (b) the absence of the minister has resulted from more than one unrelated health cause in succession and it has not yet been possible to carry out a Medical Assessment for that reason; or
 - (c) the minister is awaiting the outcome of a review/appeal under section 12(2) or 12(3);
- Provided always that in no circumstances shall any payments be made beyond the date which is the earlier of (i) twenty-four months from when absence commenced or (ii) eighteen months from the Trigger Date."

4. *In section 10(2)(b) change "7(2)(h)" to "7(2)(g)".*

5. *In section 12(1) change "7(2)(g) or (h)" to "7(2)(f) or (g)".*

MINUTE 8

COMMISSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

7 July 2020

CONCERNING (1) A PROTOCOL FOR VACANCY PROCEDURE DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AND (2) VIDEO-CONFERENCED MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERIES AND KIRK SESSIONS, BOTH UNTIL THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

At Edinburgh, and within the Assembly Hall, and also via video-conference using Microsoft Teams, on the 7th day of July 2020 at 4.09pm.

The Commission of the General Assembly was constituted with prayer by the Moderator, the Rev Dr Martin Fair.

The List of Commissioners was laid on the Table.

The Commission called for the Report of the Procedure Committee which was given in by the Rev Donald McCorkindale, Convener.

The Commission took up consideration of a Report of the Legal Questions Committee which was given in by the Rev Dr Grant Barclay, Convener.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

The Commission of the General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Agree that until the opening day of the next General Assembly it shall be permissible for a Presbytery to sustain a Call by following a vacancy process which follows the terms of the Ministers and Deacons in Civil Partnerships and Same Sex Marriages Act (Act I 2015) and the Vacancy Procedure Act (Act VIII 2003) save only to the extent that those are altered by the Protocol set out in the Report.
3. Agree that the Protocol set out in the Report may subsequently be amended as directed by the Legal Questions Committee but only to the extent necessary to reflect changes in civil legislation.
4. Agree that until the opening day of the next General Assembly both Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions may meet and vote by video-conferencing or audio-conferencing or a combination of the two, provided that the principles stated in the Protocol set out in the Report shall be adhered to by all involved.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Appoint the Clerks as a Committee to Prepare the Minute.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Instruct the Legal Questions Committee to report the proceedings and decisions of the Commission of Assembly to the next General Assembly in terms of sections 15 and 16 of the Commission of Assembly Act (Act VI 1997).

The Commission of Assembly concluded at 4.47pm with the Benediction pronounced by the Moderator.

ASSEMBLY HALL, EDINBURGH
and online via video-conference
7 July 2020, 4.47pm

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2020

STANDING ORDERS

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I. COMMISSIONS

1. **Roll of Presbytery.**

Each Presbytery Clerk shall, by 15 December of each year, transmit to the Clerks of Assembly the number of charges, appointments and deacons specified in sections 2 and 4 of Act III 2000 (as amended) – all as at 30 November immediately preceding.

2. **Presbyterial Representation.**

The Clerks of Assembly will thereafter intimate to Presbyteries what will be their representation in the ensuing Assembly. Any queries shall be settled by the Assembly Business Committee at the request of the Clerks. The decision of the Assembly Business Committee shall be subject to review by the Assembly on Petition by the Presbytery concerned.

3. **Question Arising.**

Should there arise between the month of December and the opening of the Assembly any question regarding representation not provided for in these Orders, the Assembly Business Committee shall have power to dispose thereof.

4. **Transmission of names and details of Commissioners.**

The names, in alphabetical order, full postal addresses, email addresses, charges and types of commission (ie minister, deacon or elder) of Commissioners from Presbyteries, shall be transmitted by Presbytery Clerks to the Clerks of Assembly not later than 31 January in each year so far as they have been elected by that time. In transmitting the names of Commissioners to the Clerks of Assembly, the Clerk of each Presbytery is certifying that to the best of his or her knowledge the Elders named therein are bona fide ruling Elders and are commissioned by the Presbytery.

5. **Committee on Commissions.**

The Committee on Commissions shall consist of the Clerks and the Convener of the Assembly Business Committee; the Principal Clerk shall be Convener. The Committee shall prepare and print a list of Commissioners for submission to the Assembly. Along with the said list a copy of the Standing Orders of the General Assembly shall be made available to each member. The Clerks shall arrange to forward to each Commissioner, at least one week before the opening day of the Assembly, an electronic copy (unless a hard copy has been previously requested) of the volume of Reports and Proposed Deliverances and a copy of all Assembly Papers then available.

6. **Objections.**

During the sittings of the Assembly, the Committee on Commissions shall, if called upon, or if it shall appear to it necessary or expedient so to do, hear any person whose Commission is objected to in support of his or her Commission, and also any person or persons who may object to such Commission, and the Committee on Commissions shall have power to settle any such matters.

7. **Late Commissions.**

It shall be competent at any time prior to the opening of the Assembly to lodge with the Clerks of Assembly Commissions which have not previously been transmitted to them; and the Committee on Commissions shall settle any queries as to whether or not such Commissions are valid. Once the Assembly has opened and the Roll of Commissioners has been laid on the table, no further Commissions may be received.

8. ***Number not currently used.***

II. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

(a) **OPENING SESSION**

9. Convening.

The Commissioners elected to serve in the Assembly shall convene on the day and at the hour fixed for the meeting of the Assembly, and, after prayer by the Moderator of the preceding Assembly, the List of Commissioners shall be laid on the table.

10. Election of Moderator.

The election of a Moderator shall then be made.

11. Her Majesty's Commission.

Her Majesty's Commission to the Lord High Commissioner shall then be read and ordered to be recorded.

12. Her Majesty's Letter.

Her Majesty's Letter to the Assembly shall then be read and a Committee shall be appointed to prepare an answer thereto.

13. Standing Orders.

The Standing Orders shall be laid on the table.

14. Committee on Commissions.

The Report of the Committee on Commissions (SO 5) shall be called for and disposed of.

15. Order of Business.

The Assembly shall appoint a Procedure Committee, the Convener and Vice-Convener thereof normally to be the Convener and Vice-Convener respectively of the Assembly Business Committee. The Assembly Business Committee shall prepare and submit at the opening session an Order of Business for the first two days.

(b) PROCEDURE COMMITTEE

16. The Procedure Committee shall consist of the Convener and Vice-Convener, plus the Moderator, the Clerks, the Procurator and the Law Agent.

17. First Meeting.

The Procedure Committee shall meet on the opening day of the Assembly as intimated and thereafter as business may require. At its first meeting it shall consider the Draft Order of Business which shall have been prepared by the Assembly Business Committee for the business of the Assembly subsequent to the first two days, and shall be wholly responsible therefor.

18. Selection Committee.

Commissioners to the General Assembly shall be free to nominate other commissioners to serve on the Selection Committee. The names of those proposed shall be brought before the first meeting of the Procedure Committee which, in turn and without being limited to those names proposed by commissioners who are not among its members, shall nominate a Selection Committee of twenty commissioners, including a Convener and Vice-Convener, whose function it shall be to select and submit to the Assembly for their approval names of persons to serve on all Special Commissions and Committees appointed during the sittings of the Assembly. Such persons need not be commissioners.

19. Communications.

All letters addressed to the Moderator for the purpose of being communicated to the Assembly shall, in the first instance, be laid before the Procedure Committee, which shall advise the Moderator as to their disposal.

20. Paper through Boxes.

Requests for permission to distribute material through Members' boxes should be submitted to the Assembly Business Committee before the commencement of the Assembly, and requests received

thereafter shall be submitted to the Procedure Committee. Any other Committee concerned should be informed and supplied with copies, if available, of the material to be distributed.

(c) DEVOTIONAL EXERCISES

21. The Lord's Supper.

The Assembly shall celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at a time appointed by the General Assembly at its opening session.

22. Acts of Worship.

The Moderator shall be responsible to the Assembly for the conduct of all acts of worship, and shall consult the Assembly Business Committee or the Procedure Committee anent any proposed innovation in such conduct.

(d) MISCELLANEOUS

23. Minutes.

The minutes of each day's proceedings, if available, together with the Agenda for the following day or days, intimations of meetings of Committees, and Notices of Motion, shall be printed as the "Assembly Papers", and shall be made available for all members. The Minutes, being taken as read and full opportunity having been given for correction, shall be approved as available. It shall always be in order at the close of any particular item of business to move that the Minute thereanent be adjusted and approved. Before the dissolution of the Assembly a small Committee, appointed for the purpose, shall be authorised to approve the Minutes not already approved by the Assembly.

24. Quorum.

The quorum of the Assembly shall be thirty-one, of whom not less than sixteen shall be Ministers. Any Member may at any time call the attention of the Moderator to the fact that there is not a quorum present, and if, on a count being made, it is found that such is the case, it shall be the duty of the Moderator to suspend or adjourn the session.

25. Tellers.

The Assembly Business Committee shall submit for the approval of the Assembly at their first session a proposed Panel of Tellers. (See SO 105.)

26. Printing of Acts.

The Committee on Commissions (SO 5) shall arrange for the printing of the Acts of Assembly and shall print in the Assembly Papers of the penultimate day an Interim Report thereon, which shall be considered on the last day of the Assembly.

27. Examination of Records.

Minutes of the Standing Committees of the Assembly shall be examined by the Legal Questions Committee. The Committee shall report thereanent to the General Assembly.

28. Returns to Overtures.

- (a) A Committee on Overtures and Cases, consisting of the Clerks, Procurator and Law Agent of the Church (with the Principal Clerk as Convener) shall advise any Committee or individual on the procedure to be followed in respect of measures requiring process under the Barrier Act.
- (b) For the avoidance of doubt, measures other than Acts of Assembly may be referred for the consideration of Presbyteries, in which case they shall be presented to the General Assembly in the form of an Overture set out as an Act.
- (c) For the avoidance of doubt, it is open to the General Assembly to decline to consider any motion of which it believes inadequate notice has been given, considering the nature of its content.
- (d) Measures remitted to Presbyteries by an Overture under the Barrier Act shall be accompanied by a note of the voting figures in the General Assembly, the text of the relevant Report and a note by the Clerks explaining any technical or legal matters contained in the Overture.

- (e) All Presbyteries shall make a return in respect of every Overture sent down under the Barrier Act. The return shall be made upon the schedule sent electronically to the Presbytery Clerk for the purpose, transmitted to the Clerks of Assembly, and then submitted to the Committee on Overtures and Cases. The Committee shall classify the returns and make a report to the next Assembly. It shall be the duty of the Committee to report not only the number of Presbyteries for and against an Overture, but also the numbers voting in the Presbyteries as reported in the schedule.
- (f) The Report of the Committee shall include the text of such Overtures as have been approved by a majority of Presbyteries.
- (g) The Assembly Business Committee shall ensure that the Committee's Report classifying returns is taken by the General Assembly no later than session 2 thereof, and in any case before any debate that in the opinion of the Committee on Overtures and Cases would more usefully follow consideration of the Committee's Report.
- (h) The Report of the Committee shall be given in to the Assembly by the Principal Clerk, with the reply to the debate on the merits of the measure given by the relevant Convener. Both should be available to answer questions, as appropriate.

29. Special Commissions and Committees.

Special Commissions or Committees will only be appointed where the General Assembly has no existing Standing Committee to which the matter under consideration can, in all the circumstances, properly be remitted. In normal circumstances, business proposed by Councils or Committees of the General Assembly or proposed by Commissioners in the course of debate shall be remitted to one or more of the appropriate Standing Committees listed in SO 113. When, from time to time, a Standing Committee requires to co-opt relevant expertise in order to fulfil the work remitted to it by the General Assembly, it should acknowledge the same in its Report to the General Assembly.

30. Closing of Assembly.

When the business set down for the last day of the Assembly has been disposed of, the Assembly shall be closed by addresses by the Moderator to the Assembly and to the Lord High Commissioner, and by an address by the Lord High Commissioner to the Assembly, during an act of worship, and dissolved according to the practice of the Church.

III. MEMBERS NOT COMMISSIONERS

(a) MEMBERS *ex officio*

- 31.** These are the Moderator of the Assembly, on election, and the immediately preceding Moderator, the Clerks, Procurator, and Law Agent, and also the Convener and Vice-Convener of the Procedure Committee upon their election.

They have all the rights and privileges of Commissioners.

(b) CORRESPONDING MEMBERS, DELEGATES AND VISITORS – DEFINITION

- 32.** Corresponding Members. Representatives of Departments and Standing Committees as stated in SO 33.

Delegates from other Churches. Representatives of other Churches who come in response to an invitation from the Principal Clerk sent at the request of the Faith Impact Forum or from the Committee on Ecumenical Relations to their Church to send a delegate or delegates to the General Assembly and who are duly accredited by the Courts or equivalent authority of their Churches.

Visitors. Visitors from other Churches who come with a Letter of Introduction from Assembly or Presbytery Clerks or equivalent officer of their Church.

33. Corresponding Members.

1. (a) The following shall have the right to appoint Corresponding Members in terms of (b) below:
 Assembly Trustees, Faith Nurture Forum, Faith Impact Forum, Social Care Council, Committee on Church Art and Architecture, Central Services Committee, Ecumenical Relations Committee, General Trustees, Church of Scotland Guild, Trustees of the Housing and Loan Fund, the Nomination Committee, Safeguarding Committee, Stewardship and Finance Committee, the Church of Scotland Pension Trustees and the Theological Forum.
- (b) Each of the above shall appoint for each day a member or staff-member to act as Corresponding Member, and will advise the Assembly Business Committee not less than one week before the commencement of the General Assembly of the names of the Corresponding Members appointed for each day. The names of Corresponding Members appointed under this Standing Order shall be printed in the Assembly Papers.
2. The Chief Officer, the Heads of the Faith Nurture Forum and Faith Impact Forum, the Secretary of the Social Care Council, the Ecumenical Officer, the Editor of Life and Work, the General Treasurer, the Head of Stewardship, the Head of Human Resources, the Convener of the Nomination Committee, the Scottish Churches' Parliamentary Officer and the Head of Communications shall be Corresponding Members when not Commissioners.
3. The Assembly Trustees, including the Administrative Trustee, as the Charity Trustees of the Unincorporated Councils and Committees of the General Assembly, shall also be Corresponding Members when not Commissioners.

34. Status.

Corresponding Members of Assembly shall be entitled to attend all sessions of the same and to speak on any matter before the Assembly affecting the interests of their Council or Committee, where applicable, but shall not have the right to vote or make a motion.

(c) YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES

35. Status

- (i) One person between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five on the opening day of the General Assembly shall, if possible, be appointed by each Presbytery to serve as a Youth Representative; each Representative shall be involved in the life of a congregation within the bounds of the Presbytery and be regularly involved in the life and worship of the Church of Scotland. The minister of the congregation shall provide confirmation of this involvement if asked by the Faith Nurture Forum.
- (ii) The National Youth Assembly each year shall appoint ten of its own number, being between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five on the opening day of the following General Assembly, to serve as Youth Representatives to that General Assembly.
- (iii) Youth Representatives shall be entitled to speak and move motions but not to vote:
 during debates on Committee reports
 during debates on Overtures
- (iv) Youth Representatives shall not be entitled to speak, move motions or vote:
 during debates on Petitions or cases
 during debates on matters affecting General Assembly procedure or Standing Orders
- (v) Youth Representatives shall not be members of the Commission of Assembly.

Oversight

- (vi) The Faith Nurture Forum shall take responsibility for Youth Representatives and shall extend to them appropriate hospitality.

(d) DELEGATES AND VISITORS

36. Reception.

Delegates from other Churches shall be received and welcomed by the Moderator. The Assembly Business Committee is authorised, after consultation with the Faith Impact Forum and the Ecumenical Relations Committee, to recommend to the Moderator to invite two specified delegates to convey greetings briefly after all the delegates have been received and welcomed by the Moderator.

37. Status.

- (i) Delegates to the Assembly shall have the right to attend all sessions and to speak on all matters before the Assembly, except when the Assembly are exercising judicial functions, but shall not have the right to vote.
- (ii) Visitors shall have the privilege of seats in the Assembly but without the right to speak or vote. As in the case of Delegates, the officials of the Faith Impact Forum, the Ecumenical Relations Committee, or other relevant Council or Committee shall extend appropriate hospitality to Visitors.

38. Oversight.

The officials of the Faith Impact Forum, the Ecumenical Relations Committee, and other Councils or Committees which may be interested in Delegates, shall see that Invitations to Assembly functions are procured for the Delegates, and that the Members of Assembly shall do everything in their power to make the visits of all the Delegates pleasant and profitable.

(e) NON-MEMBERS

39. Guest Speakers.

Where any Committee wishes that one of its members or staff members, not being a Member of Assembly, should have an opportunity of addressing the Assembly in connection with the discussion of its Report, the Convener shall, before the commencement of the debate, (i) obtain the permission of the Convener of the Procedure Committee, and (ii) inform the Moderator. Where any Committee wishes that a person, not being a Member of Assembly or member or staff member of that Committee, should address the Assembly, the Convener shall submit the name of such person for approval to the Assembly Business Committee before the Assembly opens, or to the Procedure Committee during the sittings of the Assembly, and the decision of the Assembly Business Committee or Procedure Committee shall be final, unless the Assembly themselves shall resolve in terms of SO 129 hereof to dispense with the observance of Standing Orders in respect of that particular matter.

40. Conference Sessions.

The Assembly Business Committee, or the Procedure Committee, in consultation with other Councils and Committees as appropriate may invite the General Assembly to meet in conference sessions and arrange for guest speakers to address such sessions. Councils and Committees shall also be free to invite guests, whom they consider to have a particular interest in the matter under discussion, to participate in the debate. When the General Assembly is meeting in conference no resolutions shall be framed or decisions taken. Expert speakers invited to address the conference shall be allowed a maximum time of fifteen minutes. All other speeches shall be limited to five minutes.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OVERTURES

(a) REPORTS

41. Transmission.

Reports of all Committees reporting to the Assembly shall be transmitted to the Clerks of Assembly not later than the first Monday after the third Tuesday in February each year provided that, by arrangement with the Clerk of Assembly, a Statement and Proposed Deliverance on the Budget of the Church, report on Congregational Statistics as reported by Kirk Sessions through Presbyteries and report on Statistics of Ministry may be submitted at a later date, but in time to be printed and forwarded with the Reports. All Reports shall be accompanied by the Deliverance to be proposed to the Assembly, and when the Proposed Deliverance exceeds two sections each section shall be numbered consecutively.

42. Printing.

It shall be the duty of the Clerks to arrange for all such Reports and Proposed Deliverances to be printed in the authorised form, to be stitched together, paged, and for a copy to be forwarded to each Member of Assembly at least one week before the day of meeting. All Reports so distributed shall be held as read. Each Committee shall immediately after the rising of the Assembly furnish the publisher of the Reports with the number required for circulation.

43. Oral Reports and Reports of Sub-Committees.

Oral Reports shall not be received, and no Sub-Committee shall give any Report to the Assembly.

44. In Retentis.

Reports shall not be engrossed in the Minutes, but two copies of each printed Report certified by one of the Clerks as being that given to the Assembly, shall be kept in retentis; and the Reports thus collected shall be bound up in volume to be preserved among the other Records of the Assembly.

45. Questions on Reports.

After the Deliverance on the Report of any Committee has been moved and seconded the Assembly, before dealing with any other motions or amendments thereon, shall have opportunity for asking questions on the Report, this being without prejudice to the right of Members to put questions, with the leave of the Assembly, at any subsequent stage.

46. Questions requiring Notice.

It shall be in order to ask questions of the Convener regarding any matter in the care of the Committee to which no reference is made in the Report but in such cases timeous notice shall be given to the Convener.

47. Deliverance.

The final Deliverance of the Assembly upon the Report of any Committee shall follow immediately after the consideration of that Report, except in the event of a special reason for the contrary having been approved by the Assembly and recorded in the Minutes.

48. Late Reports.

Reports of Committees appointed during the sittings of Assembly, if they propose any motion not already printed, shall be put into the hands of the Clerks of Assembly at least one day prior to their being considered, and printed in the "Assembly Papers".

(b) OVERTURES

49. Transmissions.

All Overtures from Presbyteries passed on or before 24 April shall be sent to the Clerks of Assembly not later than that date in each year. Overtures from Commissioners shall be lodged with the Clerks not later than noon on the third last day of the meeting of the Assembly, unless the Assembly for special reason decide otherwise.

50. Printing.

The Clerks shall arrange for the printing of Overtures, at the expense of those promoting them and for their circulation to Commissioners, either with the papers for Cases or in the "Assembly Papers".

51. Form.

Overtures should contain a brief statement of the matter to be brought before the Assembly together with a Proposed Deliverance, of which the first section shall be "The General Assembly receive the Overture".

52. When Taken.

Overtures relating to matters under the care of the Committees of the Church whose reports are on the Agenda for one of the first two days of the Assembly shall be assigned by the Assembly Business Committee (unless the Committee on Overtures and Cases decides not to transmit) to the place in the discussion at which they shall be introduced to the Assembly. In other cases this shall be done by the Procedure Committee. When the Proposed Deliverance of an Overture is capable of being treated as a counter-motion or amendment to the Proposed Deliverance of a Committee, or as a new section of such Proposed Deliverance, it shall be so treated.

53. Grouping.

Overtures on the same or cognate subjects shall be grouped by the Assembly Business Committee or Procedure Committee of the Assembly and only one speaker shall be heard introducing each group.

54. Introduction.

An Overture from a Presbytery may be introduced by any member of that Presbytery, specially appointed for the purpose, at the bar; or by any one of its Commissioners to the Assembly in his or her place as a Commissioner.

(c) GENERAL

55. Matters Relating to Stipend.

It shall not be competent for the Assembly, without due notice of motion in the hands of Commissioners in print and in proper form (for example as a Proposed Deliverance, Notice of Motion or Crave of a Petition), to debate any proposal which might impact directly on or which might bring about binding changes to the terms and conditions of ministers which relate to stipend or stipend scales.

56. New or Additional Expenditure.

Any proposal which involves new or additional expenditure must, together with an estimate of such expenditure, be in the hands of Commissioners in print and in proper form (for example, as a Proposed Deliverance, Notice of Motion, or Crave of a Petition), provided that:

- (a) if it relates to the income disposition proposed within Co-ordinated Budget for the next calendar year and if the proposal is not submitted in the form of an amendment to the total of the said Budget, it shall provide for and specify the reduction or reductions to be made in other expenditure contained within the said Budget; and
- (b) if it involves continuing or recurring expenditure which, if approved, would require to be incorporated in future Co-ordinated and Rolling Budgets, it shall provide for the matter to be remitted in the first instance to the Assembly Trustees for consideration and report to the next General Assembly.

57. Declaratory or Interim Act.

The draft of any proposed Declaratory or Interim Act, as also the draft of any Overture which it is proposed to transmit to Presbyteries in terms of the Barrier Act (other than any Overture printed and circulated in the volume of Reports), shall be printed and laid on the table of the Assembly and circulated among the Members at least one day before a Motion for the passing of such Declaratory or Interim Act, or for the transmission of such Overture to Presbyteries, is made in the Assembly.

V. CONDUCT OF CASES

58. Commission of Assembly.

The rules of procedure for the Appeals Committee of the Commission of Assembly shall be as set out in Schedule 2 to the Appeals Act (Act I 2014). Standing Orders 59 – 61 apply where a matter is being brought before the Commission of Assembly in terms of those powers of the Commission of Assembly not being exercised by the Appeals Committee, or before the General Assembly, being a petition, a reference or an appeal on a matter of doctrine. In Standing Orders 59 - 61 references to the General Assembly shall be taken to refer where appropriate to the Commission of Assembly and all references shall be so construed *mutatis mutandis*.

(a) LODGING OF PAPERS

59. Appeal; Dissent and Complaint; Petition.

The papers in all cases intended to be brought before the Assembly, whether Appeals or Dissents and Complaints against the judgement of inferior courts, or Petitions, should be lodged with the Clerks of Assembly not later than 24 April, and must be lodged not less than fourteen days before the opening session of Assembly; except in the case of judgements pronounced within sixteen days of the meeting of Assembly, in which case they shall be lodged within forty-eight hours of the judgement being pronounced.

- 60.** (a). **Reference.** In the case of Reference of a matter from an inferior court for the judgement of the Assembly the same limits as to time for lodging of papers in the case shall apply as in SO 59.
- (b). **Reference of Matter Previously Considered.** Where the matter of a Reference has previously been under consideration of the Assembly, the Reference shall state the date when the matter was previously before the Assembly and shall narrate the Assembly's Deliverance thereon.

61. Answers.

It shall be competent for all parties claiming an interest in the subject matter of an Appeal, Dissent and Complaint or Petition to lodge Answers thereto complying with the requirements of this SO

- 61.** Answers may be lodged any time after the Appeal, Dissent and Complaint or Petition is received by the Clerks, but not later than seven days before the opening meeting of Assembly. Answers shall be in the form of articulate numbered Answers to the narrative contained in the Appeal, Dissent and Complaint or Petition, indicating in particular matters of fact that are admitted and denied, and shall set forth a concise statement of the Respondent's case, together with a crave specifying the action the Assembly are invited to take thereanent.

(b) PRINTING OF PAPERS

62. Printing.

It shall be the duty of the Clerks on receiving papers that are to come before the Assembly in connection with cases to arrange to have these printed in authorised form, stitched together and paged.

63. In Private.

Papers relating to business dealt with by Presbyteries in private, or which the Committee on Overtures and Cases (SOs 70 - 71) consider should be taken in private, shall be printed separately and may be dealt with by the Assembly in private.

64. Cost of Printing.

In cases of discipline brought before the Assembly by the Judicial Commission, by Reference from a Presbytery, or by complaint by a minority of the Court, the expense of printing shall be borne by the Assembly Business Committee; in other circumstances by the Complainer or Appellant. In all other cases the expenses of printing in sufficient numbers for the use of Commissioners shall be borne by the party having interest in the same or desiring a Deliverance from the Assembly.

65. In Retentis.

Two copies of every printed paper shall be kept by the Clerks of Assembly to be bound up and retained among the Records of Assembly.

(c) CIRCULATION OF PAPERS

66. Date of Dispatch.

A copy of all papers transmitted to the Clerks of Assembly not later than 24 April shall be forwarded by them to each Member of Assembly at least one week before the opening day of the Assembly.

67. In Private.

The Clerks of Assembly shall not issue in advance to Members the papers in cases which they think require to be conducted in private, until specially instructed by the Assembly so to do; but shall report such cases to the Convener of the Procedure Committee, for the information of that Committee, immediately after its appointment.

(d) INTIMATION TO PARTIES

68. Appeal; Dissent and Complaint.

In all cases coming before the Assembly by Appeal or Dissent and Complaint it shall be the duty of the Clerks of Assembly to inform the parties on both sides as soon as possible of the time at which such case is likely to be taken by the Assembly. Such intimation shall, unless in a specific case the Assembly determine otherwise, be regarded as sufficient notice.

The Clerks shall further be bound, on application made to them for the purpose, to supply six copies of all prints made in pursuance of the foregoing Orders to the opposite party or parties in any case, or to his or her or their duly accredited Agents.

69. Petition.

In every Petition it shall be the duty of the Petitioner to make such intimation of the Petition as may be necessary having regard to the nature of the Petition. Such intimation shall be made not more than seven days later than the time when the Petition is lodged with the Clerks of Assembly as provided in SO 59 above; and along with the Petition there shall be lodged a certificate signed by the Petitioner or his or her Agent setting forth the names of the parties to whom such intimation has been made or is to be made. The Assembly may refuse to dispose of any Petition if in their opinion sufficient intimation thereof has not been made.

(e) TRANSMISSION TO ASSEMBLY

70. Committee on Overtures and Cases.

All papers lodged with the Clerks in cases of every sort in terms of the foregoing Orders shall be laid by them before the Committee on Overtures and Cases, which shall consider the same and report to the Assembly.

71. Decision not to Transmit.

If the Committee on Overtures and Cases shall decide not to transmit to the Assembly any papers in cases duly lodged with the Clerks of Assembly it shall report the same to the Assembly at their first Session, or at the Session next after such decision, with its reasons for not transmitting the papers, and parties shall be entitled to be heard thereon at the bar of the Assembly. Intimation of a decision not to transmit papers shall be made to the parties concerned as soon as possible, and in time to allow of their being represented at the bar when the decision not to transmit is reported to the Assembly.

72. In Private.

The Procedure Committee shall, in its first Report, specify any case which in its judgement requires to be conducted in private, and any case which does not appear to it to be of that character although

the Clerks of Assembly may have reported it as such. The Assembly shall thereupon determine by a special Deliverance, at what stage in the proceedings the papers in such a case shall be issued to the Commissioners. In every case which the Assembly appoint to be conducted in private the instruction to issue the papers shall be accompanied by a special exhortation to the Commissioners to keep them private.

73. Proposed Legislation.

All Overtures from Presbyteries or from Commissioners which propose the introduction of new or the amendment of existing Acts (or Regulations) shall contain the precise terms of the legislation which they propose; and the Committee on Overtures and Cases shall not transmit to the Assembly any Overture which is deficient in this respect, provided always that the Clerks and Procurator shall be available to assist with the framing of such proposals

(f) HEARING OF CASES

74. Announcement.

Before parties are heard in any contentious case the Clerk shall read the following announcement, viz – “The Commissioners are reminded that justice requires that all the pleadings at the bar should be heard by all those who vote in this case, and that their judgement should be made solely on the basis of the pleadings.” Immediately before a vote is taken in such a case, the Clerk shall read the following further announcement, viz – “The Commissioners are reminded that only those who have heard all the pleadings at the bar are entitled to vote in this case.”

75. Appeal; Complaint; One Appellant.

In cases brought before the Assembly by Appeal, where there is only one appellant (or one set of appellants concurring in the same reasons of Appeal) and only one respondent (or one set of respondents concurring in the same answers to the reasons of Appeal) the case for the appellant (or set of appellants) shall be stated by him or herself or by his or her counsel, who at the same time shall submit such argument upon the case as he or she shall think fit. The party or counsel so stating the Appeal shall be followed by the respondent or his or her counsel who likewise shall submit such arguments upon the case as he or she shall think fit. At the close of the statement for the respondent the appellant shall be entitled to be again heard, and the respondent shall also be entitled to be heard in answer to the second speech for the appellant and if, in his or her final answer, the respondent shall state any fact or submit any argument not adverted to in his or her answer to the opening statement for the appellant, the appellant shall be entitled to a reply upon the new matter introduced in the final answer for the respondent. With the exception of this right of reply, so limited, more than two speeches shall not be allowed to any party at the bar.

76. Appeal; Complaint; More than one Appellant.

In such cases as those referred to in SO 75 if there is more than one appellant (or set of appellants) insisting on the Appeal, or more than one respondent (or set of respondents) supporting the judgement appealed against, (a) on different grounds, or (b) in separate reasons or answers, each appellant shall be entitled to open and state his or her separate case, and each respondent shall be entitled to make his or her separate answer, and the debate shall be closed with a reply for the several appellants; provided always that it shall be competent to the parties, with consent of the Assembly to make any arrangement for conducting the debate other than herein prescribed, if it shall have the effect of limiting, further than is herein done, the number of speeches to be made from the bar.

77. Appeal; Complaint; Who may appear.

Any Member of an inferior court whose judgement is brought under review of the Assembly may appear at the bar in support of the judgement; but, when Commissioners have been specially appointed by the inferior court to support its judgement, the Assembly shall not hear any Member of such court other than the Commissioners so appointed, unless any Member not so appointed but wishing to be heard can show a separate and peculiar interest to support the judgement; and in all such cases it shall be competent to the Assembly to limit the number of Members of an inferior court who shall be heard in support of the judgement under review.

78. Dissents and Complaints.

In SOs 75 to 77, "Appeal" includes "Dissents and Complaints" and "Appellant" includes "Complainer".

79. Petition.

In cases brought before the Assembly as the court of first instance by Petition, the party promoting the application shall be entitled to be heard in support of the same; and the Assembly shall also hear an answer from any party at the bar claiming to be heard whom it shall consider to be a proper respondent, and the debate at the bar shall be closed with a reply from the person promoting the application.

80. Reference.

In cases brought before the Assembly by reference from a Presbytery the reference shall be stated to the Assembly by a Member of the referring court, specially appointed for the purpose, at the bar if not a Commissioner, or in his or her place as a Commissioner if a Commissioner from the Presbytery. The Assembly shall thereafter hear the parties in the case referred in such order as the nature of the case may seem to require, keeping in view the regulations in SOs 74 to 79.

81. Readjustment Cases.

In cases arising from Act VII, 2003, when a request for determination follows a decision of the Partnership Development Committee not to concur in the judgement of a Presbytery, the Convener, or other member of the said Committee, shall be heard at the bar if not a Commissioner, or in his or her place as a Commissioner if a Commissioner, immediately after the request for determination has been stated. After the initial statement and the response by the said Committee when applicable, the General Assembly shall hear at the bar such parties in the case as are not represented by Commissioners, in such order as the nature of the case may seem to require.

VI. ORDER OF DEBATE

(a) ORDER OF THE DAY

82. When the Assembly have resolved that a case or other piece of business shall be taken up at a certain hour mentioned in the Order of Business, such case or other piece of business shall be taken not later than the hour fixed and the business before the Assembly, if not finished at the hour named, shall be adjourned, provided that, in the case of an Order of the Day following the Report of the Faith Impact Forum, such unfinished business shall not be taken up. If, in the opinion of the Moderator, it would be in accordance with the general convenience of the Assembly, the Moderator may allow the transaction of the business then actually under discussion to continue for a period of not more than fifteen minutes beyond the specified time, but no fresh business shall be commenced.

(b) MOTIONS

83. TIME-BOUND

On the motion of the Procedure Committee or moved as part of the deliverance of the Assembly Business Committee, the General Assembly may resolve that the Report and draft Deliverance relating to a particular Council or Committee's Report be taken in a time-bound process of debate and decision. Such a motion shall be moved at least 24 hours in advance of the presentation of the Report concerned.

Having so resolved the General Assembly shall operate the following timetable:-

Start times shall be allotted to specified Sections of the Report and to the related sections of the draft Deliverance. Discussion of any Section of the Report shall not commence later than its allotted start time, but may begin earlier if debate of the previous Section has been completed.

If discussion and debate of a particular Section of the Report has not been concluded within its allotted time, then further consideration of associated sections of the draft Deliverance shall be sisted and the General Assembly shall take up the next Section of the Report.

If, at the close of the debate on the last Section of the Report, there is still time before the Order of the Day requires to be implemented or business is due to conclude, then the General Assembly shall return for further debate of any outstanding sections of the draft Deliverance remaining relative to each Section of the Report.

If the Order of the Day or anticipated close of business is imminent, then any outstanding sections of the draft Deliverance shall be voted upon without debate, except that other motions printed in the Daily Papers shall also be taken, without debate, the Convener simply having the right to indicate whether or not the Council or Committee is willing to accept the motion.

Where motions printed in the Daily Papers do not relate directly to the Report and draft Deliverance proposed by the Council or Committee, they will be taken either at the end of the appropriate Section, if there is time available according to the allotted timetable, or at the end of the appropriate Section when the procedure leading to the Order of the Day (or close of business) is being implemented.

84. Right to Move.

Any Commissioner to the Assembly may make a motion upon any matter coming regularly before the Assembly; and on rising to do so he or she shall read the terms of the motion having previously handed the same in writing on the form provided to the Assembly Office or other point of collection intimated to the General Assembly. It shall be in order to move a motion regarding any matter in the care of a Committee to which no reference is made in the Report of that Committee, provided that reasonable notice has been given in writing to the Convener before presentation of the Report. The mover of any counter-motion or amendment may reply to the discussion of his or her motion, immediately before the Convener closes the debate.

85. Withdrawal.

When a motion has been duly seconded it shall not be competent to withdraw it, or to make any alteration upon it, without the permission of the Assembly.

86. Priority of Deliverance over other motion.

The Deliverance on the Report of a Committee shall take precedence of any other motion on that subject.

87. Committee Convener.

The Convener of a Committee when a Commissioner, on giving in the Report of that Committee, shall move the Deliverance proposed in terms of SO 41. A Convener, when not a Commissioner, shall be allowed to submit the Report of the Committee, and to give explanations in the subsequent discussion. In such a case the Principal Clerk, whom failing, the Depute Clerk, shall formally move the Deliverance. In all cases the Convener shall have the right of replying to the debate.

88. Introducer of Overture.

The Introducer of an Overture, if a Commissioner, shall move the Deliverance; and if he or she is not a Commissioner the Principal Clerk, whom failing the Depute Clerk, shall formally move the Deliverance. The Introducer, whether a Commissioner or not, may answer questions or give explanations in the course of the debate and, if a Commissioner, may reply to, the discussion immediately before the relevant Convener closes the debate.

89. Notice of Motion.

Commissioners are encouraged to give advance Notice of motions. Any Commissioner may, during the sittings of the Assembly, give advance notice of Motion on any subject due to come regularly before the Assembly, other than a contentious case. Notices of Motion so given in shall, if received in time to do so, be printed in the "Assembly Papers" not later than the day on which the business is to be taken. Such printed Notice of Motion shall confer no right of priority of moving same, the Moderator being the sole judge of the order in which Members are entitled to address the Assembly.

(c) THE DEBATE

90. The Chair.

Every speaker shall address the Assembly through the Moderator, and the correct address is "Moderator".

91. In Support.

When a motion or motions have been made and seconded, any Member (including a formal seconder in terms of SO 95) may take part in subsequent debate.

92. Speeches.

(1) Except as provided in SOs 84 and 87, no Member may speak twice on the same question except in explanation, and then only by special permission of the Assembly. (2) Members shall make relevant declarations of interest where the topic of debate makes it appropriate to do so.

93. Point of Order.

Any Member may rise to speak to a Point of Order. A speaker is not to be interrupted unless upon a call to order. When so interrupted he or she shall cease speaking, and shall resume his or her seat until the Point of Order is decided. The Member calling to order shall state the grounds for so doing; and the speaker who has been interrupted may briefly reply in explanation, to show that he or she is not out of order, but no other Member may speak to the Point of Order unless with the permission or at the request of the Moderator, with whom the decision of the point rests, though the Moderator may put the point to a vote of the Assembly.

94. There shall be no right of reply to a debate except as provided for by SOs 84 and 87.

95. Limits.

All speeches shall be limited to 5 minutes, with the following exceptions:

- (i) COMMITTEES Convener giving in the Report of his or her Committee and moving thereon (seconding to be formal) **15 minutes**
Convener responding to a question **4 minutes**
- (ii) OVERTURES Introducing an Overture and when the Introducer is a Commissioner, moving thereon **10 minutes**
Mover of other Motions in relation to Overture (seconding to be formal) 10 minutes
- (iii) PETITIONS Speeches of Petitioners **10 minutes**

96 No Time Limit.

The time limits shall apply, except in the following cases:

- (a) when the Assembly are debating specific proposals for change under Barrier Act procedure;
- (b) when the Assembly are exercising judicial functions;
- (c) in Petitions when, for special reasons, the Committee on Overtures and Cases reports that the circumstances demand an extension, and when the General Assembly adopt that opinion;
- (d) in any other matter when the Assembly Business Committee (in respect of the Order of Business for the first two days) or the Procedure Committee (in respect of the Order of Business for the subsequent days) declares that, in its opinion, such matter is of exceptional importance, and when the Assembly adopt that opinion.

(d) DEALING WITH MOTIONS

97. Character of Motions.

Motions shall be considered as belonging to one of the following categories, and shall be dealt with as prescribed, viz:

1. The original Motion.
2. Counter-Motions – being Motions contradictory or negative of the original Motion or of a substantial part of the original Motion.
3. Amendments being Motions not substantially contradictory of the original Motion or Counter-Motion, but for making deletions, alterations, or additions thereto without defeating its main object.
4. Amendments of amendments already moved and seconded.

98. Moderator to Judge.

The Moderator shall be judge of the category to which any Motions shall be considered to belong, and the ruling of the Moderator shall be final.

99. Grouping of Amendments.

When to any Proposed Deliverance there has been given notice of amendments which differ from each other only slightly in their general tenor, the Moderator shall decide whether or not to permit more than one of such amendments to be moved.

100. Voting on Amendments.

When an amendment (Category 3) has been proposed it shall be disposed of by the Assembly before any other counter-motion or amendment is proposed. However, it shall be in order for an amendment of an amendment (Category 4) to be proposed, seconded and debated, after which the Moderator shall take a vote "For" or "Against". When all such Category 4 motions have been so disposed of, the Assembly shall complete its consideration of the original amendment (Category 3) and the Moderator shall take a vote "For" or "Against" the original amendment amended or unamended as the case may be. For the avoidance of doubt, it is affirmed that the order of debate for Category 3 and Category 4 motions shall be the same except as herein provided and that the provisions of SO 87 shall apply to both.

101. Voting on Motions.

After all amendments, if any, have been disposed of, the Moderator shall take a vote between all Motions in Categories (1) and (2), and in doing so shall adopt the following procedure. A vote shall be taken in one of the methods provided below, between all the Motions in the order in which they were made, beginning at the first. Each Commissioner may vote for one Motion only. If, on the numbers being announced, one Motion has obtained a clear majority of votes, all the other Motions shall fall; but if no Motion has obtained a clear majority, the Motion having the smallest number of votes shall be struck off and a vote taken between the remaining Motions; and the Assembly may determine.

102. Voting for Appointments.

In the case of voting for appointments to vacant offices in the Church, where there are more than two nominations the Assembly shall vote separately on all the names proposed, and, unless there be a majority in favour of one over all the others combined, the one having the lowest number shall be dropped, and the Assembly shall again vote on those that remain.

103. Deliberative Vote.

The Moderator or Acting Moderator in the Chair shall have no Deliberative Vote.

104. Casting Vote.

If in any division there shall be an equality of votes for two proposals before the Assembly, the Moderator shall have power to give a deciding vote; and if in the course of the voting as provided in SOs 100 and 101 above, there should be an equality of votes for the two Motions having fewest votes, the Moderator shall have power to give a deciding vote and the Motion for which the Moderator shall vote shall be retained for the purpose of the next vote of the Assembly.

(e) TAKING THE VOTE

105. The Moderator may, in any circumstances and at his or her sole discretion, ascertain the mind of the Assembly by asking the Commissioners to stand in their places, and shall intimate to the Assembly on which side there is in his or her opinion a majority. Unless the opinion of the Moderator so intimated is at once challenged, it shall become the decision of the Assembly. If any Commissioner challenges the opinion of the Moderator, the Assembly shall proceed to take an electronic vote using a system approved by the Assembly Business Committee. Alternatively, it shall be open to the Moderator, again at his or her sole discretion and in any circumstances, to ascertain the mind of the Assembly by recourse to the use of electronic voting. After all votes have been counted the Moderator shall intimate the result of the voting which will become the decision of the Assembly. In no circumstances shall a second vote be taken on a matter which has already been the subject of a vote by electronic voting. The Procedure Committee shall ensure that Commissioners are familiar with the method of electronic voting and will appoint tellers to assist Commissioners, where necessary, with the process of casting votes and to assist the Assembly with the process of voting by paper ballot which shall be a competent alternative to the taking of a vote by electronic means in the event of a failure in the electronic voting system.

(f) DISSENTS

106. Entering.

Any Commissioner dissatisfied with a judgement of the Assembly, which has not been unanimous, has the right to enter his or her dissent against it; but no dissent can be given in until the matter to which it refers has, for that session, been disposed of, the Minute adjusted, and the Assembly is ready to proceed to other business.

107. Adhering.

When a dissent has been entered, it is in order for any other Commissioner present when that judgement was pronounced to adhere to such dissent. No other's adherence may be entered.

108. Reasons.

A person dissenting may do so with or without giving in reasons of dissent. If he or she dissent for reasons given in at the time, or to be afterwards given in, such reasons shall, if received by the Assembly as proper and relevant, and provided they are given in before the close of the next session (or, when made on the last day of the Assembly, before the close of the same session), be recorded in the Minutes.

109. Answers.

If the Assembly appoint a Committee to prepare answers to reasons of dissent, the Report of the Committee shall, except on the last day of the Assembly, be printed in the "Assembly Papers"; and, as approved by the Assembly, shall be printed in the Minutes, if the reasons of dissent have been so printed.

110. Record of Dissents.

Reasons of dissent and answers thereto when not entered in the Minutes, shall be kept in a separate Record of Dissents.

VII. COMMITTEES AND THEIR MEMBERSHIP

(a) COMMITTEES

111. Committees.

The Committees of the General Assembly shall be those listed in SO 113 together with such *ad hoc* Committees as the General Assembly may appoint from time to time. Clerical services for the *ad hoc* Committees shall normally be provided by the staff of the Principal Clerk's Department.

112. Quorum.

Save for the Judicial Proceedings Panel and those bodies where provision is already made for a quorum, the quorum of Standing Committees of the General Assembly listed in SO 113 shall be three. When a meeting ceases to be quorate, business must be suspended. The quorum shall apply also to sub-committees and other bodies constituted from the relevant Standing Committees where such sub-committees and other bodies have decision-making powers, but not otherwise.

113. Membership.

The Standing Committees of the General Assembly shall have membership as follows, General Assembly appointments being made on the nomination of the Nomination Committee except where otherwise stated.

1. **Assembly Business Committee** 16/17

Convener, Vice-Convener, 2 members of the Legal Questions Committee (Convener and another member involved more in judicial matters to be nominated by the Legal Questions Committee), a further 6 members made up of ministers and elders with experience of the General Assembly, with the following members *ex officio*: the Moderator and the Moderator Designate, the Principal Clerk, the Depute Clerk, the Solicitor, the Procurator and the General Treasurer. The Convener and Vice-Convener are also to serve as Convener and Vice-Convener respectively of the Procedure Committee.

2. **Assembly Trustees** 14

12 trustees appointed in accordance with the Constitution and Remit approved at the General Assembly of 2019 (from which shall be drawn the Convener, Vice-Convener, and Administrative Trustee), plus 2 *ex officio* members: the Convener of the Assembly Business Committee and the Chair of the General Trustees.

3. **Audit Committee**.....6

Convener, who shall not be an Assembly Trustee, three voting members appointed by the General Assembly through the Nomination Committee, all of whom shall be independent of the Unincorporated Entities and at least one of whom shall have recent and relevant financial experience, and two additional voting members be appointed by the Assembly Trustees. The quorum shall be three voting members, at least one of whom is a Trustee member. The Chief Officer and the General Treasurer shall attend without a right to vote or make a motion. In addition, other officials, as required by the Committee, may be in attendance from time to time without a right to vote or make a motion. Representatives of the External and Internal Auditors, shall be entitled to attend all meetings but without a right to vote or make a motion.

4. **Church of Scotland Investors Trust**

Trustees are appointed as required, by the General Assembly on the nomination of the Trust.

5. **Church of Scotland Trust**

Trustees are appointed as required, by the General Assembly on the nomination of the Trust.

6. **Committee on Chaplains to HM Forces**.....18

Convener, Vice-Convener and 16 members appointed by the General Assembly. There are also 2 non-voting members: one representative from and appointed by each of the Ministries and the Church and Society Councils.

7. **Committee on Church Art and Architecture**.....18

Convener, Vice-Convener and 16 members appointed by the General Assembly. Notwithstanding SOs 114 & 118, members shall be appointed for a term not exceeding eight years. The Committee shall have the power to invite a representative of each of the following bodies to attend its meetings: the General Trustees, the Scottish Episcopal Church, the National Association of

Decorative Fine Arts Societies and Historic Environment Scotland.

8. **Delegation of the General Assembly**.....4
The Clerks of Assembly, the Principal Clerk as Chairman, the Procurator and the Solicitor of the Church, *ex officio*.
9. **Ecumenical Relations Committee**.....10 plus representatives, co-optees and corresponding members
 - a) 8 members appointed by the General Assembly one to be attached, for the purposes of ecumenical accompaniment, to each of the Faith Nurture Forum, the Faith Impact Forum, the Social Care Council, and the Theological Forum.
 - b) Convener who will act as a personal support for the Ecumenical Officer (EO) and Vice-Convener, appointed by the General Assembly.
 - c) A representative of the Roman Catholic Church in Scotland appointed by the Bishops' Conference and 1 representative from each of 3 churches drawn from among the member churches of ACTS and the Baptist Union of Scotland, each to serve for a period of 4 years.
 - d) The Committee shall co-opt Church of Scotland members elected to the central bodies of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI), the Conference of European Churches (CEC), the World Council of Churches (WCC), the World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC) and the Community of Protestant Churches in Europe (CPCE, formerly the Leuenberg Fellowship of Churches).
 - e) The General Secretary of ACTS shall be invited to attend as a corresponding member.
 - f) For the avoidance of doubt, while only those persons appointed under paragraphs a) and b) above shall be entitled to vote, before any vote is taken the views of members representing other churches shall be ascertained. The Convener shall be entitled to call a meeting of the voting members.
10. **Faith Impact Forum**.....15
Convener, Vice-Convener and 13 members nominated by the Nomination Committee and appointed by the General Assembly.
11. **Faith Nurture Forum**.....15
Convener, Vice-Convener and 13 members nominated by the Nomination Committee and appointed by the General Assembly.
12. **General Trustees**
Trustees are appointed as required, by the General Assembly on the nomination of the Trust.
13. **Iona Community Board** 20
Convener and 5 members appointed by the General Assembly;
6 members appointed by and from the Iona Community, 2 changing each year;
The Leader of the Iona Community;
1 member appointed by and from the Presbytery of Argyll.
In addition the Board will invite 6 member churches of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) to appoint a representative member to the Board, such members being eligible to serve for a maximum period of 4 years.
14. **Judicial Panel**
20 people being ministers, elders and deacons nominated by the Nomination Committee and appointed by the General Assembly. All members of the Judicial Panel shall be qualified to practise as lawyers or shall be experienced in the law and practice of the Church.
Notwithstanding SOs 114 and 118, the members of the Judicial Panel shall initially be appointed for a term of four years, and shall be eligible for reappointment for further terms of four years.
15. **Judicial Proceedings Panel**
A Panel of ministers, elders and deacons appointed by the General Assembly who are suitably experienced in the law and practice of the Church and whose number shall, in accordance with the Discipline of Ministry Act (Act III, 2001), section 1(1)(e), be determined, from time to time, by the Legal Questions Committee. Notwithstanding SOs 114 & 118, appointments shall be for three years with the option of further consecutive terms. In calculating how many Panel members may be appointed, no account shall be taken of any members whose current term has expired but who are deemed to remain as members of the Panel by operation of the Discipline of Ministry Act (Act III, 2001), section 1(1)(f).
16. **Legal Questions Committee**16

Convener, Vice-Convener and 10 members appointed by the General Assembly, the Clerks of Assembly, the Procurator and the Solicitor of the Church.

17. **Life and Work Editorial Advisory Committee**.....9
Convener and 7 members together with the Principal Clerk as an *ex officio* member. The members should represent a wide range of theological opinion and perspectives, with an interest and particular gifts to offer the Committee, for example journalism, magazine production, former contributors. The Committee may co-opt members with particular gifts or information.
18. **Ministries Appeal Panel**.....5
Convener, Vice-Convener and 3 members appointed by the General Assembly. At least 1 member shall be legally qualified, at least 1 shall be a minister and at least 1 shall be an elder.
19. **Nomination Committee** 26
Convener, Vice-Convener and 24 members appointed by the General Assembly. Notwithstanding SO 118, no member of the Committee, having served a term of 4 years, shall be eligible for re-election until after a period of 4 years, except for special cause shown. The Convener'ship of the Committee shall be for 3 years.
20. **Nomination of the Moderator Committee**Up to 15
Up to 8 ministers and deacons and up to 7 elders appointed by the General Assembly, to create a Committee which is representative of the diversity of the whole Church. The Committee is to be convened by the immediate past-Moderator of the General Assembly, failing which by another former Moderator of the General Assembly.
21. **Personnel Appeal Group** 8
8 members appointed by the General Assembly with the Solicitor of the Church as Secretary. Members shall not include any former or current members of staff of any of the Church's Employing Agencies (including the Social Care Council), nor any current Council or Committee member.
22. **Registration of Ministries Committee**.....5
Convener, Vice-Convener and 3 members. 1 member is appointed by the Legal Questions Committee, 1 member by the Faith Nurture Forum and 3 members by the General Assembly. The Convener and Vice-Convener are appointed by the General Assembly from the General Assembly appointees. One or other of the Clerks to the General Assembly and the Secretary to the Faith Nurture Forum attend the Committee *ex officio*s in an advisory capacity but are not members. The Committee is clerked by a person from the Faith Nurture Forum who is not a member of the Committee.
23. **Safeguarding Appeal Panel**.....6
A Panel of 6 persons appointed by the General Assembly, being persons with Safeguarding and other relevant experience, and including at least two persons who shall be qualified to practise as lawyers or who are experienced in the law and practice of the Church, and at least two ministers. None of the Panel shall be a current or former employee of any of the Employing Agencies or a current member of the Safeguarding Committee.
24. **Safeguarding Committee**..... 11
Convener, Vice-Convener and 6 members appointed by the General Assembly, 1 representative (voting member) from and appointed by each of the Faith Nurture Forum, the Faith Impact Forum, the Social Care Council, the Solicitor of the Church, the National Adviser (Head of Safeguarding) as Secretary to the Committee, the Chief Officer and up to 4 members co-opted by the Committee for their expertise. For the avoidance of doubt it is declared that only the following persons will be entitled to vote: Convener, Vice-Convener, the six Assembly appointed members and the three representatives from each of the Faith Nurture Forum, the Faith Impact Forum and the Social Care Council.
25. **Social Care Council** 12
Convener, Vice-Convener and 10 members appointed by the General Assembly.
26. **Theological Forum**.....13
Convener, Vice-Convener and 11 members appointed by the General Assembly, the membership being selected to provide an appropriate balance of (a) ministers of Word and Sacrament, (b) members of academic staff from the Divinity Schools (or equivalent) of Institutions of Higher Education in Scotland, (c) elders and (d) members drawn from the wider membership of the

Church chosen for their particular expertise, experience or provenance.

27. **Trustees of the Housing and Loan Fund**Up to 11

Up to 3 ministers and 1 member appointed by the Faith Nurture Forum, who having served a term of 4 years shall be eligible for re-appointment for a second 4 year term;

Up to 4 appointed by the General Assembly on the nomination of the Trustees, who having served a term of 4 years shall be eligible for re-appointment for a second 4 year term;

Up to 3 appointed by the Baird Trust, for a term of office determined by that Trust.

Any Trustee (other than one appointed by the Baird Trust) may serve for up to a further two four-year terms if elected also as Chairperson or Depute Chairperson.

(b) MEMBERS

114. Period of Service.

All Members of each of the Standing Committees shall retire after serving for four years, save for the Faith Nurture Forum and the Faith Impact Forum where the period is three years.

115. Representatives.

Bodies entitled to appoint representatives shall be permitted to make changes in their representation for special reasons in any year.

116. Non-attendance.

The name of a Member shall be removed from any Standing or Special Committee which has met three times or oftener between 1 June and 1 March unless he or she has attended one-third of the meetings held within that period. Attendance at meetings of Sub-Committees shall for this purpose be reckoned as equivalent to attendance at the meeting of the Committee itself.

117. Replacement.

When a Minister, Elder, or Member of any Standing or Special Committee is unable to accept the appointment, or where from any cause vacancies occur in Committees during the year, that Committee, after consultation with the Convener of the Nomination Committee, may appoint a Member to take the place of the Member whose retirement has caused the vacancy. All such appointments, if for a longer period than one year, shall be reported for confirmation through the Nomination Committee to the General Assembly.

118. Re-election.

A Member retiring from a Council or Committee by rotation, or having his or her name removed for non-attendance, shall not be eligible for re-election to that Council or Committee until the expiry of one year thereafter, unless the Assembly are satisfied, on the Report of the Nomination Committee, on information submitted to it by the Council or Committee concerned, that there are circumstances which make re-election desirable; but where more than one member is due to retire then not more than one-half of the retiring members be so re-elected. No Member shall normally serve for more than two consecutive terms of office. (If possible 20 per cent of the Assembly appointed members of Councils or Committees should be under the age of 35 at the time of their appointment). A Member appointed in the room of one deceased, resigned or removed, or of one appointed as Convener or Vice-Convener, shall serve for the remainder of the period for which the person was appointed whose place he or she takes, and on retiral shall be eligible for re-election if he or she has not served for more than two years.

A retiring Convener shall be eligible for re-election as an additional member of the Council or Committee concerned to serve for one year only immediately following tenure of office as Convener.

119. Eligibility.

No person shall be a Member of more than three Councils or Committees at the same time. Appointments ex officio shall not be reckoned in this number. This rule shall not apply to those for whom the Nomination Committee is prepared to give special reason to the Assembly for their appointments to more than three Committees.

The Nomination Committee shall not nominate for Committees any of its own number except in special circumstances which must be stated to the Assembly.

120. Secretaries and Deputes.

It shall be the responsibility of the Secretary of each Council and Committee to attend the meetings thereof, to provide information and advice as requested, and to provide a depute for any meeting that he or she cannot attend. Members of staff shall not have the right to vote at any meeting.

121. Expenses.

Expenses incurred by Members of Committee, consisting of travel charges and a sum for maintenance when required shall be defrayed.

(c) CONVENERS AND VICE-CONVENERS

122. Appointment.

Conveners and Vice-Conveners of Councils and Committees shall be appointed by the Assembly. Conveners shall hold office for not more than four consecutive years (in the case of the Nomination Committee, Faith Nurture Forum and Faith Impact Forum, three consecutive years) and Vice-Conveners shall hold office for not more than three consecutive years, unless the Assembly are satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances which make the reappointment of Conveners and Vice-Conveners desirable. The period of reappointment shall be for one year only. If at the time of their appointment they are already members of the Council or Committee another Member shall be appointed in their room for the remainder of the period of their original appointment.

123. Replacement.

In the event of the death, resignation, consistent non-attendance or supervening incapacity of the Convener or Vice-Convener of any Council or Committee, the body concerned, after consultation with the Convener of the Nomination Committee, may appoint an Interim Convener or Interim Vice-Convener, as the case may be. Such appointment shall be reported by the Committee to the General Assembly and the Assembly shall make such order as the situation may require.

(d) NOMINATION COMMITTEE

124. List of Nominations.

The Nomination Committee shall include in its Report its list of nominations to be submitted to the Assembly. The Report, so prepared, shall be included in the Volume of Reports issued to Members of Assembly.

125. Nomination of Conveners.

When the Convener or Vice-Convener of a Committee or Council is completing his or her term of office the Council or Committee shall be invited by the Convener of the Nomination Committee to suggest the name of one who may be appointed in succession. The Nomination Committee shall satisfy itself that an open and transparent process has been followed in identifying the Convener or Vice-Convener so suggested.

126. Conveners to Attend Meeting.

Conveners of Standing Committees shall be entitled to be present at meetings of the Nomination Committee when the composition of their respective Committees is under consideration, but not to vote.

127. Amendment to Report.

No amendment to the Report of the Nomination Committee shall be in order of which due notice has not been given.

All notices of proposed amendments on the Report, including such as propose the omission or insertion of any name or names, or the addition of a name or names where the full number eligible

has not been nominated by the Committee, must be given in to the Clerks before midday on the third day prior to the closing of the Assembly, signed by the Member or Members giving them.

All such notices of proposed amendment shall, with the names of those signing them, be printed in the "Assembly Papers" issued on the second day prior to the closing of the General Assembly, and on the morning of the day the Report is to be called for.

VIII. ALTERATION AND SUSPENSION

128. Alteration.

Any proposal for alteration of Standing Orders shall be either (a) on the Report of the Legal Questions Committee and printed in the volume of Reports or (b) by Overture and the subject of at least one day's notice in the "Assembly Papers". This Standing Order shall not apply to SO 113 which may be amended by the Principal Clerk in accordance with the decisions of the General Assembly.

129. Suspension.

It shall always be competent for the Assembly, on the Motion of any Commissioner and on cause shown, summarily to dispense with the observance of the Standing Orders, or any part of them, in any particular case: provided that such Motion shall receive the support of not less than two-thirds of those voting on the question when put from the Chair, and that such suspension shall not contravene any Act of Assembly.

MOTIONS

At each Assembly various “motions” are considered. These usually consist of the proposed sections of deliverance appearing in Reports from Forums and Committees. However, any Commissioner can move a motion to change a proposed section of deliverance or to add a new section of deliverance. (*To remove a section of deliverance, see below*).

Once the Assembly has concluded, the “collated deliverance” is compiled. It consists of the motions which the Assembly has, after debate, approved and it represents the final decisions of that Assembly.

If you think you might want to change a proposed section of deliverance or to add a new section of deliverance, you need to submit a Notice of Motion to the Clerks. For this Assembly you will receive by email a form allowing you to give a “Notice of Motion”. It helps everyone if you can use this form to give advance notice of your motion – the Clerks will assist you in framing your motion so please complete this and email it to pcoffice@churchofscotland.org.uk **as soon as possible**. It will also be possible to give a Notice of Motion through the Assembly Hub application – details of how to do that will be shared at the training events and on a video to be available to you.

To submit a Notice of Motion, you need to decide what sort of motion you want to propose. Options are:

- **amendments** – adding or removing words to a proposed section of deliverance but leaving the basic meaning intact.
- **counter motions** proposing something quite different to an existing proposed section of deliverance, ie where you seek to replace the existing proposed section of deliverance with something else.
- **new section of deliverance altogether** – adding to the Forum or Committee’s work or affirming a priority. Such a motion needs to fall within the relevant Forum or Committee’s remit and for this type of motion you must give the relevant Convener reasonable notice in writing.

If you simply don’t agree with a proposed section of deliverance, there is no need to move a motion stating the direct negative. Instead you would stand up to speak when the proposed section of deliverance is taken and you would explain why you encourage a vote against it.

To move your motion on the day, you should go about it as follows:

When the Assembly reaches the appropriate place in the debate for your motion to be moved, the Moderator will know that you have put forward a Notice of Motion. The Moderator will ask you to read what you propose and will also ask if there is a seconder. If no one is willing to second it, then the motion falls. If it is seconded, then you should tell the Assembly why you believe your proposal is the right one and why it will work.

You will be given up to five minutes to make your case. There will then be debate at the end of which you will be asked if you wish to say anything else to convince the Assembly. After that, the Convener presenting the Report will be asked to give their response, and then the Assembly will decide on the matter.