

XIX. CONGREGATIONAL CONSTITUTIONS ACT (ACT XIX 1964) (AS AMENDED BY ACT V 2003 AND ACT I 2017)

Edinburgh, 22nd May 1964, Session 7.

The General Assembly enact and ordain as follows:-

Transition to Model Deed

1. *Secs 1 to 5 repealed by Act I 2017.*

Transition to the Unitary Constitution

6. The Delegation of the General Assembly shall have power to issue to congregations of full status a Unitary Constitution, where either of the following requirements have been satisfied:-
 - (a) The congregation shall have passed a Resolution to adopt the Unitary Constitution at a Congregational Meeting specially called for the purposes by intimation on the two Sundays immediately preceding the meeting, and the Presbytery of the bounds shall have concurred in the said Resolution, or
 - (b) Two or more congregations have agreed to unite or have been united in terms of a Basis of Adjustment which provides that the financial or temporal affairs of the united congregation shall be administered as, or is in accordance with, the said Unitary Constitution.
7. Notwithstanding the terms of the Deed of Unitary Constitution, in cases where the Deed shall in future be issued to a congregation whose financial or temporal affairs immediately prior thereto have been administered by a Deacons' Court consisting wholly or partly of members ordained or commissioned for life or otherwise holding office for life, such members of the former Deacons' Court, if they so wish, shall, without election, become members of the Finance Committee or Property Committee (by whatever name), the choice between these two Committees being made in each case by the Kirk Session, for life or for as long as they wish to remain members thereof, provided always that their names remain on the Communion Roll. This provision shall no longer apply to any individual who resigns from such committee membership in terms of this section.
8.
 - (1) For the avoidance of doubt, the Unitary Constitution states the constitution of existing *quoad omnia* parishes.
 - (2) Any *quoad omnia* Kirk Session may (1) apply direct to the Delegation of the General Assembly for the issue of such a Deed, first informing the Presbytery of its intentions but without requiring the approval of the Presbytery and in any case (2) use the term "Unitary Constitution" to describe the constitution of the congregation.