

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2022
FINAL COLLATED DELIVERANCE

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report and the Supplementary Report.
2. Approve the order of business for the first two days.
3. Appoint Rev Colin Renwick to be Precentor until May 2023.
4. Appoint Mr Roy Pinkerton to index the verbatim record.
5. Invite Commissioners to submit to the Procedure Committee via email: pcoffice@churchofscotland.org.uk by Monday 23 May at 12pm, nominations for consideration to serve on the Selection Committee.
6. Note the expenses levels for those attending at least 12 of the 15 General Assembly sessions in person.
7. Pass an Act uniting the Presbyteries of Duns, Jedburgh, Lothian, and Melrose & Peebles to form the Church of Scotland Presbytery of Lothian and Borders as set out in the Overture received from the Presbyteries.
8. Pass an Act uniting the Presbyteries of Angus, Dundee, Dunkeld & Meigle, Perth and Stirling to form the Presbytery of Perth as set out in the Overture received from the Presbyteries.
9. Note that subsequent to the General Assembly passing of Act I 2021 the Presbyteries of Hamilton and Lanark voted to amend the name of the united Presbytery in both the Act and Basis and Plan of Union from the 'Presbytery of Lanarkshire' to the 'Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale'.
10. Pass an Act anent the union of the Presbyteries of Forth Valley & Clydesdale and Falkirk, as set out in the Overture received from the Presbyteries.
11. Pass an Act uniting the Presbyteries of Aberdeen & Shetland, Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside, Moray and Orkney to form The Presbytery of the North East and the Northern Isles as set out in the Appendix to the Overture received from the Presbyteries.
12. Instruct the Assembly Business Committee and the Assembly Trustees, in consultation with the Assembly and Presbytery Clerks Forum and involving the Law Dept and HR Department in the National Offices, to bring proposals to the General Assembly of 2023 which would ensure consistency of terms and conditions across Presbyteries and which would align the pay and grading of Presbytery Staff with the pay and grading of staff employed by the Central Services Committee and this consultation process shall include consideration of whether the Central Services Committee might be the preferred employing agent for Presbytery staff.
13. Invite the Assembly Business Committee and Assembly Trustees in consultation with the Law Dept and HR Dept in the National Offices to work with the Assembly and Clerks Forum to advise the General Assembly of 2023 what steps have been taken to ensure that there is appropriate support and training in place for Presbytery Clerks and provide advice, guidelines and training for those undertaking the line-management of Presbytery Clerks.
14. Invite the Assembly Business Committee together with the Assembly and Clerks Forum to lead the development of a code of practice and capability process for Presbytery Clerks and report progress to the General Assembly of 2023.
15. Note the proposed timetable of Moderator's visits to Presbyteries.
16. Acknowledge the consultation work undertaken by the Committee in the area of General Assembly Reform as reported in section 8 of the Report and instruct the Committee to bring

in-depth proposals to the General Assembly of 2023.

17. Instruct the Assembly Business Committee and the Legal Questions Committee jointly to determine appropriate arrangements for the meeting of the General Assembly from Saturday 20 May 2023, to be held in Edinburgh in person and with online participation.

Scottish Bible Society

18. Give thanks for the ongoing work of the Scottish Bible Society and:-
 - a) urge the Scottish Bible Society to pursue its ongoing efforts to address the challenge of global Bible translation and distribution;
 - b) support the Society in its desire to work in partnership with congregations to improve people's experience of the Bible and its impact on their life;
 - c) endorse the Society in its efforts to encourage confidence in the gospel and in providing Scripture resources for mission purposes; and
 - d) commend the Society's global outreach to the generosity of congregations and members.

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

ASSEMBLY TRUSTEES

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report and the Supplementary Report.
2. Acknowledge with gratitude the continuing work and ministry of the Church at all levels during the enduring Covid-19 pandemic. (*Section 1*)
3. Receive the 2021 Report and Accounts of the Church of Scotland Unincorporated Entities. (*Section 2*)
4. Affirm the overriding priority in budget planning to support the maintenance and growth of the local Church and note the continuance of the challenging financial situation facing the Church as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. (*Section 5*)
5. In recognition of the challenges facing many Parish Ministers who live in manses where they have no control in respect of energy efficiency or upgrades and recognising that the remuneration of a Parish Ministers is a stipend plus manse, instruct the Assembly Trustees in consultation with the Faith Nurture Forum and the General Trustees urgently to develop a scheme to support Parish Ministers who find themselves facing hardship with the rise in costs of heating and electricity, using existing funds where possible, to enable them to continue to provide ministry to the Parish to which God has called them; and renew the commitment of the Church to continue to fight poverty in all its many guises wherever it is found and felt.
6. Note and acknowledge the differing needs and valued contribution to the Church of Scotland of the Presbyteries furth of Scotland and urge the Assembly Trustees to consider providing an appropriate allowance in the National budget annually for 5 years for the Presbyteries of England and International Charges and report to the General Assembly of 2023.
7. Agree to implement the Giving to Grow scheme from 1st January 2023 (*Section 9*) and approve the proposed Regulations. (*Appendix A*).
8. Repeal the Parish Ministries Fund Regulations (Regs IV 2016). (*Section 9.4*)
9. Approve the amendments to the Regulations for Contributions from Congregations in the Presbytery of International Charges (Regs V 2016) and the Regulations for Allocations in Local Ecumenical Partnerships (2007) (Appendix C) for use from the 1st January 2023, and in the case of the Regulations for Contributions from Congregations in the Presbytery of International Charges (Regs V 2016), also by adding the following additional amendments:
 - 1) In paragraph 1 replace "Ministries & Mission Contribution" with "a Contribution under the Congregational Contributions 'Giving to Grow' Regulations (Regs ZZ 2022)".
 - 2) Amend paragraph 2 by replacing "Stewardship and Finance Department" with

“Presbytery” and by adding at the end “and Presbytery shall pay the total Contribution to the Stewardship and Finance Department in ten or twelve equal monthly instalments during the financial year by bank standing order.”

- 3) Delete paragraph 8(e) and substitute “Half of all gross income in excess of £10,000 received from outside agencies for the use of premises.”
- 4) Insert new paragraph 8(f) in the following terms: “Net income raised through giving online or through other digital means” and renumber paragraph 8(f) as 8(g).
- 5) Amend the paragraph at the end of paragraph 8 by adding before the words “grants from the Salvesen Trust”, the words “all grant income, including”.
- 6) In paragraph 10 delete the words “Ministries and Mission”.
- 7) In paragraph 11 delete the words “Council of Assembly” and substitute “Assembly Trustees”.
- 8) Delete paragraphs 14, 15 and 16 and substitute the following, renumbering thereafter:
“Appeals
The Governance Group of the Assembly Trustees shall appoint a Panel to adjudicate on any appeals from Congregations relating to the application of paragraph 8 above. Appeals on any other grounds shall not be permitted. (Full details of the appeals process are available from the Church of Scotland website.)”
- 9) Delete the first sentence of paragraph 17.
- 10) Delete paragraph 18.
- 11) Add the following two paragraphs at the end:

“Transition Funding

1. The sum total of increases in Contributions for Congregations within a Presbytery between the last year of the previous Contribution system (2022) and that current year’s requirement, will be made available as Transition Funding to Presbytery. This will be communicated when the list of proposed Contributions is issued to Presbytery. This funding will be available annually, for the first three years (i.e. in the years 2023 – 2025) of this Giving to Grow contribution system.

2. This transition funding may be used by the Presbytery to reduce the proposed Contributions for individual Congregations before these are finalised for the following year. This will be charged to the Church of Scotland General Fund.” (Section 9.3)

10. Repeal the Pilot Presbytery Staffing Fund Regulations (Regs V 2011). (Section 9.4)
11. Encourage Kirk Sessions to engage with the Christian Aid, CrossReach and ecumenical partners’ promotion of legacy giving in September 2022. (Section 12.4)
12. Encourage Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions to use the National Stewardship Team as a resource to help congregations steward their resources in line with their vision and mission plans. (Section 12.5)
13. Instruct the Assembly Trustees, working in the terms outlined in Section 13 of the Report, to bring to the General Assembly of 2023 detailed descriptions and remits and finalised titles for an Active Faith Leadership Team and the following Programme Groups:- (Section 13)
 - a. Mission
 - b. People & Training
 - c. Public Life & Global Justice
 - d. Resource & Presence
14. Instruct the Trustees to work with the Nomination Committee and Presbyteries to enable the Nomination Committee to bring names of nominees for the leaders and members of the Active Faith Leadership Team and each of the Programme Groups to the General

Assembly of 2023. (Section 13)

15. Affirm the faithful and dedicated work of the Faith Nurture Forum and Faith Impact Forum since their inception in January 2020, the leadership of those Forums and the commitment of their members and commend their continuing involvement in the development of the Faith Action Programme. (Section 13)
16. Instruct the Trustees, working in the terms outlined in Appendix E, Section 9 of the Report, to bring to the General Assembly of 2023 detailed proposals for the Ecumenical Relations Committee and the Theological Forum in relation to the structural arrangements for the Faith Action Programme, whilst retaining their direct accountability to the General Assembly. (Appendix E, Section 9).
17. Note the Vision Statement which frames the discussion around the Review of Initial Training for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament (Appendix D), agree the principles for ministerial education and training outlined in Section 14 of the Report and authorise the Faith Nurture Forum to take further the initial engagement with current academic providers and others as necessary in order to ensure the best possible infrastructure and curriculum for ministry formation. (Section 14)
18. Instruct the General Trustees, jointly with the Assembly Trustees, the Legal Questions Committee and the Faith Nurture Forum, to review current law and practice with a view to bringing legislation to General Assembly 2023 that would allow greater flexibility in relation to the allocation of the sale proceeds of properties found to be surplus to requirements following the dissolution of a congregation or the union of one or more congregations and exploring with the encouragement and support of Presbytery whether some monies might be released for mission, and provide a transparent process with adequate criteria by which decisions on the use of such funds are made. (Section 22)
19. Approve the amended remit of the Audit Committee. (Section 23.5)
20. Approve the amended Constitution and Remit of the Assembly Trustees. (Section 23.6)
21. Note the revised Job Description for the post of Principal Clerk as set out in recruitment pack <https://churchofscotland.org.uk/about-us/general-assembly/redirects/principal-clerk-recruitment-pack>, ratify the appointment of Rev Fiona Smith as Associate Principal Clerk from the 19th April and appoint her as Principal Clerk to the General Assembly with effect from 1st July 2022. (Section 24)
22. Approve the change in membership numbers for the Committee on Chaplains to Her Majesty's Forces. (Section 25)
23. Approve the appointment of Ian Forrester QC, Gillian Paterson, minister of Wellesley Parish Church and Norman Smith, minister of Granton Parish Church, as Assembly Trustees for full terms; also approve the appointment of Jennifer MacDonald as an Assembly Trustee for an initial term of one year to complete the term of Linda Irvine, renewable thereafter for a full term.
24. Note the budget for 2023 and the indicative budgets for 2024 to 2027. (Section 2 and Appendices 1 and 2)
25. Approve the arrangements proposed in respect of the Pioneer Mission Fund. (Section 5)
26. Repeal the Growth Fund Regulations (Regulations I 2019) and pass the Seeds for Growth Fund Regulations set out in Appendix 3.
27. Discharge with thanks the members of the Seeds for Change Committee.

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

COMMITTEE ON OVERTURES AND CASES

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Convert into a Standing Law of the Church the Overture Amending the Church Courts Act (Act

III 2000) as printed in Appendix C.

3. Convert into a Standing Law of the Church the Solemnisation of Same-Sex Marriage Overture as printed at Appendix D.

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

LEGAL QUESTIONS COMMITTEE

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Amend Standing Orders as detailed in (i) section 2 and Appendix A of this Report, (ii) section 4 and Appendix B of the Report of the Assembly Business Committee and (iii) the Supplementary Report of the Assembly Business Committee. (*Section 2 – Amendments to Standing Orders*)
3. Agree to send the draft Church Courts Act as set out in Appendix B to Presbyteries for consultation and direct that comments be sent to the Principal Clerk by 31 December 2022. (*Section 3 – Draft Church Courts Act & Appendix B*)
4. Instruct the Committee, in consultation with the Faith Nurture Forum and the Theological Forum, to explore whether Readers be permitted to apply for permission to officiate at marriage ceremonies and report to the General Assembly of 2023 with proposals as required.
5. Instruct the Committee, in consultation with the Faith Nurture Forum and the Theological Forum, to undertake a review of the Ministers and Deacons in Same Sex Marriages and Civil Partnerships Act (Act I 2015) and to report to a future General Assembly. (*Section 4 – Same Sex Marriage*)
6. Instruct the Committee to continue with the development of Presbytery Review, bringing the principles of Presbytery Review to the General Assembly of 2023 for approval before bringing a Presbytery Review Act to the General Assembly of 2024. (*Section 5 – Presbytery Review*)
7. Pass an Act amending the Presbytery Mission Plan Act (Act VIII 2021) as set out in Appendix D. (*Section 7 – Aspects of the Presbytery Mission Plan Act*)
8. Pass an Act amending the Appeals Act (Act I 2014) as set out in Appendix E. (*Section 8 – Appeals Act drafting*)
9. Pass an Act amending the Intimation of Appeals Act (Act VI 2004) as set out in Appendix F. (*Section 8 – Appeals Act drafting*)
10. Pass an Act amending the Commission of Assembly Act (Act VI 1997) as set out in Appendix G. (*Section 9 – Assembly Online*)
11. Note that the following arrangements have proved useful:-
 - (a) the Vacancy Protocol and the arrangements for Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions to meet and vote by video- conferencing or audio-conferencing, agreed by the Commission of Assembly on 7 July 2020,
 - (b) the three Protocols agreed by the General Assembly of October 2020 (the Congregational Meetings on Bases of Adjustment Protocol, the Congregational Meetings for Adopting the Unitary Constitution Protocol and the Congregational Meetings on Sale or Disposal of Church Buildings Protocol),
 - (c) the arrangements for Financial Boards to meet and vote by video-conferencing or audio-conferencing agreed by the General Assembly of October 2020, and
 - (d) the arrangements agreed by the General Assembly of 2021 in relation to appointments and elections to Congregational Boards;and, therefore, continue all of these arrangements as required until the General Assembly

of 2023, provided that in the case of the Congregational Meetings on Bases of Adjustment Protocol, this shall be read as relating to section 10.2 of the Presbytery Mission Plan Act (Act VIII 2021). (*Section 10 – Covid-19 Protocols*)

12. Pass an Act amending the Discipline Act (Act I 2019) as set out in Appendix H. (*Section 11 – The Discipline Act*)
13. Repeal the Licensing of Probationers Act (Act XI 1932), the Trials for Licence Act (Act VIII 1936) and the Ministerial Staffing in the Presbytery of Shetland Regulations (Regs VI 2007). (*Section 12 – Repeal of legislation*)
14. Instruct Kirk Sessions to take steps to adopt a conflict of interest policy in the form prepared by the Law department (with any future changes which may be made to the style policy to reflect changing guidance or best practice) as soon as may be practicable and in any event by 31 December 2022. (*Section 13 – Conflict of interest policy*)
15. Instruct the Committee in consultation with the Faith Nurture Forum to review Standing Order 35 on youth representatives in light of General Assembly Reform and also Presbytery Reform and to bring proposals as to an amended Standing Order 35 to the General Assembly of 2023.

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

ECUMENICAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Commend *Koinonia: God's Gift and Calling*, the report of the International Reformed-Anglican Dialogue, to the wider Church and, in particular, to the *Columba Declaration* Contact Group and the *Saint Andrew Declaration* Working Group (*Section 2*).
3. Approve the *Declaration of Friendship* between the Church of Scotland and the Catholic Church in Scotland (*Section 3, 3.5.2*).
4. Subject to the approval of the Scottish Catholic Bishops' Conference, name the Declaration of Friendship 'The Saint Margaret Declaration'.
5. Welcome the participation of an increasing number of churches in the Scottish Church Leaders' Forum and other ecumenical bodies in Scotland, and encourage the further development of an effective and coherent ecumenical network (*Section 6*).
6. Thank Mr Bob Fyffe, former General Secretary of CTBI, and Rev Dr Paul Goodliff, former General Secretary of CTE for their service, and welcome Dr Nicola Brady and Bishop Mike Royal as their respective successors (*Sections 8 and 9*).
7. Approve the delegates to Assemblies, Synods and Conferences of other Churches, and the appointment of representatives to Ecumenical Bodies, as detailed in Appendix 2.

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

THEOLOGICAL FORUM

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Commend the Report "The Earth is the Lord's: A Theological Account of Creation Care" to congregations for study and instruct the Faith Impact Forum to provide opportunities and resources to aid reflection, conversation and response. (*Section 3; Appendix 2*)
3. Receive the Report "The Confessional Position of the Church of Scotland: Proposals for Reform" as a response to the instruction given by the General Assembly of 2021. (*Section 2; Appendix 1*)

4. Instruct the Faith Nurture Forum and the Theological Forum to introduce teaching on the confessional position of the Church and the vows of office holders for those entering into recognised ministries and eldership. (*Appendix 1, Section 4.3*)
5. Approve in principle the proposals for creating a Book of Confessions and corresponding changes to the vows and subscription of office holders, and instruct the Theological Forum and the Legal Questions Committee to bring an Overture effecting these changes to the General Assembly of 2023. (*Appendix 1, Sections 4.4 & 4.6*)
6. Instruct the Theological Forum, in consultation with other relevant parties, to prepare a Report with recommendations for a future General Assembly on a theological and missiological understanding and practice of church membership,

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND INVESTORS TRUST

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Appoint Mr R D Burgon as Chairman of the Investors Trust from 1 June 2022.
3. Reappoint Ms E Crichton as a member and as Vice-Chairman of the Investors Trust from 1 June 2022.
4. Approve the reappointment of Mr M G S Yuille and Mr J G Wilson as members of the Investors Trust from 1 June 2022.
5. Approve the appointment of Mr I Blair and Mr A Richmond as members from 1 June 2022.
6. Receive the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Investors Trust for 2021.

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND PENSION TRUSTEES

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Approve the appointment of Gillian Graham and Gordon Taylor as Employer Nominated Trustees of all three Schemes.

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND TRUST

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report and thank the members of the Trust for their diligence.
2. Appoint Mr Leon Marshall as Chairman from 1 June 2022.
3. Appoint Mrs Morag Angus as Vice-Chairman from 1 June 2022.
4. Re-appoint Mr Angus Bethune and the Very Rev Dr John P Chalmers as members of the Trust from 1 June 2022.

5. Thank Mr W F Stuart Lynch for his 26 years' service to the Trust and Rev Iain Cunningham for his 6 years' service to the Trust.
6. Appoint Mrs Valerie Macniven as a member of the Trust from 1 June 2022.

GEORGE J WHYTE
Cl Eccl Scot

CHURCH HYMNARY TRUSTEES

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.

GEORGE J WHYTE
Cl Eccl Scot

DELEGATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report and thank the Delegation for its work.
2. Continue the appointment of the Delegation with the same powers as hitherto - the Principal Clerk of the General Assembly to be Chair, the Depute Clerk of the General Assembly to be Vice-Chair and the Solicitor of the Church to act as Secretary.

GEORGE J WHYTE
Cl Eccl Scot

FAITH IMPACT FORUM

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report and the Supplementary Report.

Safeguarding the Integrity of Creation

2. Instruct the Forum, in partnership with the Assembly Trustees, General Trustees, Social Care Council and Eco- Congregation Scotland, to continue to develop plans and activities towards meeting a 'Net Zero by 2030 Strategy' and to report to the General Assembly in 2023. *(Section 3)*
3. Call upon the UK Government to levy urgently a windfall tax on oil and gas companies in order to address the crisis of fuel poverty across the UK.
4. In view of the call from the UN and International Energy Agency to recognise that there can be no new oil and gas developments if we are to limit global heating to 1.5 degrees Celsius, call upon the UK Government to grant no further licenses for new fossil fuel exploration or extraction.
5. Instruct the Forum to work with congregations (particularly in Priority Areas) and with partner organisations on advocacy and practical action to address the growing crises of fuel poverty and energy insecurity.

Global Justice and International Partnerships

6. Give thanks for the life and witness of Mission Partners who have died, acknowledge with gratitude those who have completed their period of service overseas, and uphold in prayer all who continue to serve. *(Section 4)*
7. Urge the UK Government to do more to ensure Covid-19 vaccines are available throughout the world, particularly in resource poor countries, and instruct the Forum to

make representations and to promote this campaign with church members. *(Section 4.1)*

8. Instruct the Forum to share with congregations and Presbyteries the work of Mediterranean Hope and other international partners providing humanitarian and integration support to displaced people, and promote opportunities for local churches to respond with prayer, action and giving. *(Section 4.2)*
9. Instruct the Forum to continue to support work with asylum seekers and refugees, alongside Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees, and encourage congregations to participate in the 'Faithful Welcome' project and to explore Community Sponsorship so that they may be directly involved in refugee resettlement. *(Section 4.6)*
10. Commend the Korea Peace Appeal and instruct the Forum to promote the appeal to church members and congregations for them to sign as part of the effort to bring an end to the Korean War. *(Section 4.8)*
11. Note the report of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Pakistani Minorities: Abductions, Forced Conversions, and Forced Marriages of Religious Minority Women and Girls in Pakistan; instruct the Forum to continue to engage with ecumenical and international partners on the issue and to provide resources to encourage church members to write to MPs urging the UK Government to implement the Report's recommendations. *(Section 4.9)*
12. Commend to congregations this year's Stamp Appeal which will support the Church in Lebanon in its ministry. *(Section 4.10)*
13. Commend to the prayers of the church the members, ministers and leaders of the Presbyterian Church of Myanmar who continue to worship and witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ in a context of conflict and danger and instruct the Forum to write to Her Majesty's Government urging the use of diplomacy and sanctions in order that the elected government of Myanmar be reinstated.

Interfaith Relations

14. Commend the ongoing dialogue and collaborative effort with the Office of the Chief Rabbi to produce a Jewish-Christian glossary to shed light on divergent uses and understandings of theological and political terms that relate to the Holy Land. *(Section 5.1)*
15. Note with concern that Islamophobia remains widespread in the UK, and in line with other faith-based, social, political and governmental organisations, adopt for internal use the All-Party Parliamentary Group's (APPG) definition of Islamophobia, and its guidelines, to aid the Church of Scotland in challenging Islamophobia. *(Section 5.2)*

Societal and Political Issues

16. Endorse the definition of Conversion Therapy as outlined in the 'Memorandum of Understanding on Conversion Therapy in the UK', noting that the Methodist Conference have supported and adopted this definition and the Church of England General Synod have endorsed a similar statement; urge the Scottish Government to ban Conversion Therapy and instruct the Forum to make representations to the Scottish Government and Scottish Parliament. *(Section 7.3)*
17. Instruct the Forum, in consultation with CrossReach and others, to report to the General Assembly of 2023 on issues relating to drugs and substance use. *(Section 7.4)*
18. Instruct the Forum to convene a cross-Church group to explore the benefits and opportunities afforded to the Church of Scotland by digital technologies and to support congregations in their utilisation of these. *(Section 7.8)*
19. Following the publication of the paper 'Apologising for Historic Wrongs' produced by the Theological Forum, acknowledge and regret the terrible harm caused to all those who suffered from accusations and prosecutions under Scotland's historic witchcraft laws, the majority of whom were women, and apologise for the role of the Church of Scotland and the General Assembly in such historical persecution.

Ukraine

20. a) Condemn the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

- b) Call for an immediate ceasefire and urge all parties, supported by the international community, to negotiate a just and peaceful solution which respects human rights, democracy and the rule of law.
- c) Urge prayer across the Church of Scotland:
- for the people of Ukraine suffering under war.
 - for wisdom among the leaders of the nations and all who work for justice and truth, and who keep open the horizon of reconciliation and peace.
 - for the generosity of the Church in supporting the spiritual and humanitarian efforts of the local partner churches for those afflicted by war.
 - to strengthen all those working in response to human need in Ukraine and other places around the world afflicted by war and violence, and for those working to welcome refugees.
- d) Condemn any Russophobia and discrimination against Russian citizens living and working in Scotland.
- e) Encourage members of the Church who wish to host refugees to register with the Homes for Ukraine scheme run by the UK Government, under the aegis of the Scottish Government as a 'super sponsor'.
- f) Instruct the Forum to continue to respond to developments in the war in Ukraine, and to raise issues with the Scottish and UK Governments, with ecumenical partners, and with Reformed church partners around the world.

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

FAITH NURTURE FORUM

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report and the Supplementary Report.
2. Instruct the Forum to continue work on the Capability framework (*Section 2.1*) (*Appendix 1*).
3. Adopt the Code of Professional Practice and Good Conduct for the Ministries of the Church of Scotland as a standard to which all those involved in the recognised ministries of the Church should be expected to adhere (*Section 2.2*) (*Appendix 2*).
4. Instruct the Forum to update the relevant Handbooks with the revised Code of Conduct at the earliest opportunity, make an electronic copy available on the Ascend website, and alert all those engaged in the recognised ministries of the Church to the revised Code by email.
5. Invite comment on the working of the Vacancy Procedure Act (Act VIII 2003) with submissions being emailed to **VacancyAct@churchofscotland.org.uk** (*Section 2.6*).
6. Pass the Act amending the International Presbytery Act (Act II 2016), as amended, as set out in the Appendix, subject to amending the proposed paragraph 1(2) in Schedule 2 of the Act to insert after "denomination of origin" the words "or where the minister is judicially suspended for a period of six months or more".
7. Call the Church to pray, recognising:
 - Our complete dependence on God;
 - The many problems, questions and issues raised throughout the Church by the Presbytery Mission Planning Process; and
 - The deep fears and anxieties that are being felt by people across the Church;

And instruct the Forum to produce prayer resources to encourage and equip people to pray for the future well-being, peace and revival of the Church.

8. Instruct Presbyteries to engage with the young adults within their boundaries as part of their mission planning process.
9. Pass an Act amending the terms of the Presbytery Mission Plan Act (Act VIII 2021) as set out in Appendix 3 but subject to deletion of the proposed amendment to section 7.0(1) in section 3 of the amending Act.
10. Urge Kirk Sessions and Presbyteries when planning the union of congregations to consider the numerical size and composition of the united Kirk Session and also whether use might be made of fixed term appointments, bearing in mind the efficient operation of that court.
11. Recognise that the implementation of certain parts of the Presbytery Mission Plan Act is having unintended consequences where there is not consensus among the involved parties and strongly urge congregations, “hubs”, groups of churches, “clusters”, to meet together monthly over the coming years for corporate prayer and seek the power of the Holy Spirit and the blessing of God and invite Presbyteries to consider using the resources of the interim and transition ministry team in these changing circumstances.
12. In order to reduce the uncertainty and anxiety for existing probationers, ministry students, potential ministry candidates and those in familiarisation and reviewable tenure, instruct the Forum to publish by September 2022 full ministries numbers and projections of expected vacancies during the latter half of 2022 and 2023; full ministries numbers would entail
 - a. ministers of FTWS currently in charges,
 - b. number of MDS staff counted towards the 600 fulltime ministries target figure by end of 2025,
 - c. number of ministers in reviewable tenures,
 - d. number of ministers in familiarisation,
 - e. number of probationers (already normally included in the Faith Nurture Forum Report), and
 - f. number of ministers expected to retire that year;with similar ministries numbers and vacancy projections to be included in subsequent Faith Nurture Forum (or its successor) Reports to the General Assembly.
13. Instruct Presbyteries to ensure that, in the period up to the General Assembly of 2025, where a weighting of resources is allocated to part or parts of the area of a Presbytery, the allocation of ministry in the Presbytery Mission Plan is demonstrably distributed so as to fulfil the spirit and purpose of the weighting; and instruct the Forum to take this principle into account in approving Presbytery Mission Plans.
14. Pass the Admission and Readmission of Ministers Act (*Appendix 4*).
15. Pass an Act amending the Selection and Training for Full-Time Ministry Act (Act X 2004) (*Appendix 5*).
16. Pass an Act amending the Readership Act (Act XVII 1992) (*Appendix 6*).
17. Pass an Act amending the Ordained Local Ministry Act (Act IX 2011) (*Appendix 7*).
18. Commend the Presbytery of Glasgow's commitment to 'Recharging the Eldership for the 21st Century' and instruct the Forum to listen to and, where appropriate, to share and develop the outcomes of the Presbytery's conference held on 05 March 2022.
19. Instruct the Forum to take time to reflect on the lower than anticipated uptake of Ordained Local Ministers, who were to play a pivotal role in previous Presbytery plans and report to the General Assembly of 2023.
20. Instruct the Forum, in conjunction with the Theological Forum, approved Education partners and any other relevant committees to investigate the possibility of creating an accelerated training course, similar or identical to the Church of England's 'Caleb Stream', which would allow Elders within a congregation to be trained and subsequently authorised by Presbytery

to administer the Sacraments within their own congregations, and report to the General Assembly of 2023.

21. Instruct the Forum to commission a video series resource, telling the stories of churches who are thriving in the area of making new disciples, in an effort to provide 'real-life role models' of how congregations in different parish contexts can grow.
22. Express thanks for the service given by Rev Prof Susan Hardman Moore as Principal of New College, Edinburgh, and affirm the proposal that Rev Dr Alison Jack be appointed as her successor from 1 September 2022 (*Section 5.14*).
23. Nominate as trustees of the Housing and Loan Fund; (*Section 8*)
 - i. Dr Eilidh Renwick to serve for a second term;
 - ii. Reverend Scott McCarthy.
24. Affirm the commitment of the Church to place priority for the poorest at the heart of all that it does, recognising the mission of Priority Area congregations in this (*Section 15*).
25. Instruct the Forum to continue to develop and deliver the key priority of implementing the whole Church strategy of prioritising support for those living in poverty and at the margins within the Faith Action Plan, through the Priority Areas Implementation Group and Priority Areas Team.
26. Urge congregations to adopt the simple ACORN initiative (*section 15.1.1*) to help members join with others, following God on mission.
27. Congratulate the congregations of Guernsey St Andrew's in the Grange and Jersey St Columba's as they celebrate the 50th anniversary of being Church of Scotland congregations.
28. Note the changes made to the cap on 'saving up' Study Leave allowances and encourage all ministers to use or continue to use the scheme for their Continuing Ministerial Education.
29. Agree the amended corrected ministries allocations for the Presbyteries of Annandale & Eskdale and Aberdeen & Shetland as set out in Appendix 1 to the Supplementary Report.
30. Notwithstanding any past errors, instruct the Selection Committee to appoint three persons, to mediate a meeting with Gordon Presbytery, Faith Nurture Forum and the Assembly Trustees to:
 - i. Verify, according to the principles applied across all other Presbyteries, the appropriate weighting and allocation of ministries to Gordon Presbytery;
 - ii. In the light of the outcome of section (i) above assist (if required) the Presbytery of Gordon to complete their Presbytery Mission Plan; and
 - iii. Advise, where appropriate, on opportunities that might exist in:
 - a. Local ecumenical collaboration,
 - b. The shape of ministry allocation within the proposed new Presbytery, and
 - c. Initiatives that might qualify for funding under the newly create Seeds for Growth Fund;and report the outcome of their work to the General Assembly of 2023.
31. Agree the weightings applied to each Presbytery for the purpose of allocating ministries set out in Appendix 1 to the Supplementary Report. (*Appendix 1*)
32. Approve the figures contained in Appendix 1 to the Supplementary Report as the total number of ministry posts to be allocated among the Presbyteries, and this to be the basis for the next five years, subject to annual reporting and agreement of the General Assembly as required in the Presbytery Mission Plan Act. (*Appendix 1*).

GEORGE J WHYTE
Cl Eccl Scot

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

COMMITTEE ON CHAPLAINS TO HM FORCES

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Thank those who serve in Her Majesty's Forces as Chaplains for their service to Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force personnel, their families and the wider military community.
3. Recognise the particular service of those Chaplains who have served in support of the contribution of the Armed Services to efforts relating to Covid-19 and on operations in Afghanistan in summer 2021.
4. Recognise the contribution of Forces Chaplains to the Church's engagement with many young adults, some of whom might not otherwise come into contact with the ministry of the Church.
5. Commend to the prayers of the Church all Chaplains, their families and all those whom they serve.
6. Encourage eligible ministers of the Church to consider service as a Chaplain to HM Forces, Regular or Reservist.
7. Encourage those eligible to consider service as Chaplains in any of the Cadet organisations and thank all serving Cadet Chaplains.

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

SOCIAL CARE COUNCIL

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Commend the staff for their continued efforts throughout the past year in dealing with the challenges of an ongoing pandemic and give thanks for their dedicated service in Christ's name. *(Section 2)*
3. Note the financial impact of Covid-19 as it has affected occupancy, recruitment, service delivery and fundraising. *(Section 2)*
4. Thank all those who have supported CrossReach over the past year and encourage congregations to adopt CrossReach as a charity of choice for the next year and beyond so that services can be maintained and developed. *(Section 3)*
5. Commend the close collaboration between CrossReach and the Faith Impact Forum in responding to areas of concern to the Church as they impact on wider society and instruct the Faith Impact Forum to continue to work with CrossReach to make representation on issues of national importance including the proposed legislation on a National Care Service; the investment needed to support a net carbon zero target in the care sector; and the policy and funding framework required to tackle Scotland's high level of drugs related deaths. *(Section 3)*
6. Encourage the newly formed Presbyteries to recommit to the Presbytery Pledge at the earliest opportunity and consider how they might work more closely with CrossReach in their congregations and communities as they develop plans for the future. *(Section 3)*
7. Note the concerted efforts already made by CrossReach to deal with the challenges which pose a risk to future operations and endorse the priorities identified by the Board which will help set the conditions for consolidation and growth as part of a missional Church. *(Section 3)*

8. Welcome the investment being made by Scottish Government to ensure that a Living Wage can be paid to all staff within the regulated Adult Care Workforce; thank the Assembly Trustees for their continued commitment to tackling this area of gender inequality and social injustice and encourage the Assembly Trustees and CrossReach Board to continue to push for the necessary resources to ensure parity across the whole workforce. *(Section 3)*
9. Give thanks for the thousands of people who have engaged with CrossReach services over the last year and who have enriched the life of CrossReach by sharing their stories and situations; rejoice in the achievements of those who have worked so hard to overcome personal challenges; commit to hold all who are being supported through the services in prayer. *(Section 4)*

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GUILD

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Welcome the Guild's 135th anniversary and acknowledge the significant impact the Guild has had in congregations and in the wider world during that time. *(Section 1.1.1)*
3. Commend the Guild on its efforts to maintain contact with and involvement of its membership as they emerge from pandemic restrictions. *(Section 2.4)*
4. Encourage Presbyteries and Guilds Together Groups to explore ways in which they can work together to support the greater involvement of Guilds in the mission of the Church. *(Section 3.6.2)*
5. Commend the further exploration of hybrid methods of meeting to enable wider participation in the national decision-making of the Guild. *(Section 3.7.2)*
6. Celebrate the significant number of new members who have joined this year and welcome the establishment of two new Guild branches. *(Section 5.1.2)*
7. Welcome new branches where Guilds have come together to provide a vibrant, sustainable local group and commend this approach as a model for future development. *(Section 5.1.4)*
8. Congratulate the Guild on the work of its Project Partnership Scheme 2021-24 and recognise the important issues tackled and vital monies raised. *(Section 4.3)*

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

IONA COMMUNITY BOARD

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Commend the Unlocked programme to congregations, ecumenical partners and other agencies as a model for supporting those in poverty, and call on local and national church leaders to resist those proposed increases in fuel and National Insurance Contributions which most affect those in poverty. *(Sections 3.2 - 3.5)*
3. Urge congregations and all people of goodwill to remember the people of Israel / Palestine in their prayers and to press HM Government and MPs to persuade the international community and the Israeli Government in particular to bring about change in the pursuit of human rights, justice and peace for all in the Holy Land. *(Sections 4.4/4.5)*
4. Call upon all people of goodwill to raise awareness of the historical legacy of slavery, and to

support congregations and faith communities in their endeavours to research the historical legacy of slavery in their own areas, particularly in relation to local religious buildings. (Sections 4.8/4.9)

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

GENERAL TRUSTEES

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report and 2021 Accounts of the General Trustees. (Section 1.2)
2. Welcome progress on the Presbytery Mission Plan Act (Act VIII 2021). (Section 2.1)
3. Welcome:-
 - (a) the decision to provide 50% of the cost of centrally employed Presbytery Buildings Officers for reformed Presbyteries for three years, and (Section 3.5.2)
 - (b) the appointments of Presbytery Buildings Officers in Fife and Clyde. (Section 3.5.3)
4. Remind Financial Boards of their duty to provide a habitable manse and to keep it in a good state of repair and decoration and remind Presbyteries of their oversight obligations in terms of Regulations VII 2007. (Section 4.3.8)
5. Instruct Congregations a) to provide a valid Energy Performance Certificate with the Manse Condition Schedule when this is submitted for inspection to Presbytery from December 31st 2022 and b) to ensure the Energy Performance Certificate Rating for the Manse is within Categories A - C by 31st December 2025 as a target date through carrying out any necessary improvements to the building or through the sale and purchase of an approved Manse by that date.
6. Instruct the General Trustees and Faith Nurture Forum to work with Presbyteries to help them audit and assess the current stock of manses and other residential properties across the Church in such areas as energy efficiency, provision of services, maintenance to a good standard and future sustainability and to remind Presbyteries of their ongoing responsibility to ensure that where there are concerns around the condition of a manse they should consider what action should be taken, which may include working with the congregation to upgrade or replace said manse.
7. Welcome the proposed Consolidating Act for General Assembly 2023. (Section 6.1.3)
8. Note that the appointment of the Chair and the Vice-Chair has been delayed due to resignation of the Chair in March 2022. (Section 6.2.1)
9. Authorise payment of £1,900 to each of Mr Ian Townsend as the Chair and Rev Fiona Mathieson as the Vice-Chair for their services over the past year (Section 6.2.2).
10. Note and endorse the position of the General Trustees in relation to ongoing discussions with the Scottish Government about the significant adverse impact on the Church of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016 (Register of Persons Holding Controlled Interest in Land) Regulations 2021. (Section 7.2)

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note the Safeguarding Service Annual Statistical Report and thank all Safeguarding Co-ordinators for their continued commitment to safeguarding in the Church. (Section 2)

3. Note the work being undertaken by the Safeguarding Committee to manage those who pose a risk in Church communities and thank congregational Safeguarding Panels for their work in this area. *(Section 3)*
4. Instruct Ministers (for this purpose to include parish ministers, Interim Ministers, Transition Ministers, Associate Ministers, auxiliary ministers, probationers, OLM, readers, locums, and Armed Forces chaplains), to undertake safeguarding training as prescribed by the Safeguarding Service. *(Section 4.1.3)*
5. Instruct Presbyteries to maintain a Presbytery Safeguarding Register and to ensure compliance with the recommended safeguarding training in accordance with the process set out in Appendix 1 to the Report. *(Section 4.1.5)*
6. Note the change of title from Kirk Session Safeguarding Training to Trustee Safeguarding Training and instruct all active charity trustees to attend. *(Section 4.3)*
7. Instruct Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions to ensure that all those doing regulated work (paid or voluntary) and charity trustees attend refresher Safeguarding Training appropriate to their role no less frequently than every five years. *(Section 4.4)*
8. Encourage congregations to mark 'Safeguarding Sunday' on Sunday 19th June 2022, or any other suitable Sunday in June. *(Section 5.1)*
9. Instruct Kirk Sessions and Presbyteries to put in place a Whistleblowing Policy as soon as practicable. *(Section 6)*
10. Note the collaborative work with the Communications Department to bring an online Safeguarding Handbook to the Church of Scotland website. *(Section 7.1.2)*
11. Note the work of the Survivor Working Group. *(Section 8)*
12. Note the work to bring an online solution to SG7 and SG11. *(Section 9)*
13. Note the updated position in relation to the Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020. *(Section 10)*

GEORGE J WHYTE
Cl Eccl Scot

TRUSTEES OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND HOUSING AND LOAN FUND FOR RETIRED MINISTERS AND WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS OF MINISTERS MAY 2022

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Appoint Mrs Barbara Finlayson as a Trustee of the Fund.

GEORGE J WHYTE
Cl Eccl Scot

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Encourage the Standing Committees and each of the Presbyteries to invite members of Standing Committees to speak to Presbytery about the benefits of serving the wider Church with a view to generating nominations. *(Section 1.2)*
3. Make alterations to the Standing Committees of the General Assembly as set forth in the Report *(Section 7)*, subject to the following further alterations:

Add

Chaplains to HM Forces Committee

Vice-Convenor Appointed Andrew Tait (London Crown Court)

Minister resigned Alen McCulloch May 2022

Member resigning Andrew Tait

Faith Impact Forum

Minister resigned Peter Nimmo Apr 2022

Member Appointed Tom Burnham Apr 2022 (Earlston)

Appointment to Legal Bodies

- Mission Plan Review Group

Member Appointed David Watt (Airdrie New Wellwynd)

Member Appointed Grant Gordon (Edinburgh: Currie)

Theological Forum

Member Appointed Pamela Kennedy (Peebles St Andrew's Leckie)

4. Appoint David Di Paola and John Wilson, both solicitors in the Law Department, as Assessors in terms of the Discipline Act (Act I 2019). *(Section 7.1)*
5. Reappoint Roddy John MacLeod as a Convener of the Discipline Tribunal. *(Section 7.2)*
6. Reappoint Ian Miller as a Convener of the Discipline Tribunal. *(Section 7.2)*
7. Reappoint Richard McFarlane as a Convener of the Judicial Commission. *(Section 7.2)*
8. Reappoint Morag Ross as a Convener of the Judicial Commission. *(Section 7.2)*
9. Appoint Kenneth Baldwin as Convener of the Audit Committee. *(Section 7.4)*
10. Appoint Scott Brown as Convener of the Chaplains to Her Majesty's Forces Committee. *(Section 7.4)*
11. Appoint Ross Blackman as Convener of the Ecumenical Relations Committee. *(Section 7.4)*
12. Approve the appointment of the Rev Dr Karen Campbell as a member of the Faith Nurture Forum until the General Assembly of 2023.

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot

SELECTION COMMITTEE

1. Receive the Report.
2. Appoint the following three persons to serve in terms of the group appointed under the new section 3 in the Supplementary Report of the Faith Nurture Forum *(now section 30 in the collated deliverance of the Faith Nurture Forum)*:

Rev Richard Baxter, Transition Minister (Glasgow: Wellington)

Ms Sheena MacFarlane OBE, Elder (Port Glasgow: New)

Mr David Watt, Elder (Airdrie: New Wellwynd)

GEORGE J WHYTE
CI Eccl Scot