



The Church of Scotland

General Assembly 2022

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

SATURDAY 21 – THURSDAY 26 MAY

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**Free WiFi is available throughout the Assembly Hall
Network: General Assembly
Password: assembly2019**

NOTES

1. The General Assembly stand:-
 - (a) when The Lord High Commissioner or the Moderator enters the Hall before the constitution of any Session;
 - (b) when Her Majesty's Commission to The Lord High Commissioner and Her Majesty's Letter to the General Assembly are read;
 - (c) when The Lord High Commissioner addresses the General Assembly, or the Moderator addresses The Lord High Commissioner; and
 - (d) when a distinguished visitor is brought into the Hall to address the General Assembly.
2. The General Assembly do not stand when The Lord High Commissioner retires from the Hall.

IN PERSON COMMISSIONERS' TRAVELLING EXPENSES AND SUBSISTENCE EXPENSES

In person commissioners may claim up to £75 per night for accommodation and up to £15 per day for out-of-pocket expenses. When commissioners are staying with family or friends, a one-off allowance of up to £80 may be claimed towards a token gift for hosts.

Expense Claim Forms will be received in the New College Foyer on:
Thursday 26 May – 10.00 am to 12.00 noon

or returned to the Principal Clerk's Office within 21 days of the close of the General Assembly

Voting Handsets must be returned to the Assembly Office or handed in with Expense Claim Forms as above in order for claims to be processed.

Expenses may only be claimed by Commissioners who have recorded their attendance at a minimum of 12 out of 15 sessions of the Assembly.

Expenses will not be paid to those attending online.

TRAINING FOR ONLINE ATTENDANCE

If you are attending the Assembly online please ensure you sign up for the one of the training events, on which information will be emailed to you separately.

CONTACT US

In the first instance please email: pcoffice@churchofscotland.org.uk with any queries.

RESOURCES

The Martin Hall is unavailable this year due to fire asset protection works. In addition, commissioners' boxes are no longer being used in a move to more digital communications. Details of resources which may be of interest to commissioners are available in the Events and Information booklet which can be viewed on the General Assembly/Publications section of the Church of Scotland website.

Assembly Office-Bearers and Procedure Committee

ASSEMBLY OFFICE-BEARERS		
Title	Name	No.
Moderator	Lord Wallace of Tankerness	604
Moderator-Designate	Rev Dr Iain Greenshields	599
Chaplains	Rev Allan Morton	601
	Rev Monika Redman	603
Principal Clerk	Rev Dr George J Whyte	605
Depute Clerk	Ms Christine Paterson	602
Procurator	Ms Laura Dunlop QC	598
Law Agent	Miss Mary Macleod	600
Precentor	Rev Colin Renwick	
Chief Steward	Mr Alexander F Gemmill	
Depute Steward	Mr Neil Proven	
Assembly Officer	Mr William Mearns	
Depute Assembly Officer	Mrs Karen McKay	

PROCEDURE COMMITTEE		
Title	Name	No.
Convener	Rev Donald McCorkindale	596
Vice-Convener	Mrs Susan Pym	597

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Roll of Commissioners

1. Presbytery of Edinburgh and West Lothian

Minister

1. Rev James D Aitken, Edinburgh: Corstorphine St Ninian's
2. Very Rev Dr Derek Browning, Edinburgh: Morningside
3. Rev Alan Childs, Edinburgh: Corstorphine Craigsbank
4. Rev David Clarkson, Edinburgh: Barclay Viewforth
5. Rev Fergus M Cook, Edinburgh: Blackhall St Columba's
6. Rev Robert Craig, Breich Valley
7. Rev James S Dewar, Edinburgh: Juniper Green
8. Rev Mark M Foster, Edinburgh: Pilrig St Paul's
9. Rev Dr Jonanda Groenewald, Polbeth Harwood l/w West Kirk of Calder
10. Rev Prof Susan Hardman Moore, University of Edinburgh*
11. Rev W. Richard Houston, Linlithgow: St Ninian's Craigmailen
12. Rev Gordon Kennedy, Edinburgh: Craiglockhart*
13. Rev Robert A Mackenzie, Edinburgh: Leith St Andrew's
14. Rev Iain May, Edinburgh: Leith South
15. Rev Alex T McAspurren, Edinburgh: Craigmillar Park l/w Edinburgh: Reid Memorial
16. Rev Marjory McPherson, Presbytery Clerk
17. Very Rev Dr Angus Morrison, (Orwell and Portmoak)
18. Rev Scott Raby, Fauldhouse: St Andrew's
19. Rev Thomas S Riddell, Linlithgow St Michael's*
20. Very Rev Colin A M Sinclair, Edinburgh: Palmerston Place
21. Rev Norman A Smith, Edinburgh: Granton
22. Rev Dr Lezley J Stewart, Recruitment and Support Secretary, Faith Action Staff
23. Very Rev Prof Iain R Torrance Kt, (University of Aberdeen)
24. Rev George Vidits, Edinburgh: St Stephen's Comely Bank
25. Rev Dr Stewart G Weaver, Edinburgh: Portobello and Joppa
26. Rev John R Wells, Edinburgh: St Margaret's
27. Rev Julia C Wiley, Armadale
28. Rev Dr John N Young, Edinburgh: Gracemount l/w Edinburgh: Liberton

Elder

29. Ms Katherine L Anderson, Edinburgh: Greenside
30. Mr John M Ballantine, Edinburgh: St Stephen's Comely Bank
31. Mr James Borland, Broxburn
32. Mrs Catherine Campbell, Edinburgh: Murrayfield
33. Mrs Patricia Chapman, Linthgow: St Ninian's Craigmailen
34. Mrs Audrey Downie, Edinburgh: Polwarth
35. Mr Andrew Gibb, Edinburgh: Corstorphine St Ninian's*
36. Mr David Gilchrist, Kirknewton and East Calder*
37. Mr Grant Gordon, Edinburgh: Currie
38. Ms Rita Griffin, Polbeth Harwood
39. Dr Hazel Hastie, Acting Presbytery Clerk
40. Mrs Margaret Hendrie, Fauldhouse: St Andrew's
41. Mr Nigel Hicks, Edinburgh: Corstorphine St Anne's*
42. Mr Douglas Horn, West Kirk of Calder
43. Prof Herbert A Kerrigan, Edinburgh: Greyfriars Kirk
44. Miss Lizabeth A Mackie, Edinburgh: St John's Colinton Mains
45. Mr Boyd McAdam, Edinburgh: Mayfield Salisbury
46. Mrs Lynne McEwen, Strathbrock
47. Mrs Jeanette Mclvor, Edinburgh: Queensferry
48. Mr Jim Mclean, Edinburgh: St Cuthbert's
49. Mr Ian Murray, Edinburgh: Priestfield
50. Mrs Margaret Nimmo, Edinburgh: Willowbrae
51. Miss Maureen Samuel, Edinburgh: St Nicholas' Sighthill
52. Mrs Marie Sneddon, Edinburgh: Liberton Northfield
53. Mr Alan Summers, Edinburgh: Granton
54. Mr Jamie Sutherland, Edinburgh: Greyfriars Kirk
- 55.
56. Mr Rodger Thom, Edinburgh: Carrick Knowe
57. Mr Ross Wilkinson, Edinburgh: Inverleith St Serf's
- 58.

Deacon

59. Mrs Elizabeth Crocker DCS, Edinburgh: Tron Kirk (Gilmerton and Moredun)
60. Mrs Glenda McLaren DCS, Deacon
61. Mr Gordon Pennykid DCS, Prison Chaplain

3. Presbytery of Lothian

Minister

62. Rev Andrew Don, Newton
63. Rev Dr Neil J Dougall, North Berwick: St Andrew Blackadder
64. Rev Nicola J Frail, Army Chaplain
65. Rev Brian C Hilsley, (Aberlady l/w Gullane)
66. Rev Malcolm Lyon, Musselburgh: St Michael's Inveresk
67. Rev Anikó Schuetz Bradwell, Humbie l/w Yester, Bolton and Saltoun
68. Rev Katherine A Taylor, Tranent
69. Rev John D Vischer, Garvald and Morham l/w Haddington: West*
70. Rev Peter J Wood, Pioneer and New Housing Co-Ordinator

Elder

71. Mr Alex M G Campbell, Humbie
72. Mrs Moira J Cockburn, Spott
73. Mr James F Couper, Longniddry
74. Mr Connor MacFadyen, Tranent
75. Miss Elizabeth W Malcolm, Cockenzie and Port Seton: Old
76. Mr T Finlay Marshall, Yester, Bolton and Saltoun
77. Mr William C F Stevenson, Traprain
78. Mrs Maureen Talac, Musselburgh: St Michael's Inveresk
79. Mrs Jacqueline Waugh, Haddington: West*

Deacon

80. Mrs Marilyn J Steele DCS, Cockenzie and Port Seton: Old

4. Presbytery of Melrose and Peebles

Minister

81. Very Rev David Arnott, (St Andrews: Hope Park with Strathkinness)
82. Rev Dr Tony Foley, West Tweeddale*
83. Rev Malcolm S Jefferson, Lyne and Manor l/w Peebles: St Andrew's Leckie
84. Rev Victoria J Linford, Caddonfoot l/w Stow: St Mary of Wedale and Heriot
85. Very Rev Dr Finlay A Macdonald, (Principal Clerk)

Elder

86. Prof Murray Campbell, Carlops*
87. Mrs Pamela Kennedy, Candidate for Ministry
88. Mrs Elizabeth Parker, Caddonfoot l/w Stow and Heriot
89. Ms Karen Ritchie, Peebles: Old
90. Miss Dorothy Small, Caddonfoot l/w Stow and Heriot

5. Presbytery of Duns

Minister

639. Very Rev Dr Susan M Brown, Greenlaw
91. Rev David Taverner, Coldstream and District Parishes*
92. Rev Norman Whyte, Ayton and District Churches

Elder

93. Mr Michael Rowe, Coldstream and District Parishes*
94. Mr Bill Stewart, Ayton and District Churches
- 640.

6. Presbytery of Jedburgh

Minister

95. Rev Alistair W Cook, Hawick: St Mary's and Old l/w Hawick: Teviot
96. Rev Colin Johnston, Cheviot Churches
97. Rev Lisa-Jane Rankin, Hawick: Wilton l/w Teviothead*

Elder

98. Mr Stuart Kelly, Cheviot Churches*
99. Mrs Moira Land, Oxnam
100. Mrs Morag McKeand, Oxnam

7. Presbytery of Annandale and Eskdale

Minister

101. Rev P. Ruth Harvey, Iona Community
102. Rev Eleanor McMahon, Gretna: Old, St Andrew's, Half Morton and Kirkpatrick Fleming
103. Rev John G Pickles, Annan: St Andrew's l/w Brydekirk*

Elder

104. Mr Donald Walker, Moffat: St Andrew's*
- 105.
- 106.

8. Presbytery of Dumfries and Kirkcudbright

Minister

107. Rev Dr David Bartholomew, Balmaclellan, Kells and Dalry l/w Carsphairn
108. Rev John Notman, Dumfries: Troqueer*
109. Rev Valerie J Ott, Gatehouse and Borgue l/w Tarff and Twynhom
110. Rev Gary J Peacock, Irongray, Lochrutton and Terregles
111. Rev Mark Smith, Dunscore l/w Glencairn and Moniaive

Elder

112. Mrs Mary Bromilow, Penpont, Keir and Tynron
113. Mrs Audrey Brown, Dumfries: St Michael's and South
114. Mr David Dick, Closeburn
115. Mrs Violet Service, Tarff and Twynholm*

116. Mr William Waugh, Sanquhar: St Bride's

9. Presbytery of Wigtown and Stranraer

Minister

117. Rev Eric Boyle, Kirkcowan l/w Wigtown*

118. Rev Edward Lyons, Penninghame

Elder

119. Mrs Gillian Lynn, Portpatrick l/w Stoneykirk

120. Mr Sam Scobie, Presbytery Clerk*

10. Presbytery of Ayr

Minister

121. Rev Theo Corney, Ballantrae l/w St Colmon (Arnshean Barrhill and Colmonell)

122. Rev Kenneth C Elliott, Prestwick: South

123. Rev Stanley Okeke, Ayr: St Andrew's

124. Rev Mandy Ralph, Annbank l/w Tarbolton

125.

126.

127.

128. Rev Rona Young, Ayr: Newton Wallacetown*

Elder

129. Mr John Dunlop, Kirkoswald

130. Mrs Elaine Grant, Ayr: St Columba

131. Mr Gordon MacDonald, Prestwick: Kingcase

132. Mr Andy Mitchell, Prestwick: South

133. Mr George Park, Ayr: St Columba*

134. Mr John Senior, Old Cumnock: Trinity

135. Mrs Christine Wilson, New Cumnock

136.

11. Presbytery of Irvine and Kilmarnock

Minister

137. Rev H Taylor Brown, Presbytery Clerk*

138. Rev David S Cameron, Kilmarnock: New Laigh Kirk

139. Rev P Jill Clancy, Chaplain: HMP Barlinnie

140. Very Rev William C Hewitt, (Presbytery Clerk: Glasgow)

141. Very Rev Dr David W Lacy, (Kilmarnock: Kay Park)

142. Rev Alison McBrier, Caldwell l/w Dunlop

143. Rev Neil Urquhart, Irvine: Fullarton

Elder

144. Miss Barbara Graham, Kilmarnock: New Laigh Kirk

145. Mrs Elizabeth Higton, Darvel

146. Mrs Jane Johnston, Kilmarnock: St John's Onthank*

147. Mrs Davina Scrimgeour, Dreghorn and Springside

148. Mrs Loraine Strang, Caldwell

149. Mrs Katrona Templeton, Ayrshire Mission to the Deaf

150.

12. Presbytery of Ardrossan

Minister

151. Rev Hilary Beresford, Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity*

152. Rev Nigel Chikanya, Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate

153. Rev Roderick MacDonald, Beith

154. Rev Sarah Nicol, Saltcoats: St Cuthbert's

Elder

155. Mrs Jean Hunter, Presbytery Clerk

156. Mr Colin McKenzie, Brodick

157. Miss Elaine Ross, Cumbrae

158. Mrs Christine Thomas, Fairlie*

Deacon

159. Mrs Isobel Beck DCS, Kilwinning: Abbey

14. Presbytery of Clyde

Minister

160. Rev Jonathan Fleming, Greenock: Lyle Kirk*

161. Rev David Hood, Paisley: South

162. Very Rev Dr Lorna Hood OBE, (Renfrew: North)

163. Rev Ann Knox, Inchinnan*

164. Rev Hanneke Marshall, Bridge of Weir: St Machar's Ranfurly

165. Rev Ann McCool, Johnstone: High

166. Rev Dr Ian K McEwan, Bearsden: Baljaffray

167. Rev Gregor McIntyre, Clydebank: Faifley

168. Rev Tim Mineard, Barrhead: St Andrew's

169. Rev John Murning, Paisley: Sherwood Greenlaw

170. Rev Francis E Murphy, Greenock: East End

171. Rev David Nicolson, Erskine

172. Rev Matthew Ritchie, Neilston

173. Rev Stuart Steell, Renfrew: Trinity

Elder

174. Mr James Bain, Renfrew: North

175. Miss Jennifer Boag, Greenock: Westburn

176. Mrs Helen Eckford, Port Glasgow: New

177. Prof Helen Grant, Bearsden: Cross

178. Mrs Myra Grant, Kilbarchan

179. Mr Iain Gray, Bearsden: New Kilpatrick

180. Mr Robert M Kinloch, Lomond

181. Ms Sheena Macfarlane, Port Glasgow: New*

182. Mr William A McCulloch, Neilston

183. Mr James McGrouther, Clydebank: Faifley

- 184. Mrs Elizabeth M McKee, Cardross
- 185. Mrs Jean Muir, Bearsden: Westerton Fairlie Memorial
- 186. Mr James Renfrew, Neilston
- 187. Mr Derek Whittle, Houston and Killellan

16. Presbytery of Glasgow

Minister

- 188. Rev Dr S Grant Barclay, Presbytery Clerk
- 189. Rev Catherine J Beattie, Giffnock: South
- 190. Rev David R Black, Glasgow: Pollockshields
- 191. Rev Sandra Black, Glasgow: Baillieston Mure Memorial l/w Baillieston St Andrew's
- 192. Rev Scott Blythe, Netherlee and Stamperland
- 193. Rev Dr Richard G Buckley, Glasgow: Trinity Possil and Henry Drummond
- 194. Rev Ian A Cathcart, Cambuslang: Flemington Hallside
- 195. Rev Stuart J Crawford, Newton Mearns
- 196. Rev Roy J M Henderson, Glasgow: Pollokshaws
- 197. Rev Bob Johnston, Kilsyth: Burns and Old
- 198. Rev Mark E Johnstone, Glasgow: Cathedral (High or St Mungo's)
- 199. Rev Dr Scott R M Kirkland, Maxwell Mearns Castle*
- 200. Very Rev Dr David W Lunan, (Presbytery Clerk)
- 201. Rev John B MacGregor, Cadder
- 202. Rev Mark Malcolm, Chryston
- 203. Rev Janet S Mathieson, Williamwood
- 204. Rev Louise J E McClements, Lenzie: Old
- 205. Rev Gavin McFadyen, Glasgow: Cardonald
- 206. Rev Ian M S McInnes, Glasgow: Dennistoun New
- 207. Rev Dr John McPake, Ecumenical Officer*
- 208. Rev Monica Michelin-Salomon, Glasgow: Causeway (Tollcross)
- 209. Rev Thomas Nelson, (Netherlee)
- 210. Rev Jeanne N Roddick, Greenbank
- 211. Rev Gillian Rooney, Giffnock: Orchardhill
- 634. Rev Dr Joan Ross, Glasgow: Carntyne
- 212. Rev Christopher J Rowe, Glasgow: Colston Milton
- 213. Rev David G Slater, Gartcosh l/w Glenboig
- 633. Rev Graham Thain, Glasgow: St David's Knightswood*
- 214. Rev Ben Thorp, Glasgow: Sandyford Henderson Memorial

- 215. Rev G Melvyn Wood, Glasgow: Blawarthill
- 635.
- Elder**
- 216. Mr Gary Bainbridge, Glasgow: Cathcart Trinity
- 217. Mr Graeme D I Barrie, Glasgow: Easterhouse*
- 218. Mr Jim Bolton, Fernhill and Cathkin
- 219. Miss Sheilah E M Bond, Glasgow: Causeway (Tollcross)
- 220. Mrs Christina L Brownlie, Glasgow: Cardonald
- 221. Mr Alastair Campbell, Broom
- 222. Mr Donald Carmichael, Giffnock: Orchardhill
- 223. Mr Alistair Dobbie, Glasgow: Eastwood
- 224. Mr Scott P Hamilton, Cambuslang
- 631. Ms Kirsteen Hart, Glasgow: Drumchapel St Andrew's
- 225. Miss Fiona Hay, Balshagray: Victoria Park
- 226. Ms Mhairi Hearle, Glasgow: Carmunnock
- 227. Mr Iain Johnston, Glasgow: Colston Milton
- 228. Ms Ann Landels, Cumbernauld: Abrohill*
- 229. Ms Fiona Macdougall, Glasgow: Castlemilk
- 230. Mr Gordon J MacFarlane, Glasgow: Clincarthill
- 231. Mrs Patricia Mackenzie, Broom
- 232. Mr Donald H Matheson, Glasgow: Croftfoot
- 233. Mrs Fiona Matheson, Glasgow: Croftfoot
- 234. Mr John G F McCallum, Kirkintilloch: St Columba's
- 235. Mr Alexander McColl, Glasgow: Dennistoun New
- 236. Mrs Isabel McDerment, Glasgow: Scotstoun
- 237. Mr Robert McFarlane, Glasgow: Knightswood Annesland Trinity
- 238. Mr John S Montgomery, Netherlee and Stamperland
- 239. Mrs Anne Neilson, Glasgow: Cathcart Old
- 240. Ms Chioma Nwafor, Glasgow: Garthamlock and Craigend
- 241. Dr Garry K Osbourne, Glasgow: Sandyford Henderson Memorial
- 242. Mr David W H Smith, Rutherglen: West and Wardlawhill
- 243. Ms Edith Watt, Glasgow: Bridgeton St Francis in the East
- 244. Mr Iain Young, Glasgow: Gorbals*
- 631.
- 632.

Deacon

245. Mr J Paul Cathcart DCS, Glasgow:
Castlemilk

**17. Presbytery of Forth Valley and
Clydesdale**

Minister

247. Rev Ross Blackman, Hamilton: Old

248. Rev Dr W John Carswell, Hamilton:
Cadzow

249. Rev Stewart Cutler, Stonehouse: St
Ninian's LEP

250. Rev Drew Gebbie, Hamilton South l/w
Quarter

251. Rev Sumit Harrison, Carnwath l/w
Carstairs

252. Rev Bryan Kerr, Interim Presbytery
Clerk*

253. Rev Murdo C Macdonald, Blantyre:
Livingstone Memorial

254. Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald, Upper Clyde

255. Rev Ian MacKenzie, (Interim Minister)

256. Rev Kevin MacKenzie, East Kilbride:
Westwood

257. Rev Iain M T Majcher, Bothwell

258. Rev Fiona Nicolson, Coatbridge: New St
Andrew's

259. Rev Dr Elijah O Obinna, Carluke: St
John's

260. Rev Christopher A Rankine, Hamilton:
Hillhouse

261. Rev Hanna Rankine, Airdrie: Clarkston

262. Rev Sarah L Ross, East Kilbride:
Moncrieff

263. Rev Beverley Stevenson, OLM

Elder

264. Mr David S Alexander, Uddingston:
Viewpark*

265. Mr Christopher W Coles, East Kilbride:
Greenhills

266. Mr Thomas W Donaldson, Wishaw: Old

267. Mr Colin Gibson, Hamilton: West

268. Mrs Karen Gillon, Carluke: St John's*

269. Mrs Margaret Harley, Upper Clyde

270. Mrs Lynette Jardine, Uddingston: Old

271. Mrs Wendy Kerr, East Kilbride: South

272. Mr Alistair Macrae, Hamilton: Cadzow

273. Mrs Anne McGowan, Cambusnethan:
North

274. Mrs Elizabeth Murphy, Larkhall: Trinity

275. Mrs Linda Murray, Airdrie: New Monkland

276. Mr Alexander Nelson, Carstairs

277. Mr Scott M Paget, Lanark: Greyfriars

278. Mr Douglas Pearson, Uddingston:
Burnhead

279. Mr Howard J Rennie, Motherwell: St
Mary's

280. Mr George Robertson, Hamilton: Old

Deacon

281. Mr Colin Ogilvie DCS, Coatbridge: Calder
l/w Coatbridge: Old Monkland Locum*

19. Presbytery of Argyll

Minister

282. Rev Dr Roderick D Campbell, (West
Lochfyneside)

283. Rev Jenny Earl, Iona l/w Kilfinichen and
Kilvickeon and the Ross of Mull

284. Rev Elizabeth A Gibson, North Mull

285. Rev Janet MacKellar, Cowal Kirk

286. Rev David Mitchell, West Cowal*

287. Rev Tom Telfer, Kilchrennan and
Dalavich l/w Muckairn

288. Rev Dorothy M Wallace, West
Lochfyneside

Elder

289. Mr Alan Jack, North Mull

290. Miss Maureen M Mackinnon, North and
West Islay

291. Miss Catherine T Robb, Ardchattan

292. Mr W Stewart Shaw, Presbytery Clerk*

293. Lord Bruce Weir, South Knapdale

294. Miss Caroline Wood, West Lochfyneside

295.

22. Presbytery of Falkirk

Minister

296. Very Rev Albert O Bogle, Sanctuary
First

297. Rev Scott Burton, Brightons*

298. Rev Philip Hacking, OLM (Presbytery
Transition Support)

299. Rev Monica MacDonald, Slamannan

300. Rev Amanda J MacQuarrie, Bo'ness: Old

301. Rev Andrew Sarle, Falkirk: Bainsford

302. Rev James Todd, Airth

303. Rev Debbie Van Welie, Polmont: Old

Elder

304. Mr Edward Colliar, Grangemouth:
Abbotsgrange

305. Mrs Jennifer Esplin, Dunipace

306. Mrs Rosemary Hoskins, Falkirk: Trinity

307. Mrs Catherine Moore, Blackbraes and
Sheildhill

308. Mr Thomas Rintoul, Bonnybridge: St
Helen's

309. Mr Iain Scoular, Larbert: Old

310. Mr Harry Sergeant, Larbert: West

311. Mrs Margaret Tooth, Larbert: East*

23. Presbytery of Stirling

Minister

- 312. Rev Gary J Caldwell, Dunblane: St Blane's l/w Lecropt
- 313. Rev Sang Y Cha, Alloa: St Mungo's
- 314. Rev Ellen Larson Davidson, Kippen l/w Norrieston
- 315. Rev Gary J McIntyre, Stirling: St Ninian's Old
- 316. Rev James N McNeil, Alva
- 317. Rev Alan F Miller, Stirling: Park
- 318. Rev Colin C Renwick, Dunblane: Cathedral
- 319. Rev Attie Van Wyk, Stirling: Park*

Elder

- 320. Mrs Beatrice Campbell, Alloa: St Mungo's
- 321. Mr Gordon Murphy, Stirling: St Ninian's Old
- 322. Mrs Anne Paterson, Clackmannan*
- 323. Mr Ian Ritchie, Stirling: Park
- 324. Mrs Carolyn Jones, Lecropt
- 325.
- 326.
- 327. Mr Michael G S Yuille, Dunblane: St Blane's

Deacon

- 328. Mrs Jean T Porter DCS, Stirling: St Mark's

24. Presbytery of Fife

Minister

- 329. Very Rev Dr Russell Barr, (Edinburgh: Cramond)
- 330. Rev Carolann Birnie, Dunfermline: St Ninian's
- 331. Rev Gavin Black, Cupar: St John's and Dairsie United*
- 332. Rev Gavin Boswell, Largo
- 333. Very Rev Dr John Chalmers, (Principal Clerk)
- 334. Rev Amos Chewachong, Newport-on-Tay
- 335. Prof Dr David Coulter, Presbytery Clerk*
- 336. Rev Elisabeth Cranfield, Methilhill and Denbeath
- 337. Rev Conor Fegan, Markinch and Thornton
- 338. Rev Alan W D Kimmitt, Glenrothes: St Columba's
- 339. Rev Charles Lines, Carnock and Oakley
- 340. Rev Robin J McAlpine, Kirkcaldy: Bennoch
- 341. Rev Zoltan Safrany, Lochgelly and Benarty: St Serf's
- 342. Rev David Scott, Traprain

- 343. Rev Alec Shuttleworth, Tulliallan and Kincardine l/w Saline and Blairingone
- 344. Rev Christine Sime, Dalgety
- 345. Rev David J Smith, Glenrothes: St Ninian's
- 346. Rev Justin Taylor, Kirkcaldy: Abbotshall
- 347. Rev Michael Weaver, Dunfermline: Gillespie Memorial

Elder

- 348. Mr Philip Black, Saline and Blairingone
- 349. Mrs Faye Buchan, Dunfermline: St Ninian's
- 350. Mrs Ella Coates, Cowdenbeath: Trinity
- 351. Mrs Pauline Craig, Cupar: St John's and Dairsie
- 352. Mrs Elma Doig, Dalgety
- 353. Mr George Drummond, Kirkcaldy: Bennoch
- 354. Mrs Lorraine E Fraser, Dunfermline: Abbey*
- 355. Mrs Carol Gibson, Glenrothes: St Columba's
- 356. Mr Andrew Gilmour, Largo
- 357. Mr William Imlay, Newport-on-Tay
- 358. Mrs Catherine Johnstone, Dunfermline: Gillespie Memorial
- 359. Mrs Lauren Jones, Glenrothes: St Columba's
- 360. Mr Alexander Muirhead, Carnock and Oakley
- 361. Mrs Nancy Olszok, Lochgelly and Benarty: St Serf's
- 362. Mrs May N Russell, Methilhill and Denbeath
- 363. Mrs Margaret Stewart, Lindores
- 364. Dr Michael J Stewart, St Andrews: Holy Trinity
- 365. Ms Morag Wilkinson, Inverkeithing
- 366. Mrs Catherine Wilson, Anstruther and Cellardyke: St Ayle*

Deacon

- 367. Mrs Jacqueline Thomson DCS, Buckhaven and Wemyss

27. Presbytery of Dunkeld and Meigle

Minister

- 368. Rev R Fraser Penny, Dunkeld*
- 369. Rev John Russell, Presbytery Clerk
- 370. Rev Grace M F Steele, Blair Atholl and Struan l/w Braes of Rannoch l/w Foss

Elder

- 371. Dr David Frame, Pitlochry*
- 372. Mr Andrew D Hodge, Rattray
- 373. Mrs Christine E McNicoll, Dunkeld

28. Presbytery of Perth

Minister

- 374. Rev J Colin Caskie, Presbytery Clerk*
- 375. Rev Craig Dobney, Comrie l/w Dundurn
- 376. Rev Maudeen MacDougall, Scone and St Martins
- 377. Rev Robert J Malloch, Almondbank Tibbermore l/w Methven and Logiealmond
- 378. Rev Mairi Perkins, Blackford l/w Ardoch
- 379. Rev Alan D Reid, Kinross
- 380. Rev Susan Thorburn, Errol

Elder

- 381. Mrs Helen May Bayne, Muthill
- 382. Mr Neil Bremner, Mid Strathearn
- 383. Mrs Fiona Bruce, Perth: St Matthew's
- 384. Mrs Donna-Kerri Dobney, Comrie
- 385. Mr Hugh L Mackenzie, Perth: Craigie and Moncreiffe
- 386. Mrs Heather McDonald, Ardoch
- 387. Mr Douglas M Wiseman, Perth: Kinnoull*

Deacon

- 388. Ms Patricia M Munro DCS, Perth: St John's

29. Presbytery of Dundee

Minister

- 389. Rev Roderick J Grahame, Dundee: Lochee
- 390. Rev Dr Jean Kirkwood, Dundee: Trinity*
- 391. Rev Grant Maclaughlan, Dundee: Logie and St John's (Cross)
- 392. Rev Robert Mallinson, Dundee: Menzieshill
- 393. Rev Emma McDonald, Dundee: St David's High Kirk
- 394. Rev Catriona Morrison, Invergowrie
- 395. Rev Fiona J Reynolds, Monifieth

Elder

- 396. Miss Margaret Adamson, Dundee: Meadowside St Paul's
- 397. Miss Yvonne Grant, Dundee: Coldside
- 398. Mr David Inglis, Monifieth*
- 399. Mr J William Joss, Dundee: Strathmartine
- 400. Mr David J B Murie, Dundee: Broughty Ferry St James'
- 401. Miss Catherine Reid, Dundee: Broughty Ferry New Kirk
- 402. Mr Euan Smith, Inchtute and Kinnaird

30. Presbytery of Angus

Minister

- 403. Rev Stephen Blakey, The Isla Parishes
- 404. Very Rev Dr Martin Fair, Arbroath: St Andrew's
- 405. Rev Michael S Goss, Barry l/w Carnoustie

- 406. Rev Heather Gourlay, OLM supporting Rural Ministry
- 407. Rev Maggie Hunt, Forfar: St Margaret's*
- 408. Rev John K Orr, Oathlaw Tannadice l/w The Glens and Kirriemuir United
- 409. Rev Carleen Robertson, Eassie, Nevay and Newtyle

Elder

- 410. Mr James Black, Carmyllie
- 411. Miss Valerie Findlay, Eassie, Nevay and Newtyle
- 412. Mr Manliffe Goodbody, Inverkeillor and Lunan*
- 413. Miss Evelyn McPhee, Forfar: St Margaret's
- 414. Mrs Aileen Scott, Montrose: Old and St Andrew's
- 415.
- 416.

31. Presbytery of Aberdeen & Shetland

Minister

- 417. Rev Sarah Brown, Aberdeen: St Machar's Cathedral
- 418. Rev Irene A Charlton, Shetland
- 419. Rev Jonny Clipston, Newhills
- 420. Rev Duncan C Eddie, Aberdeen: Holburn West
- 421. Rev Dr John A Ferguson, Presbytery Clerk*
- 422. Rev Peter J N Johnston, Aberdeen: Ferryhill
- 423. Rev Tanya J Webster, Aberdeen: Midstocket
- 424. Rev Elizabeth J Youngson, (Aberdeen: Mastrick)

Elder

- 425. Miss Pauline M Alexander, Aberdeen: Woodside
- 426. Mrs Helen M Cruddis, Shetland
- 427. Mr Jim Donald, Shetland
- 428. Mrs Lorna M Graham, Kingswells
- 429. Mrs Eunice McConnach, Aberdeen: Rubislaw*
- 430. Mr George E McLeod, Aberdeen: Bridge of Don Oldmachar
- 431. Mr William Rae, Aberdeen: Ruthrieston West
- 432. Dr James A Repper, Aberdeen: Midstocket

32. Presbytery of Kincardine and Deeside

Minister

- 433. Rev David Galbraith, (Maryculter Trinity)*
- 434. Rev Mark Lowey, Stonehaven: Fetteresso
- 435. Rev Kenneth I Mackenzie, Braemar and Crathie

436. Rev Sarah Smith, Stonehaven: Carronside

Elder

437. Mrs Jennifer Leighton, Newtonhill

438. Mrs Eileen Pascoe, Aboyne – Dinnert

439. Mrs Sheila Robertson, (Cromar)*

440. Mrs Patricia H Thomson, Braemar and Crathie

33. Presbytery of Gordon

Minister

441. Rev Alastair J Bruce, Ellon

442. Rev Rhona Cathcart, Inverurie: West

443. Rev Dr Paul McKeown, Belhelvie

444. Rev Joshua Mikelson, Kemnay

445. Rev Sheila Mitchell, Echt and Midmar*

446. Rev Dr Alison Swindells, Barthol Chapel
l/w Tarves

Elder

447. Mr John Blanksby, New Machar

448. Miss Ann Brown, Kemnay

449. Mr W J Hepburn, Barthol Chapel

450. Mrs Diane Howie, Echt and Midmar*

451. Mrs Alison Milne, Huntly Strathbogie
Drumblade

452. Mr Allan Ritchie, Belhelvie

34. Presbytery of Buchan

Minister

453. Rev Robert A Fowlie, Longside*

454. Rev John Gow, Portsoy

455. Rev Alison Jaffrey, Fyvie l/w
Rothienorman

456. Rev Sheila M Kirk, Deer

457. Rev Dr Julia Pizzuto-Pomaco, Peterhead:
New

Elder

458. Ms Linda J Clark, Fyvie

459. Mr Robert M Esson, Cruden

460. Miss U Ruth R Mackenzie, Peterhead:
New*

461. Ms Ali MacLeod, Deer

462. Mr William R Michie, Fraserburgh: South

35. Presbytery of Moray

Minister

463. Rev Amy Bender, Keith: North, Newmill,
Boharm and Rothiemay

464. Rev Jacobus Boonzaaier, Buckie: North
l/w Rathven*

465. Rev Geoffrey D McKee, Lossiemouth: St
James'

466. Rev Seòras Orr, Bellie and Speymouth

Elder

467. Mrs Ann M C Bowie, Bellie and
Speymouth

468. Mr Stuart Foster, Knockando, Elchies
and Archiestown

469. Mrs Suzanne Foster, Knockando, Elchies
and Archiestown

470. Mr Stuart Lynch, Elgin: St Giles' and St
Columba's South*

Deacon

471. Miss Margaret R King DCS, Bellie and
Speymouth*

36. Presbytery of Abernethy

Minister

472. Rev Mary Duncanson, OLM*

473. Rev Mary Ellen Thomson, OLM

Elder

474. Mrs Barbara J Black, Abernethy

475. Mrs Anne Goodall, Boat of Garten,
Carrbridge and Kincardine*

37. Presbytery of Inverness

Minister

476. Rev Andrew Kuzma, Kiltarlity and
Kirkhill

477. Rev Alison C Mehigan, Nairn: Old

478. Rev Scott Polworth, Inverness: Kinmylies

479. Rev Michael Robertson, Hospital
Chaplain

480. Rev Fiona E Smith, Inverness: Ness Bank

483. Rev Ian A Manson, Kilmorack and
Erchless*

Elder

481. Mrs Annie Burtwell, Nairn: Old

482. Mrs Isobel Freudenthal, Culloden: The
Barn

484. Mr Andrew Ramsay, Culloden: The Barn

485. Mr David Thompson, Inverness:
Kinmylies*

486.

487.

38. Presbytery of Lochaber

Minister

489. Rev Stewart Goudie, North West
Lochaber*

490. Rev Rory N MacLeod, Fort William
Kilmallie l/w Kilmonivaig

Elder

491. Mrs Ella Gill, Acharacle*

492. Mrs Mabel W Wallace, Fort William:
Kilmallie

39. Presbytery of Ross

Minister

493. Rev Terence Burns, Cromarty l/w
Resolis and Urquhart

494. Rev Ronald Gall, Conin l/w Fodderty and
Strathpeffer*

495. Rev Philipp Gunn, Rosskeen

496. Rev Heidi Hercus, Lochbroom and
Ullapool

Elder

- 497. Mrs Sandra Allan, Fodderty and Strathpeffer
- 498. Mrs Catherine Chambers, Presbytery Clerk*
- 499. Mrs Margaret Kinsman, Resolis and Urquhart
- 500. Mr Michael Newman-Horwell, Lochbroom and Ullapool

40. Presbytery of Sutherland

Minister

- 501. Rev Iain MacLeod, Assynt and Stoer
- 502. Rev Dr John B Sterrett, Golspie
- 503. Rev Lorna Tunstall, Clyne l/w Kildonan and Loth Helmsdale*

Elder

- 504. Mrs Jeanni Hunter, Creich l/w Rosehall
- 505. Miss Mhairi Mackay, Dornoch Cathedral
- 506. Mrs Elizabeth Manson, Dornoch Cathedral*

41. Presbytery of Caithness

Minister

- 507. Rev David Macartney, North Coast
- 508. Rev Heather Stewart, Presbytery Clerk OLM*

Elder

- 509. Mrs Elizabeth Geddes, Pentland
- 510. Mrs Lorraine Sinclair, Latheron*

42. Presbytery of Lochcarron – Skye

Minister

- 511. Rev Alisdair Macleod-Mair, Snizort
- 512. Rev Fred Vincent, Glenelg, Kintail and Lochalsh*

Elder

- 513. Dr Helen V A Stewart, Applecross, Lochcarron and Torridon*
- 514.

43. Presbytery of Uist

Minister

- 515. Rev Gavin Elliott, Presbytery Clerk*

Elder

- 517.

44. Presbytery of Lewis

Minister

- 519. Rev Dr Duncan Macaskill, Carloway*
- 520. Rev John M Nicolson, Cross Ness
- 521. Rev Dougie Wolf, Barvas

Elder

- 522. Mr John Hebditch, Cross Ness
- 523. Mr Donald J Macleod, Carloway*
- 524. Mr Donald Smith, Barvas

45. Presbytery of Orkney

Minister

- 525. Rev Dr Marjory MacLean, South Ronaldsay and Burray
- 526. Rev G Fraser Macnaughton, Kirkwall: St Magnus Cathedral*
- 527. Rev James Wishart, (Deer)

Elder

- 528. Miss Margaret Sutherland, Kirkwall: St Magnus Cathedral*
- 529. Mr James Watson, Kirkwall: East
- 629.

47. Presbytery of England

Minister

- 530. Rev Mike Binks, Corby: St Ninian's
 - 531. Rev Alistair Cumming, Presbytery Clerk*
 - 532. Rev William McLaren, London: St Columba's (Associate)
 - 533. Rev Prof Paul Middleton, University Lecturer
 - 534. Rev Scott Rennie, London: Crown Court
- Elder**
- 535. Mrs Katie Bennie, Jersey: St Columba's
 - 536. Dr Hilary Boyle, Guernsey: St Andrew's in the Grange*
 - 537. Mr Neil Houston, Guernsey: St Andrews in the Grange
 - 538. Ms Sheila Nicol, London: St Columba's
 - 539. Mr Ian Russell, London: St Columba's

48. Presbytery of International Charges

Minister

- 540. Rev Graham Austin, Rotterdam: Scots International Church
- 541. Rev Derek G Lawson, Presbytery Clerk*
- 542. Rev Beata (Betsi) Thane, Malta: St Andrew's Scots Church
- 543. Rev Laurence H Twaddle, Paris: The Scots Kirk

Elder

- 544. Mrs Esther Abang-Karreman, Rotterdam: Scots International Church
- 545. Mrs Jo (Josephine) R Austen, Malta: St Andrew's Scots Church*
- 546. Mr John Barber, Budapest: St Columba's
- 547. Mrs Valerie Prieur, Paris: The Scots Kirk

49. Jerusalem

Minister

- 548. Rev Muriel Pearson, Tiberias: St Andrew's*

Elder

- 549. Ms Heather Dobson, Jerusalem: St Andrew's*

* denotes membership of the Commission of Assembly 2022-2023

DELEGATES FROM OTHER CHURCHES

UK

- The Presbyterian Church of Wales**
557. Rev T Evan Morgan, Moderator
- The United Reformed Church**
554. Rev Clare Downing, Moderator
- The United Reformed Church (National Synod of Scotland)**
560. Rev Paul Whittle, Moderator
- Church of England**
563. Rev Canon Dr Jeremy Morris, Ecumenical Adviser
- The Baptist Union of Scotland**
555. Rev Martin Hodson, General Director
- The Methodist Church in Scotland**
559. Rev Mark Slaney, Chair of the Methodist Church in Scotland
562. Ecumenical Officer
- Religious Society of Friends – General Meeting for Scotland**
550. Elizabeth Allen (Clerk) Saturday, Monday and Tuesday
561. Mary Woodward (Wednesday and Thursday)
- Scottish Episcopal Church**
558. Rt Rev Dr Keith Riglin, Bishop of Argyll and The Isles
- The United Free Church of Scotland**
608. Rev Dr David Miller, Moderator
- Roman Catholic Bishops’ Conference of Scotland**
553. Most Rev Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh
- The Salvation Army**
551. Lt Col Carol Bailey, Secretary for Scotland, Salvation Army (Monday)
552. Major David Cavanagh, Assistant Secretary for Scotland (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)
- The Congregational Federation in Scotland**
556. Ms Margaret McGuinness, Secretary

DELEGATES FROM ECUMENICAL BODIES

- Action of Churches Together in Scotland**
606. Miss Carole Hope, Convener
- Churches Together in Britain and Ireland**
607. Dr Nicola Brady, General Secretary
- Conference of European Churches**
564. Dr Jørgen Skov Sørensen, General Secretary

DELEGATES FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

AFRICA

- Presbyterian Church East Africa**
636. Rt Rev Patrick Thegu Mutahi, Moderator
610. Rev Edwin Kabathi, PCEA UK Outreach
- Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, General Synod**
611. Rt Rev Biswick Chambulu K. Nkhoma, Moderator

- Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa (Presbytery of Zimbabwe)**
612. Rev Lydia Neshangwe, Moderator Elect

AMERICAS

- Presbyterian Church in Canada**
613. Rev Dr Daniel Scott, Moderator
- Presbyterian Church of the United States of America**
623. Dr Y Dianna Wright

ASIA

- Pakistan: Centre for Legal Aid, Assistance and Settlement.**
614. Mr Nasir Saeed, Director
- National Council of Churches in Korea**
615. Rev Dr Hong-Jun Lee, General Secretary
616. Rev Seung Min Shin, International Team Director
637. Mr Kiran Sharma, Principal

EUROPE

- Tavloa Valdese, Italy**
617. Rev Anne Zell
- Evangelical Church of Westphalia**
618. Dr Albrecht Phillips, Head of the Ecumenical Department
- Evangelical Church of the Czech Brethren**
619. Rev Alexandra Jacobea
- Hungarian Reformed Church**
620. Rev Balazs Odor, General Secretary

PACIFIC

- Uniting Church in Australia**
621. Rev Sharon Hollis, President

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

- Assembly Trustees**
568. Mrs Jean Couper
572. Mr David Harrison
574. Rev Barry Hughes
575. Dr Linda Irvine
581. Rev Dr Peter McEnhill
583. Mr James McNeill
585. Mr Geoff Miller
587. Ms Ann Nelson
594. Mr Philip Ziegler
- Chief Officer**
576. Mr Dave Kendall
- Head of the Faith Action Programme**
591. Rev Dr Scott Shackleton
- Church of Scotland Pension Trustees**
609. Miss Lin Macmillan
- Deputy Treasurer**
592. Ms Leanne Thompson
- Ecumenical Relations Committee**
573. Rev Alexander Horsburgh
- Faith Nurture Forum**
571. Rev Rosemary Frew

Faith Impact Forum

565. Rev Ian Alexander

General Treasurer

577. Mrs Anne Macintosh

General Trustees

584. Mr Barri Millar

Head of Communications

578. Ms Ruth MacLeod

Head of Human Resources

580. Mrs Elaine McCloghry

Life and Work Editor

582. Mrs Lynne McNeil

Nomination Committee

588. Rev Julie Rennick

Safeguarding Committee

624. Ms Julie Main

Scottish Churches' Parliamentary Officer

567. Mr David Bradwell

Social Care Council

569. Mrs Viv Dickenson

590. Ms Sarah Wood

The Guild

586. Mrs Margaret Muir

Theological Forum

570. Rev Dr Liam Fraser

Trustees of the Housing and Loan Fund

589. Rev MaryAnn Rennie (Monday and Tuesday)

566. Mrs Hazel Bett (Saturday, Wednesday and Thursday)

OVERSEAS STAFF ON LEAVE

Mission Partner

638. Mr Gary Brough

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES

PRESBYTERY YOUTH REPRESENTATION

Lothian

627. Miss Kate MacFadyen

Glasgow

622. Miss Beth Wallace

Kincardine and Deeside

625. Miss Rebekka Read

Buchan

626. Miss Anna Pizzuto-Pomaco

Aberdeen and Shetland

628. Mr Matthew Philip

Order of Business

Saturday 21 May 2022 – Opening Day

Session 1: 9.30 am

1. Constitution of Assembly.
2. Roll of Commissioners laid on the table.
3. Election of Moderator and Prayer of Consecration.
4. Commission to the Lord High Commissioner to be read and order given for recording it.
5. Her Majesty's Gracious Letter to be read and order given for recording it.
6. Address by the Lord High Commissioner and reply by the Moderator.
7. Address by Retiring Moderator.
8. Appointment of the Committee to Prepare Answer to Her Majesty's Gracious Letter.
9. Report of the Standing Committee on Commissions.
10. Submission of the Standing Orders.
11. Appointment of the Procedure Committee.
12. Appointment of Panel of Tellers.
13. Appointment of Committee to prepare a minute on Deceased Ministers, Missionaries and Deacons.
14. Intimation of arrangements for a celebration of Holy Communion on Monday 23 May, at 9.15 am in the Assembly Hall

Circulation Break

Session 2

1. Appointment of the next Principal Clerk (section 19 of the proposed deliverance on the Report of the Assembly Trustees).
2. Presentation of Delegates.
3. Report and Supplementary Report of the Assembly Business Committee (*including Overtures from Presbyteries wishing to unite and section 2 of the proposed deliverance of the Legal Questions Committee (with proposed amendments to standing orders) (Reports 1/1 and Order of Proceedings p59).*)
4. Report of the Scottish Bible Society and Presentation of Bible to Moderator (Reports 1/10).

Lunch

Session 3: 2.00 pm

1. Report and Supplementary Report of the Assembly Trustees (*sections 1 to 10 and 16 to 18 and 20 of the proposed deliverance and all sections of the Supplementary Report and including the Overture from the Presbytery of Sutherland*) (Reports 2/1 and Order of Proceedings p31).

Monday 23 May 2022 – Belief and Order Day

9.15 am

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Circulation Break

Session 4: 10.30 am

1. Constitution of Assembly.
2. Report of the Procedure Committee
3. Report of the Committee on Overtures and Cases (Reports 3/1).
4. Report of the Legal Questions Committee (Reports 4/1).

Lunch

Session 5: 2.00 pm

1. Report of the Ecumenical Relations Committee (Reports 5/1).
2. Report of the Theological Forum (Reports 6/1)

Circulation Break

Session 6: 3.30 pm

1. Report of the Church of Scotland Investors Trust (Reports 7/1).
2. Report of the Pension Trustees (Reports 8/1).
3. Report of the Church of Scotland Trust (Reports 9/1).
4. Report of the Church Hymnary Trustees (Reports 10/1).
5. Report of the Delegation of the General Assembly (Reports 11/1).
6. Minutes of the Appeal Hearings before the Ministries Appeal Panel (Reports 12/1).
7. Minute of the Appeal Hearing before the Judicial Commission (Reports 13/1).
8. Minute of the Appeal Hearing before the Safeguarding Appeal Group (Reports 14/1).
9. Minute of the Commission of Assembly (Reports 15/1).

Tuesday 24 May 2022 – Faith Action Plan & Programme Day

Session 7: 9.15 am

1. Constitution of Assembly.
2. Report of the Procedure Committee.
3. Report of the Assembly Trustees – Introduction to the Faith Action Plan & Programme (Reports 2/1).
4. Report of the Faith Impact Forum including Report on the Jewish-Church of Scotland Dialogue (Reports 16/1).

Circulation Break

Session 8

1. Report of the Faith Impact Forum including Report on the Jewish-Church of Scotland Dialogue (Reports 16/1) continued.
2. Report of the Faith Nurture Forum (including section 15 of the proposed deliverance on the Report of the Assembly Trustees and the Overture from the Presbytery of International Charges) (Reports 17/1).

Lunch

Session 9: 2.00 pm

1. Forums/Faith Action Plan & Programme continued.

Circulation Break

Session 10

1. Forums/Faith Action Plan & Programme continued (including sections 11-14 of the proposed deliverance on the Report of the Assembly Trustees).
2. Report of the Trustees of the Housing and Loan Fund (Reports 18/1).
3. Report of the Registration of Ministries Committee (Reports 19/1).

Wednesday 25 May 2022 – Witness and Service Day

Session 11: 9.15 am

1. Constitution of Assembly.
2. Report of the Procedure Committee.
3. Report of the Committee to draft a reply to Her Majesty's Most Gracious Letter.
4. Report of the Committee on Chaplains to HM Forces (Reports 20/1).

Circulation Break

Session 12

1. Report of the Social Care Council (Reports 21/1).
2. Report of the Church of Scotland Guild (Reports 22/1).
3. Report of the Iona Community Board (Reports 23/1).

Lunch

Session 13: 2.00 pm

1. Report of the General Trustees (Reports 24/1).
2. Report of the Safeguarding Committee (Reports 25/1).

Thursday 26 May 2022 – Looking Back and Looking Forward Day

Session 14: 9.15 am

1. Constitution of Assembly.
2. Report of the Procedure Committee.
3. Report of the Nomination Committee (Reports 26/1).
4. Report of the Selection Committee if required.
5. Report anent Deceased Ministers, Missionaries and Deacons.
6. Report of the Assembly Business Committee.
7. Act appointing the next General Assembly to meet on Saturday 20 May 2023.
8. *Remaindered business if required.*

Lunch

Session 15: 2.00 pm

1. Constitution of Assembly.
2. Introduction of the next Principal Clerk.
3. Draft Minutes of Sederunts not yet submitted to be read if required.
4. Report on the Printing of Acts.
5. Protestations called for.
6. Appointment of Committee to Prepare Minutes.
7. Act appointing the Commission of Assembly.
8. Presentations to the Moderator.
9. Moderator addresses the General Assembly.
10. The Lord High Commissioner addresses the General Assembly.
11. National Anthem.
12. Dissolution.

THE BENEDICTION

Note

It is hoped that this timetable will be adhered to but items could arise earlier or later than the times specified.

Information on Asking Questions, Making Comments, Moving Motions and Voting at GA 2022

The Standing Orders govern how business is conducted at the General Assembly. They are included further on in this Order of Proceedings; please familiarise yourself with them before the Assembly opens.

Below is a summary of how you can do some key things at the Assembly; for the full picture you need to read the Standing Orders and also the proposed amendments to Standing Orders for this “hybrid” Assembly, 2022.

ASKING QUESTIONS

You will see from the Standing Orders that questions are always in order (SO 45). However, the usual time for questions is once a Convener has presented the Report and moved the deliverance. At this point the Moderator will ask for questions.

It is best to ask general questions about a Standing Committee’s Report or work under section 1 of the deliverance (“Receive the Report”). For a more specific matter, you should ask your question when the Assembly is considering the relevant section of deliverance.

If you are in-person: You can register a “request to speak” on the Assembly Hub as set out in the subsequent paragraph. Alternatively, there will be stations placed in the Hall where you can use your commissioner number to enter a “request to speak” against the relevant section(s) of deliverance. Be ready to speak at a microphone in the Hall.

If you are online: To ask a question you should register a “request to speak” on the Assembly Hub against the appropriate section of deliverance.

MAKING COMMENTS

General comments should be made when section 1 (“Receive the Report”) is being considered; more specific comments should be made when the Assembly is considering the relevant section of deliverance.

If you are in-person: Again, you can use your commissioner number to register a “request to speak” on the Assembly Hub as set out in the subsequent paragraph. Alternatively, there will be stations placed in the Hall where you can enter a “request to speak” against the relevant section(s) of deliverance. Be ready to speak at a microphone in the Hall.

If you are online: Again, you should register a “request to speak” on the Assembly Hub against the appropriate section of deliverance.

MOVING MOTIONS

At each Assembly various “motions” are considered. These mainly consist of the proposed sections of deliverance appearing in Reports from Standing Committees. However, any Commissioner can move a motion to amend a proposed section of deliverance, offer an alternative section to the one proposed or to add a new section of deliverance. (To remove a section of deliverance, see below).

If you want to do any of these things, you need to submit a Notice of Motion to the Clerks. It helps everyone if you can give as much advance notice as possible of your motion. The Clerks may contact you about the text of your proposed motion.

Types of motion

When you prepare a Notice of Motion, you need to decide what sort of motion you want to propose. Options are:-

- **amendments** – adding words to or removing words from a proposed section of deliverance but leaving the basic meaning intact. You can also propose an amendment to another commissioner’s amendment.
- **counter-motions** – proposing an alternative to an existing proposed section of deliverance which, if approved, would be distinctly different from the section proposed by the Standing Committee (i.e. if your counter-motion is accepted by the Assembly it would mean that the originally proposed section falls).
- **new section of deliverance altogether** – adding to the Standing Committee’s work or affirming a priority. Such a motion needs to fall within the relevant Standing Committee’s remit and for this type of motion you must give the relevant Convener reasonable notice in writing.
- **If you simply don’t think that the Assembly should accept a proposed section of deliverance**, there is no need to move a motion stating the direct negative. Instead, when the Assembly is considering that section of deliverance, you should speak to explain why you encourage a vote against it.

The Moderator is the final judge of the category into which a motion falls.

How to submit a Notice of Motion:

If you are in person: If you are in the Hall with a device enabling you to do so, you can use the Assembly Hub as in the subsequent paragraph. Alternatively you can email a duly completed notice of motion form to the Clerks of Assembly using pcoffice@churchofscotland.org.uk, or you can complete and return to the Clerks at the top table or to the Assembly Office a paper notice of motion form.

If you are online: You should use the Assembly Hub to register a notice of motion in advance in respect of the relevant section(s) of deliverance. Details of how to submit a motion through the Hub will be shared at the training events and in a video to be available to you.

Procedure for taking Notices of Motion:

If you are in person: You should be ready to speak at a station in the Hall.

If you are online: You should register a “request to speak” on the Assembly Hub in respect of the relevant section of deliverance.

When the Assembly reaches the appropriate place in the debate for your motion to be moved, the Moderator will know that you have already put forward a Notice of Motion, either because it will be visible in the Assembly Hub or it will be with the Clerks. The advantage of using the Assembly Hub will be that other Commissioners will be able to see your motion in advance; they will also be able to second your motion using the Assembly Hub. Alternatively, a motion can be seconded by an in person commissioner in the Hall. All motions must be seconded. If no one is willing to second it, your motion falls.

Once your motion has been seconded, the Moderator will ask you to read what you propose (or the Clerks will do this) and the text will be shown on the screens in the Hall and the live feed. The Moderator will then invite you to tell the Assembly why you believe your proposal is the right one. You have up to five minutes to speak.

Seconding can be formal so a seconder does not need to speak in support of a proposal but if they wish to do so, they should also be ready, depending on whether they are in person or online, to speak at a station in the Hall or to register a “request to speak” on the Assembly Hub.

Once you have moved your motion, there will 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 by voting.

VOTING

If you are in person: You will vote using a bluetooth handset supplied to you at the Hall.

If you are online: You will vote using the Assembly Hub.

Also, at this Assembly, we will trial a process for **quick approval of certain sections of deliverance** rather than taking a formal vote on every occasion. This will involve the Moderator ascertaining the view of the Assembly by asking in person commissioners to stamp their feet or stand and at the same time asking online commissioners to “raise a hand” on Zoom.

Proposed Committees and Tellers

Committee to Prepare an Answer to Her Majesty's Gracious Letter

Lord Wallace of Tankerness
Rev Nicola J Frail 64
Mr Gordon J MacFarlane 230
Mrs Aileen Scott 414

Panel of Tellers

Rev Maggie Hunt 407
Ms Patricia Munro DCS 388
Rev Gregor McIntyre 167
Rev Alison Mehigan 477
Rev Sarah Ross 262
Ms Sheila Nicol 538
Mrs Lorraine Fraser 354
Mr Iain Scoular 309
Mr George Robertson 280
Mr Sam Scobie 120

**Committee to Prepare Minute on
Deceased Ministers, Missionaries and Deacons**

Lord Wallace of Tankerness *Principal Clerk*
Depute Clerk

Overtures

Presbytery of International Charges
Overture to amend the International Presbytery Act 2016 (Act II 2016) (as amended)22

Presbyteries of Duns, Jedburgh, Lothian, and Melrose & Peebles
Overture Anent the Union of the Presbyteries of Duns, Jedburgh, Lothian,
and Melrose & Peebles 25

Presbyteries of Angus, Dundee, Dunkeld & Meikle, Perth, and Stirling
Overture Anent the Union of the Presbyteries of Angus, Dundee, Dunkeld & Meikle,
Perth, and Stirling..... 27

Presbyteries of Forth Valley & Clydesdale and Falkirk
Overture Anent the Union of the Presbyteries of Forth Valley & Clydesdale and Falkirk.....29

Presbyteries of Aberdeen & Shetland, Gordon, Buchan, Kincardine & Deeside, Orkney and Moray
Overture Anent the Union of the Presbyteries of Aberdeen & Shetland, Gordon, Buchan,
Kincardine & Deeside, Orkney and Moray 31

Presbytery of Sutherland
Overture as to the allocation of ministry posts33

Overture

Overture to amend the International Presbytery Act 2016 (Act II 2016) (as amended)
From the Presbytery of International Charges

Whereas:

1. It has become evident that certain provisions of The International Presbytery Act 2016 (Act II 2016) (as amended) [hereinafter referred to as ‘the Act’] require amendment and that certain new provisions are required to ensure the proper functioning of the Presbytery of International Charges [hereinafter referred to as ‘the Presbytery’].
2. The Presbytery has consequently been in discussion with the relevant central bodies of the Church regarding the following main areas of the Act that require amendment:
 - (a) the basis on which ministers are appointed to Charges in the Presbytery; and
 - (b) vacancy procedures in the Presbytery.
3. With regard to the basis on which ministers are appointed, it should be noted that the concept of ministers being “holders of an office” as understood in Scotland has no meaning in most of the legal jurisdictions in the Presbytery and that ministers are therefore required to have contracts of employment. The arrangements contained in s.2 of the draft Act in the Appendix reflect the discussions had with the Office of the General Assembly and the Legal Questions Committee and others on this matter.
4. With regard to vacancy procedures, it has been agreed in discussions with the Office of the General Assembly and the Legal Questions Committee and others that a new structure is required in the Presbytery to take account of the responsibility of congregations to provide for the funding of ministry costs and to ensure procedures that broadly reflect the practice in Scotland but which take account of the different realities of the Presbytery. The relevant procedures are set out in Schedule 5 in the draft Act in the Appendix.

It is humbly overtured by the Presbytery of International Charges to the Venerable the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, that the General Assembly approve the proposed amending Act set out in the Appendix.

Or to do otherwise as to your Venerable Court may seem good.

Proposed Deliverance

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Overture.
2. Pass the Act amending The International Presbytery Act (Act II 2016), as amended, as set out in the Appendix.

Appendix

ACT AMENDING THE INTERNATIONAL PRESBYTERY ACT (ACT II 2016) (AS AMENDED)

Edinburgh, [] May 2022, Session []

The General Assembly hereby enact and ordain that The International Presbytery Act (Act II 2016), as amended, shall be further amended as follows:

1. By deleting in Schedule 1 to the Act the Charge of Costa del Sol.
2. In Schedule 2 of the Act:
 - (a) by inserting a new section 1 as follows and renumbering the following paragraphs:

“1. Appointments to Charges

 - (1) As the concept of “holder of an office” is not one recognised in most jurisdictions in the Presbytery, ministers elected to a Charge shall, while continuing to be holders of an office in Church law, enter into a contract of employment with the Kirk Session in such form as may be required in the relevant legal jurisdiction. It shall be a term of all such contracts that, where the minister is a minister of the Church of Scotland, he or she must retain his or her status as a minister of the Church of Scotland and that, where the minister is the holder of a Restricted Certificate of Eligibility under s.12(c) of the Admission and Readmission of Ministers Act (Act ZZ 2022), he or she must both retain their status as a minister of their denomination of origin and not have their Restricted Certificate of Eligibility withdrawn by the Church of Scotland.
 - (2) For the avoidance of doubt, all ministers in Charges remain subject to the discipline of Presbytery and the General Assembly and neither the congregation nor the Kirk Session has any power to dismiss the minister save that the Kirk Session shall be required by the Presbytery to terminate a minister’s contract of employment where the minister no longer retains his or her status as a minister of the Church of Scotland or in his or her denomination of origin, or where the minister has been introduced with a Restricted Certificate of Eligibility and this is withdrawn

by the Church of Scotland; a Kirk Session may also be required by the Presbytery to terminate a minister's contract of employment in terms of paragraph 4 of this Schedule 2."

(b) by inserting in what is currently paragraph 1.1 after the words "Church of Scotland" the following:

"and holders of a Restricted Certificate of Eligibility under section 12(c) of the Admission and Readmission of Ministers Act (Act ZZ 2022)."

(c) by deleting in the first sentences of what are currently paragraphs 1.2 and 1.3 the word "inducted" and replacing it with the word "introduced".

(d) By inserting a new paragraph 4 as follows:

"4. Termination of employment

If at any time a Kirk Session determines that it will be unable to fulfil the financial commitments it made at the time of introduction regarding payment of the costs of ministry for more than 3 months ahead, it will notify the Presbytery Clerk and the appointment of the minister shall be terminated by the Kirk Session if the Presbytery so instructs, and the Presbytery shall bear the cost of (i) any statutory compensation payable to the minister, (ii) up to a further 3 months' salary from the date of termination, (iii) the reasonable cost of travel back to Scotland (or other country from which the minister came on taking up the appointment) for the minister and family residing with him or her, and (iv) removal expenses (back to Scotland or the country from which the minister came) for furniture and personal effects up to a maximum of 25 cubic metres."

3. By inserting a new Schedule 5 as follows:

"SCHEDULE 5

Vacancy Procedures

On the occurrence of a vacancy or prospective vacancy in any Charge in the Presbytery, the provisions of the Vacancy Procedure Act (Act VIII 2003 as amended) (hereinafter referred to as 'the Act') shall apply only in so far as not inconsistent with the following provisions, which following provisions shall in that event prevail:

1. Vacancy Procedure Committee

As soon as the Vacancy Procedure Committee is aware of a vacancy or prospective vacancy, it shall:

- a) determine the release of the minister and the date on which the Charge will become vacant (in terms of s.4 of the Act);
- b) appoint an Interim Moderator for the Charge;
- c) appoint an Advisory Committee; and
- d) issue to the Kirk Session (or, where there is a financial board, to that board) of the vacant congregation, for completion and return, a Vacancy Schedule in a form specific to the Presbytery to set out (i) the details of congregational income, (ii) the proposed arrangements for payment of ministerial costs and expenses, and (iii) the costs and arrangements for the provision of a manse. The provisions of s.10(1) and (2) of the Act shall not apply.

2. Effective Date of Decisions of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Presbytery Clerk shall issue notice of the decisions of the Vacancy Procedure Committee in terms of Sch. A of the Act to the congregation and by email to all members of Presbytery, including the provision that these decisions shall become effective 7 days after notice is given, unless the Clerk receives valid notice under s.2(2) of the Act.

3. Vacancy Schedule

The Kirk Session or financial board of the vacant Charge must complete and return the following items to the Presbytery Clerk: (i) the Vacancy Schedule in the form provided by Presbytery, (ii) an Extract Minute of the Kirk Session "making a commitment fully and adequately to financially support the ministry" in the Charge and (iii) a duly completed Manse Condition Schedule.

4. Manse

Following receipt of the completed Manse Condition Schedule, the Fabric Committee of Presbytery shall arrange for the inspection of the manse and shall report to the Vacancy Procedure Committee on what action (if any) requires to be undertaken by the congregation before a date can be set for any introduction of the minister. The decision of the Vacancy Procedure Committee on considering that report will be advised to the Kirk Session, along with an instruction to carry out whatever works are required.

5. Permission to Call

(1) On the Vacancy Procedure Committee being satisfied with the completed Vacancy Schedule, Extract Minute and Manse Condition Schedule and being satisfied that the Charge

has no current or accumulated shortfalls in its contributions to central funds, that the Charge can pay the costs of a minister in terms of the Vacancy Schedule and that the provisions of s.5 of the Presbytery Mission Plan Act (Act VIII 2021) are complied with, it shall consider whether it may give permission to call a minister in terms of the Presbytery Mission Plan approved under Act VIII 2021.

- (2) Any decision to grant permission to call shall be subject to the provisions of s.2 of the Act. For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of section 8 of the Act do not apply.

6. Profile

The Kirk Session of the vacant congregation in preparing a draft Profile (once permission to call has been granted) shall include in it details from the Vacancy Schedule, including particularly details of salary level and ministry costs and the congregation's income, and shall also make reference to the Presbytery's Guidance for Ministers Taking Up or Demitting a Charge.

7. Eligibility for Election

For Charges in the Presbytery, section 18 of the Act shall include the holder of a Restricted Certificate of Eligibility in terms of section 12(c) of the Admission and Readmission of Ministers Act (Act ZZ 2022).

8. Sustaining the Call

Once the Presbytery Clerk has received the Call and other required documents (in terms of s.29 of the Act), along with one of the following:

- (i) a Certificate of the minister's registration under Category O on the Register of Ministry, or
- (ii) a valid certificate of completion of training issued by the Faith Nurture Forum (an Exit Certificate) which has not expired; or
- (iii) confirmation from the Faith Nurture Forum that the minister has been granted a Restricted Certificate of Eligibility in respect of the Charge

the Vacancy Procedure Committee will consider sustaining the Call and, provided (a) any works required to the manse have been satisfactorily completed and (b) the following Safeguarding requirements have been met, determine arrangements for the minister's introduction. No call can be sustained until the Presbytery receives evidence of the minister's membership of the PVG Scheme as defined in the Safeguarding Act (Act XVI 2018), or, in the case of a minister who is not a minister of the Church of Scotland, of reasonably equivalent clearance as required by the Safeguarding Service and appropriate to the jurisdictions both where the minister came from and will serve.

9. Guidelines

The Presbytery shall approve Supplementary Guidelines to those referred to in section 34 of the Act to provide details of the vacancy procedures specific to Charges in the Presbytery, in conformity with the provisions of this Schedule 5.

10. Notices

Notices may be given by pulpit intimation or by electronic means or by a combination of these methods."

Overture

Overture Anent the Union of the Presbyteries of Duns, Jedburgh, Lothian, and Melrose & Peebles
From the Presbyteries of Duns, Jedburgh, Lothian, and Melrose & Peebles

Whereas the Presbyteries of Duns, Jedburgh, Lothian, and Melrose & Peebles have conferred together, and have each come to the view that it is necessary for the effective good government of the Church that they have each other's mutual support and encouragement in a united Presbytery and have agreed the Basis of Union set out in the Appendix to this Overture.

It is humbly overtured by the Reverend the Presbyteries of Duns, Jedburgh, Lothian, and Melrose & Peebles to the Venerable the General Assembly to enact and ordain as follows:-

ACT ANENT THE UNION OF THE PRESBYTERIES OF DUNS, JEDBURGH, LOTHIAN, AND MELROSE & PEEBLES

Edinburgh, XX May 2022, Sess. XX

Notwithstanding the terms of Act II 1975, by which the present overall Presbytery structure of the Church was established, and following the decision of the General Assembly of 2019 to reform the number of Presbyteries, the General Assembly in the exercise of power to readjust the said structure as may be required from time to time enact and ordain that:-

1. With effect from 1 January, 2023 the Presbyteries of Duns, Jedburgh, Lothian, and Melrose & Peebles shall be united in terms of the Basis of Union agreed by them all.
2. The name of the united Presbytery shall be the Church of Scotland Presbytery of Lothian and Borders, known as 'Presbytery of Lothian and Borders'.
3. All ministers and deacons having seats in the Presbyteries of Duns, Jedburgh, Lothian, and Melrose & Peebles in terms of Act III 2000 (as amended) shall be members of the Lothian and Borders Presbytery.
4. All Presbytery elders of the Presbyteries of Duns, Jedburgh, Lothian, and Melrose & Peebles, whether commissioned by Kirk Session or appointed by the Presbytery, shall be members of the Lothian and Borders Presbytery.
5. The Presbytery shall be a charity registered with OSCR and shall retain the existing Charity Number of the Church of Scotland Presbytery of Jedburgh, Scottish Charity Number SC040976.
6. All property or funds belonging to or held on behalf of the Presbyteries of Duns, Jedburgh, Lothian, and Melrose & Peebles shall belong to the Presbytery of Lothian and Borders. Any trust or other special funds held by any of the Presbyteries of Duns, Jedburgh, Lothian, and Melrose & Peebles 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.

Proposed Deliverance

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Overture.
2. 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.

Appendix

BASIS AND PLAN OF UNION OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND PRESBYTERY OF LOTHIAN AND BORDERS

1. The united Presbytery to be created by uniting the existing Presbyteries of Duns, Jedburgh, Lothian, and Melrose & Peebles, the new Presbytery to comprise the charges as at present or as shall be in place on 31 December 2022.
2. The united Presbytery to be called the Church of Scotland Presbytery of Lothian and Borders, known as the 'Presbytery of Lothian and Borders'
3. The united Presbytery will meet for its first meeting on Saturday, 21st January 2023, in a venue to be confirmed. At this meeting:-
 - a. The Moderator will be appointed, and it will be agreed how long they will serve.
 - b. A clerk will be appointed.
 - c. The pattern of meetings will be agreed.
 - d. The standing orders for the united Presbytery will be approved.
 - e. The committee structure will be agreed.

4. A transition group will meet between May 2022 and the first meeting, January 2023, to finalise the arrangements for the initial structure, including the membership of the committees of the united Presbytery.
5. The united Presbytery may establish office space.
6. The united Presbytery may appoint additional staff, such as mission advisor or administrator.
7. The united Presbytery may establish Mission Areas and such local groups as may be determined by the new Presbytery.

Overture

Overture Anent the Union of the Presbyteries of Angus, Dundee, Dunkeld & Meigle, Perth, and Stirling

From the Presbyteries of Angus, Dundee, Dunkeld & Meigle, Perth, and Stirling

Whereas the Presbyteries of Angus, Dundee, Dunkeld & Meigle, Perth, and Stirling have conferred together, and have each come to the view that it is necessary for the effective good government of the Church that they have each other's mutual support and encouragement in a united Presbytery and have agreed the Basis of Union set out in the Appendix to this Overture at meetings of the Presbyteries on the fifteenth day of March 2022:

It is humbly overtured by the Reverend the Presbyteries of Angus, Dundee, Dunkeld & Meigle, Perth, and Stirling to the Venerable the General Assembly to enact and ordain as follows:-

ACT ANENT THE UNION OF THE PRESBYTERIES OF ANGUS, DUNDEE, DUNKELD & MEIGLE, PERTH, AND STIRLING

Edinburgh, XX May 2022, Sess. XX

Notwithstanding the terms of Act II 1975, by which the present overall Presbytery structure of the Church was established, and following the decision of the General Assembly of 2019 to reform the number of Presbyteries, the General Assembly in the exercise of power to readjust the said structure as may be required from time to time enact and ordain that:-

1. With effect from 1 January 2023 the Presbyteries of Angus, Dundee, Dunkeld & Meigle, Perth, and Stirling 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 Perth.
3. The Scottish Charity Number SC014528 shall be retained as the Scottish Charity Number of the Presbytery of Perth.
4. All ministers and deacons having seats in the Presbyteries of Angus, Dundee, Dunkeld & Meigle, Perth and Stirling in terms of Act III 2000 (as amended) shall be members of the Presbytery of Perth.
5. All Presbytery elders, whether commissioned by a Kirk Session or appointed by the Presbytery, shall, so long as their commission or appointment runs, be members of the Presbytery of Perth.
6. All property or funds belonging to or held on behalf of the Presbyteries of Angus, Dundee, Dunkeld & Meigle, Perth, and Stirling shall belong to the Presbytery of Perth. Any trust or other special funds held by any of the Presbyteries 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 the obtaining of legal advice on any question of difficulty which may arise.

Proposed Deliverance

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Overture.
2. 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.

Appendix

BASIS AND PLAN OF UNION OF THE PRESBYTERIES OF ANGUS, DUNDEE, DUNKELD & MEIGLE, PERTH, AND STIRLING

1. The united Presbytery will be created by uniting the existing Presbyteries of Angus, Dundee, Dunkeld & Meigle, Perth, and Stirling, the new Presbytery to comprise the charges as at present or as shall be in place on 31 December 2022.
2. The united Presbytery will be called the Presbytery of Perth.
3. The united Presbytery will meet for its first meeting in early 2023, on a date to be agreed and in a venue to be determined, when the normal pattern of meetings shall be decided.
4. The united Presbytery will appoint a Moderator to serve from 1 January 2023 until 31 December 2023.
5. The united Presbytery will establish a Presbytery Office with a full time Clerk, part time Depute Clerk and appropriate administrative assistance, together with a Buildings Support Officer, Finance Officer and Mission Co-ordinator, provided such staffing is affordable. The Clerk and Buildings Support Officer will be appointed prior to the commencement of the new Presbytery, to enable arrangements to be in place for the united Presbytery to commence its work on 1 January 2023.
6. The Standing Orders for the united Presbytery shall be approved by the united Presbytery at its first meeting.

7. The united Presbytery will establish committees with remits and appropriate delegation of powers of decision making, to enable a structure which allows for the minimisation of bureaucracy and duplication of effort. In addition, Mission Districts will be established as groupings of local congregations, to provide a means of assisting and encouraging them in implementing the Five Marks of Mission and of working together as appropriate.

Overture

Overture Anent the Union of the Presbyteries of Forth Valley & Clydesdale and Falkirk From the Presbyteries of Forth Valley & Clydesdale and Falkirk

Whereas the Presbyteries of Forth Valley & Clydesdale and Falkirk have conferred together, and have each come to the view that it is necessary for the effective good government of the Church that they have each other's mutual support and encouragement in a united Presbytery and have agreed the Basis of Union set out in the Appendix to this Overture at a meeting of the Presbytery of Falkirk on the seventh day of December 2021 and the Presbytery of Forth Valley & Clydesdale on the nineteenth day of February 2022:

It is humbly overtured by the Reverend the Presbyteries of Forth Valley & Clydesdale and Falkirk to the Venerable the General Assembly to enact and ordain as follows:-

ACT ANENT THE UNION OF THE PRESBYTERIES OF FORTH VALLEY & CLYDESDALE AND FALKIRK

Edinburgh, XX May 2022, Sess. XX

Notwithstanding the terms of Act II 1975, by which the present overall Presbytery structure of the Church was established, and following the decision of the General Assembly of 2019 to reform the number of Presbyteries, the General Assembly in the exercise of power to readjust the said structure as may be required from time to time enact and ordain that:-

1. With effect from 1st June 2022 the Presbyteries of Forth Valley & Clydesdale and Falkirk 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 Forth Valley & Clydesdale Church of Scotland', known as 'Forth Valley and Clydesdale Presbytery' or 'Presbytery of Forth Valley & Clydesdale'
3. The Scottish Charity Number SC048680 shall be retained as the Scottish Charity Number of Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale Church of Scotland.
4. All ministers and deacons having seats in the Presbyteries of Forth Valley & Clydesdale and Falkirk in terms of Act III 2000 (as amended) shall be members of the Forth Valley and Clydesdale Presbytery.
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 Forth Valley & Clydesdale Presbytery.
6. All property or funds belonging to or held on behalf of the Presbytery of Forth Valley & Clydesdale or the Presbytery of Falkirk shall belong to the Forth Valley & Clydesdale Presbytery. Any trust or other special funds held by either Presbytery 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 of legal advice on any question of difficulty which may arise

Proposed Deliverance

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Overture.
2. Note that subsequent to the General Assembly passing of Act 1, 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'.
3. Pass an Act anent the union of the Presbyteries of Forth Valley & Clydesdale and Falkirk, as set out in the Overture.

Appendix

BASIS AND PLAN OF UNION OF THE PRESBYTERY OF FORTH VALLEY & CLYDESDALE AND FALKIRK

1. The united Presbytery to be created by uniting the existing Presbyteries of Forth Valley & Clydesdale and Falkirk, the new Presbytery to comprise the ninety-nine charges as at present or as shall be in place on 31 May 2022.
 2. The united Presbytery to be called the Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale Church of Scotland', known as 'Forth Valley and Clydesdale Presbytery' or 'Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale'
 3. The united Presbytery to meet for its first meeting in Motherwell on 18 June 2022.
 4. The Moderator of the united Presbytery shall be the Co-Moderators of the existing Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale and will serve until September 2023.
 5. The united Presbytery to continue with a Presbytery Office and a full time Clerk and appropriate administrative assistance along with other staffing which may be appropriate and affordable.
 6. The Standing Orders for the united Presbytery shall be the Standing Orders approved by both Presbyteries on 19 February 2022, or as subsequently amended.
 7. The united Presbytery to establish a structure that commits to a principle of subsidiarity and/ or delegation that allows discussions to take place in the most effective forum.
 8. The objective of the united Presbytery shall be *Supporting congregations to share the Good News of Jesus Christ through working with each other, working for each other and being with each other.*
 - *We work with each other by providing resources, knowledge and training, based on learning and receiving from each other and also being accountable to each other.*
 - *We work for each other by doing the things Presbytery can do in order to free up congregations to do what they are energised to do.*
 - *Being with each other means knowing each other, listening to each other, learning from each other and supporting each other collaboratively.*
- We encourage and support congregations to provide:*
- *Opportunities for worship, fellowship, the teaching of the Christian faith, the enriching of community life, ensuring that the views of the local Church are heard on matters of wider concern;*
 - *Pastoral care, advice and support to people in each parish.*

Overture

Overture Anent the Union of the Presbyteries of Aberdeen & Shetland, Gordon, Buchan, Kincardine & Deeside, Orkney and Moray

From the Presbyteries of Aberdeen & Shetland, Gordon, Buchan, Kincardine & Deeside, Orkney and Moray

Whereas the Presbyteries of Aberdeen & Shetland, Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside, Moray and Orkney have conferred together, and have each come to the view that it is necessary for the effective good government of the Church that they have each other's mutual support and encouragement in a united Presbytery and have agreed the Basis of Union set out in the Appendix to this Overture at meetings of the Presbyteries on First and Ninth February and First March all 2022:

It is humbly overtured by the Reverend the Presbyteries of Aberdeen & Shetland, Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside, Moray and Orkney to the Venerable the General Assembly to enact and ordain in terms of the Act appended to this Overture.

Proposed Deliverance

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Overture.
2. 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.

Appendix

ACT ANENT THE UNION OF THE PRESBYTERIES OF ABERDEEN & SHETLAND, BUCHAN, GORDON, KINCARDINE & DEESIDE, MORAY AND ORKNEY

Edinburgh, XX May 2022, Sess. XX

Notwithstanding the terms of Act II 1975, by which the present overall Presbytery structure of the Church was established, and following the decision of the General Assembly of 2019 to reform the number of Presbyteries, the General Assembly in the exercise of power to readjust the said structure as may be required from time to time enact and ordain that:-

1. With effect from 1 January 2023 the Presbyteries of Aberdeen & Shetland, Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside, Moray and Orkney shall be united in terms of the Basis of Union agreed by them all, which Basis of Union shall come into effect from the date of the passing of this Act.
2. The name of the united Presbytery shall be The Presbytery of the North East and the Northern Isles Church of Scotland, known as The Presbytery of the North East and the Northern Isles.
3. The Scottish Charity Number SC013064 shall be retained as the Scottish Charity Number of The Presbytery of the North East and the Northern Isles Church of Scotland.
4. All ministers and deacons having seats in the Presbyteries of Aberdeen & Shetland, Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside, Moray and Orkney in terms of Act III 2000 (as Amended) shall be members of The Presbytery of the North East and the Northern Isles.
5. All Presbytery elders, whether commissioned by a Kirk Session or appointed by Presbytery shall, so long as their commission or appointment runs, be members of The Presbytery of the North East and the Northern Isles.
6. All property or funds belonging to the Presbyteries of Aberdeen & Shetland, Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside, Moray and Orkney shall belong to the Presbytery of The North East and the Northern Isles. From the date of union, any trust or other special funds held by any of the Presbyteries of Aberdeen & Shetland, Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside, Moray and Orkney shall 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 of difficulty which may arise.

**Basis of Union
of the Presbyteries of
Aberdeen & Shetland, Buchan, Gordon,
Kincardine & Deeside, Moray and Orkney**

1. The Presbytery of the North East and the Northern Isles shall initially comprise the constituent charges of the Presbyteries of Aberdeen & Shetland, Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside, Moray and Orkney as existing as at 31 December 2022.
2. The Presbytery shall meet for its first meeting on Tuesday Tenth January 2023 (or on such other date as the Presbytery may decide), in an on-line format, when the normal pattern of meetings shall be set out in the Standing Orders of the Presbytery.
3. Prior to 31 December 2022 the Presbyteries of Aberdeen & Shetland, Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside, Moray and Orkney shall on the nomination of the North East and Northern Isles Steering Group and the decision of all of the Presbyteries elect a Moderator to serve The Presbytery of the North East and the Northern Isles, and as its first act at its first meeting, the Presbytery shall install the Moderator elect as Moderator of the Presbytery. The Moderator so installed shall serve as Moderator until 30 June 2024. The period of service of succeeding Moderators shall be set out in the Standing Orders of the Presbytery.
4. The Presbytery shall appoint a full time Clerk and shall make appropriate administrative and staffing arrangements.
5. The Standing Orders for the Presbytery shall be approved at the first meeting of the Presbytery.

Overture

Overture as to the allocation of ministry posts
From the Presbytery of Sutherland

Whereas:

1. Background**1.1 The General Assembly of 2021 agreed:**

Assembly Trustees: Note the work done in projecting both the future availability and affordability of ministries across the Church of Scotland and set as a realistic aim that Presbyteries should seek to implement by 2025 Presbytery Plans based around 600 fulltime equivalent ministries and a target of no more than 60 further charges vacant at any one time.

Faith Nurture Forum (FNF): Agree the number of ministry posts allocated to each Presbytery set out in Appendix 4 and instruct that this be the figure used in the forming of any Presbytery Mission Plan.

2. The Presbytery

2.1 The geography of Sutherland is vast, over 2000sq miles including some of the most remote areas in mainland Scotland (5.3 times the size of Orkney). Sutherland stretches north from Dornoch in the east, sharing a boundary with Caithness, and in the west stretches from Lochinver north to Durness and Cape Wrath. Sutherland has a total population of around 13,000. The population may be in some central areas the size of a large urban parish however rural/remote ministry cannot be considered in the same context or culture. Rural churches and rural communities are different from those elsewhere. small populations, absence of public services, and travel distances and times all make a difference. (Resourcing Rural Ministry: Simon Martin).

2.2 There are 13 congregations with extensive mileage to cover pastorally for example the nearest crematorium or hospital is on average a 4–6-hour return journey and in some parishes there are journeys of over 2 hours return between church buildings. A rural ministry in Sutherland has historically had much greater mileage, where travel costs are high. With fewer ministry posts, the cost and driving time for ministry across Presbytery would excessively increase and so too the increased risk of incident/accident during remote rural travel.

2.3 There are poor transport links and reduced internet coverage, both of which lead to increased isolation. There is a majority of single track roads which become congested during the Tourism season from March until October (294,000 visitors: North Coast 500 Economic baseline study 2017). Unlike urban communities where transport services are readily available, any reduction in ministry will impact on missional outreach, the number of services that can be held and deprive many faithful elderly church members who are not computer literate or have poor or no internet access from gaining inclusion to any worshipping Christian community and to regular Christian fellowship.

2.4 The main employment for the rural population in Sutherland is of increased Tourism, Fishing and Farming/Crofting. The Presbytery are aware of the pastoral and missional needs in these areas and the need for an increased ministry that is pioneering although some of which has already been initiated.

3. The Mission and The Ministry

3.1 As a Presbytery we firmly believe the ministry and mission of the Gospel is relational: to Love God and to love one another. The Presbytery of Sutherland's efforts to achieve the missional aims of the Faith Action Plan are to establish new worshipping communities from crofters to campers, to engage with the under forties, to reach, teach and baptise. We are deeply concerned this will be unreachable with the reduction to ministry as proposed.

3.2 The Presbytery at present has an allocation of 7 fulltime ministry posts of word and sacrament. The present allocation still does not fully cover the needs of the parishes and congregations. There are presently 2 additional parishes where ministry is covered by an OLM and a Locum.

3.3 Presbytery has considered many configurations of the allocated 4 fulltime equivalent ministry posts. Due thought was given to creating part-time posts. There are continued difficulties of filling part-time ministry posts in the area due to an increased cost of living in food and fuel (there is no supermarket on the North Coast) and lack of accommodation, meaning that a person in a part-time post would be unable to fund themselves and their calling to ministry. Sutherland Presbytery alongside many other rural/remote presbyteries continues to have the need /permission to offer an increased PayScale incentive for newly ordained in rural ministry.

3.4 The Presbytery recognise the need for a ministry reduction as agreed by the General Assembly of 2021 and believe that an effective mission plan would be possible with six posts but not with four. The proposed reduction of three of the existing fulltime ordained posts will

reduce the Christian witness in Sutherland especially where other denominations are already stepping back from the area. The reduction in ministry time would also reduce the perception of our Church's value and life as it would cease newly launched initiatives within the rural culture and context in the life, faith and industry of Sutherland, initiatives that are already beginning to deliver on these mission objectives.

3.5 There is also a deep concern for the duty of care to ministers. Consideration needs to be given to the additional responsibilities placed, more extensive travel, increased isolation, and the ending of existing mission projects due to inadequate resources. These factors might lead to additional risks to the mental /physical / spiritual well-being of already stretched ministers within a large rural remote Presbytery.

4. Budgetary implications of this proposal

Once the financial information for the Unincorporated Entities is published in the Assembly Trustees' Supplementary Report, the Presbytery will consider that and will seek to liaise with General Treasurer so as to be in a position to make oral suggestions at the Assembly as to where the money for the additional posts might be found, or where money might be saved elsewhere to release money for the posts, but in view of the deadline in Standing Orders for an Overture (24 April), it is not possible to say more in this Overture.

Therefore:

It is humbly overtured by the Presbytery of Sutherland to the Venerable the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, that the General Assembly should agree to increase the allocation of fulltime equivalent ministry posts for the Presbytery of Sutherland from four to six to enable effective Presbytery Mission Planning that evidences the Five Marks of Mission. Or to do otherwise as to your Venerable Court may seem good.

Proposed Deliverance

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Overture.
2. Agree that:
 - a) the allocation of fulltime equivalent ministries posts for the Presbytery of Sutherland should be increased from four to six, and
 - b) the overall number of fulltime equivalent ministries posts by 2025 on which Presbyteries should base their Mission Planning should be increased from 661 to 663.

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SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF THE ASSEMBLY TRUSTEES MAY 2022

Proposed Deliverance

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Supplementary Report.
2. Receive the 2021 Report and Accounts of the Church of Scotland Unincorporated Entities.
3. Note the budget for 2023 and the indicative budgets for 2024 to 2027. (Section 2 and Appendices 1 and 2)
4. Approve the arrangements proposed in respect of the Pioneer Mission Fund. (Section 5)
5. Repeal the Growth Fund Regulations (Regulations I 2019) and pass the Seeds for Growth Fund Regulations set out in Appendix 3.
6. Discharge with thanks the members of the Seeds for Change Committee.

Report

1. FINANCE

1.1 AUDIT OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR 2021

The external auditors gave an unqualified or “clean” audit opinion on the Report and Accounts of the Unincorporated Entities Scottish Charity Number 011353 (the “Charity”) which is a very positive outcome given the current operating environment. The General Assembly is invited to receive the 2021 Report and Accounts of the Unincorporated Entities. Commissioners are invited to view the Report and Accounts on the Church’s website.

2. CONGREGATIONAL INCOME

Introduction

Section 5 of the Trustees’ main Report describes the challenging financial situation facing the whole Church. The income of congregations has understandably been affected to varying degrees by the Covid-19 Pandemic. The analysis carried out indicates, with a high level of certainty, that the aggregate income of congregations will not recover to pre-Pandemic levels during 2022 or 2023. Beyond that, it is very difficult to forecast the potential levels of income for the following reasons:

- The continuing Covid-19 Pandemic: The number of church members who return to in-person worship; the timing and extent to which “normal activities” are resumed; when and if organisations return to meeting in church halls; and whether there has been a permanent effect on giving.
- The continued decline in church membership: A 34% reduction was seen between 2011 and 2021 with no indication of this trend reversing from 2021 congregational data.
- Presbytery Mission Plans: Previous data tells us that income reduces when congregations unite and dissolve. It is highly likely that income will reduce as more congregations are united or dissolved as a result of Presbytery Mission Plans. We cannot forecast the results of this until the planning process is complete and plans are available for assessment.
- Global and economic uncertainty: Congregational income has not kept up with inflation even during the years when inflation was at very low levels. Church members and supporters will now be adversely affected by the increasing cost of living, putting pressure on their ability to maintain their giving at a time when church income needs to increase just to keep pace with rising costs.

Whilst further mitigating actions will be required, it is highly unlikely that income will recover to the 2019 level.

Notwithstanding the above, the Church still has almost 284,000 members as well as a significant number of other attenders and supporters, and almost a third of congregations report new worshipping communities. These members and supporters contribute to their own congregations, to projects of the wider Church and to special appeals for help, showing a level of commitment and compassion that embodies what it means to be church. The Trustees continue to be encouraged by these tangible expressions of faith. By way of an example, as at 31 March 2022, donations of £230,000 had been received for onward transmission to the Reformed Church in Hungary: Aid which will be directed to its work with Ukrainian refugees arriving in Budapest.

There remains considerable potential to grow our income as a Church and the Trustees encourage congregations to embrace the new *Giving to Grow* scheme to realise this potential.

2.1. Mitigating the Risk of Declining Income

Should this potential decline in income simply be accepted or is there something that can be done to prevent it? How can this risk be mitigated? Opportunities remain for the development and implementation of strategic initiatives on income generation at local, national and

Presbytery levels. Presbytery Mission Planning takes account of the financial health of congregations and builds on success. This can also be progressed by individual congregations by engaging in programmes of Christian Stewardship, by engagement with the Congregational Task Group and by recognising that, as a Presbyterian Church, congregations blessed with financial resources have an obligation to support congregations who are not.

Our Stewardship Team can advise on many practical matters such as how to explore Christian stewardship in its broadest sense using the *Narrative of Generosity* resource; enabling giving through a range of accessible ways including digital methods; promoting the impact of legacy giving; and helping congregations get the basics right to maximise income. The Team can be contacted at stewardship@churchofscotland.org.uk. We would encourage you to get in touch for a conversation; that first step can be a catalyst for helping your congregation improve its sustainability.

We urge congregations and Presbyteries to embrace the new *Giving to Grow* Scheme. Income needs to grow as one of the elements that will help underpin the overall sustainability and growth of the Church. This is a stewardship and missional imperative. Income is not an end in itself.

People are our most valuable resource and this is reflected in the new Scheme which recognises that charges should first pay for their minister (“Ministry Here”). They should also, as part of a Presbyterian Church, contribute to the cost of ministry in other places (“Ministry Elsewhere”) and to the activities which provide support for the Church’s mission as well as ensuring it complies with statutory regulations, safeguarding functions and best practices (“Shared Activities”). The Scheme thereby encourages congregations to envisage how their efforts can work towards a healthy financial future for their own church, for congregations in other places and for shared work within their Presbytery and beyond.

Where a congregation is in a position to do more, the Scheme allows for Giving Agreements between Presbyteries and congregations towards local or national initiatives and we commend the imaginative use of these.

We have also seen how congregations have benefited from successful grant applications to external funds and would highlight that grants received are not included in the income base for calculating assessable income of congregations. The Church’s grants manager, David Williams, is working to support the grants process from identification of opportunities through to supporting the submission process. Email David at grants@churchofscotland.org.uk.

2.2. Analysis of Congregational Income

Appendix I sets out the actual and projected congregational income over the years 2019 to 2023. It should be noted that the congregational income on Appendix I excludes income which is not assessable – such as legacies, grants, receipts for major fabric projects, etc, which are assumed to be used exclusively to meet local congregational expenditure. It also does not include endowment, glebe and consolidated fabric fund income.

The Trustees’ main Report states that congregational income decreased by 15%, £12.4 million, between 2019 (pre Covid-19) and 2020. The analysis in Appendix 1 shows a total decrease of 17.7%, £15.4 million. This difference is because the ‘Other Ordinary Income’ figure in Appendix I excludes income from the Consolidated Fabric Fund and glebes and endowments. In terms of offerings specifically, there was a decrease of 13.1% over 2019 and 2020.

Provisional assessment of 2021 income, based on a 65% return rate of Financial Statistics from congregations, shows that ordinary income increased by 1.3%. Looking at offerings in isolation, an increase of 1.9% is estimated for 2021 compared to 2020. Total offerings based on these returns are estimated at £64.32 million compared to £71.06 million in 2019 which was the last pre-Pandemic year. However, other ordinary income decreased by a further 3.3% over 2020. Other ordinary income is more difficult to predict than offerings which have proven to be more resilient and make up the majority of income. The estimates will be further refined when all congregational accounts have been received and analysed. However, the data indicates that any recovery is very tentative and no firm conclusions can be drawn on future trends at this point.

Projections have been made for 2022 and 2023. These assume that offerings continue to be relatively flat from 2021 to 2022 with more recovery in 2023 (an increase of 5.5%). We also assume a continued recovery of other ordinary income in 2022 and 2023.

Based on these estimates, the amount retained by congregations for local expenditure in 2023 will be an estimated 52% (2022 – 44%).

2.3. Analysis of Congregational Reserves

Congregations’ accounts as at 2020 have been analysed to establish how much their unrestricted reserves have been affected by the Pandemic. The results show that unrestricted reserves decreased by 3.6% from £117.33 million to £113.30 million when comparing 2019 to 2020. The 2021 position will not be known until the 2021 accounts have been analysed later in the year.

The Trustees' decision to reduce the aggregate congregational contributions from £46.5 million in 2020 to £38.1 million in 2021 and £42 million in 2022 was intended to allow congregations to both protect current reserves and replenish some of the reserves they had used to maintain their activities.

2.4. Presbytery Discretionary Allowance

The unused proportion of the 5% Presbytery Discretionary Allowance will remain available for carry forward up until December 2023.

2.5. National Budget

The 2021 General Assembly approved the introduction of the new *Giving to Grow* scheme which replaces the Ministries and Mission scheme. Therefore, instead of recommending an amount of congregational contributions to the General Assembly, the Assembly Trustees present in Appendix II estimates of congregational contributions receivable under *Giving to Grow* together with the budgeted expenditure and other income of the Unincorporated Entities for the year 2023, and forward budgets for 2024-2027. The budgeted deficit for 2023 is £8.717 million.

2.6. National Budget – Overview

The budget reflects the significant amount of change the Church is going through over the next five years, which is worth restating: Presbytery Mission Plans, the *Giving to Grow* Scheme and funding of the new Presbyteries. Congregational contributions to the national budget will reduce, as will the cost of Parish Ministry, driven by reducing numbers. The cost of funding the new Presbyteries is included as a new area that requires funding with an initial agreement to cover the baseline budget over the next five years. The budget currently maintains the status quo in terms of national office operating costs following the reductions successfully achieved over 2020 and 2021. Plans are being developed to further reduce central costs through a programme that will be focused on “Stopping, Devolving and Evolving” work. Future iterations of the budget will propose a different direction in this respect with reducing national office costs.

In order to fund and achieve the necessary changes that have been identified, the draw on national reserves, totalling £39.2 million over the period 2023 to 2027, is necessary in the most immediate years at least. This is despite having achieved the substantial savings targeted by the 2019 GA, which emphasises the further degradation in the Church's financial position over the last two Pandemic years. This needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency by the national administration embarking on the following three-step process for determining and mapping out the organisation's short and long-term financial goals in support of the Church of Scotland's vision:

- Planning to provide a framework for the Church's financial objectives — covering the next five years.
- Budgeting to detail how the plan will be carried out month to month for the current financial year (2022) covering items such as revenue, expenses, cash flow and deficit reduction. Monitoring our situation on a monthly basis will allow us to adjust the budget depending on actual income and compare actual financial statements to determine how close they are to meeting or exceeding the budget.
- Forecasting will utilise both our historical data and current data to enable predictions as to how much revenue we can expect to bring in over the next few months and years. Forecasts will be continually adjusted as new information becomes available.

Continual planning and rolling forecasts will be used to update plans, budgets and forecasts throughout the year. These approaches will help us to spot trends and take appropriate action, ensuring that we are better informed and can make more agile decisions on both forward plans and staffing levels.

2.7. Budgeted Congregational Contributions

We have carried out extensive financial modelling on the potential income to be raised through *Giving to Grow* although, as already mentioned, until we have had sight of all Presbytery Mission Plans we cannot forecast the financial impact of the Presbytery Mission Planning Act on congregational income.

Congregational contributions for 2023 will be based on the assessable congregational income for 2021, which we cannot accurately estimate until accounts have been analysed later in 2022. Therefore, the approach taken to estimate assessable income has been to apply an increase of 2% to the 2020 assessed congregational income from congregational accounts which is the most accurate information at this time. This has been tested against the returns of congregational financial statistics returns for 2021. It is judged that 2% is a realistic amount to use for 2023, the base year for the new Scheme. As already mentioned, Appendix I shows a slightly lower rate of improvement but does not include endowment, glebe or consolidated fabric fund income.

Giving to Grow links income to the cost of ministries and caps the contributions payable by a Charge at the cost of the Charge's allocated post or posts of Minister of Word and Sacrament. For this reason, *Giving to Grow* contributions in later years are reduced in line with the predicted number of minister posts. Unlike the previous system, the intention is that as congregational income grows, the contributions will not continue to rise. On this basis, the aggregate congregational contributions to the national budget would decrease from £42 million in 2022 to £32.21 million by 2027. It must be emphasised that these are estimates which will be continually reviewed. The risks to congregational income outlined in the introduction and the impact on these contributions should not be underestimated.

2.8. Parish Ministry Costs

The observed reduction in the cost of Parish Ministry is a result of increasing retirements of ministers due to the age demographic which has not been matched by a corresponding recruitment of new ministers. The Presbytery Mission Plan Act requires a Plan to be based on the Presbytery's allocation of ministries posts. The total number of such posts for the Church was agreed by the General Assembly of 2021 under the Report of the Assembly Trustees which reflected both the natural decline in numbers of ministers and future affordability. This number was then shared across the Presbyteries under the Report of the Faith Nurture Forum. However, from the budgets outlined in Appendix II, it can be seen that what the Church can afford will continue to diminish unless urgent action is taken. We are continually reviewing the ministry numbers but they are difficult to forecast. The number of Parish Ministers and Ministries Development staff included in the budget decreases from 731 full time equivalents at the end of 2022 to 610 by the end of 2027. Provision is made in the budget for interim and transition ministers, probationers, deaf ministries and ministers in training from overseas or other denominations. The total cost of these Parish Ministries will decrease by £6.1 million in 2023 from £35.8 million to £29.7 million in 2027.

2.9. Strategic Investment

The forward plan requires up-front investment to enable the identified changes and efficiencies to be implemented. Old and out-dated practices need to be modernised, streamlined and automated. The Church as a whole and the national administration, to which this budget relates, should not be holding under-performing assets including properties. There needs to be investment in some property assets to maintain their value, meet energy standards and improve income. Properties which are surplus to requirements should be disposed of. CrossReach will expend some £500,000 on improving particular service units to enhance its service provision and income and to improve energy standards, and the Housing and Loan Fund will spend c£1 million on its property improvement strategy.

There will be investment in Information and Communications Technology development projects. This will include introduction of a comprehensive document management system that will provide a controlled, accessible and secure single source of all of our information. Seed funding is being provided for projects to develop digital ministries and new congregational initiatives are being supported through grants from the Small Grants Fund and Pioneer Mission Fund.

Perhaps the most significant strategic investment will be the funding being provided to enable the start-up of the new Presbyteries and the transition from the Ministries and Mission Scheme to *Giving to Grow*. £1.44 million per annum is budgeted for the new Presbyteries and £638,000 (reducing over three years) for transition funding for those congregations who will struggle initially to pay the increased payments towards a Minister under the new scheme.

A specific contingency of £1.478 million is included under Strategic Investment to provide for cost of living increases on salaries and stipends and any short-term changes in the staff cost profile following the pay and grading and organisational reviews.

These strategic investments will cost some £5.5 million overall in 2023.

Exclusions from the strategic investments are the costs of the *Seeds for Growth Fund* which will be incorporated when the plan is developed and agreed for launch in January 2023. Likewise, there are no costs included for any reconfiguration or sale of the National Office until a decision has been made on this by the General Assembly of 2023.

2.10. Budgets of the Forums and Departments

The 2023 budgets of the Forums and Departments will largely be held at the level of 2022 subject to reducing ministerial numbers. For subsequent years, the indicative budgets show minimal change until such time as planning to provide a framework for the Church's financial objectives is developed covering the next five years. The budgets will be adjusted on a continual basis.

Budgeting for the national finances is now focused on expenditure, with managers being accountable for achieving these expenditure budgets. The work of the two Forums is being refocused into the Faith Action Programme which is under development. However, expenditure will be contained within the existing parameters.

Faith Nurture's expenditure budget of £4.4 million covers all costs relating to Parish Ministry other than the direct "employment" costs of Parish Ministries. Other Forum costs include the cost of recruiting, training and supporting ministries and the eldership; Partnership Development and Priority Areas. The Forum is also responsible for two trading areas: Life and Work magazine and the Scottish Storytelling Centre.

Faith Impact's budget of £1.9 million includes an annual block grant of £85,000 to Christian Aid. The Forum, through the residual World Mission Council as the employing agency, employs nine mission partners and provides grant funding to support its programme of attentive accompaniment of partner churches and organisations overseas. The budget also includes expenditure of the Policy and Public Affairs unit which gives the Church a voice on parliamentary and political developments.

The indicative budget shown in Appendix I does not include the work of the Church of Scotland entities in Israel which are not constituent parts of the Charity. However, the results of all of these entities are included each year in the Church's consolidated ("Group") Annual Accounts.

The Office of the General Assembly budget is also held constant at just over £1.2 million per annum. However, this will be kept under continual review and is likely to reduce as reforms are introduced.

The Support and Services departments' costs are shown before income from other entities. These departments provide services not only to the Unincorporated Entities, but to the General Trustees, Investors Trust, Church of Scotland Trust, Presbyteries and congregations. Again, these are being held constant until organisational plans have been developed. The Facilities Management budget includes, as in 2022, costs of essential fabric and rolling maintenance in the National Office.

2.11. CrossReach

CrossReach's deficits will range from £2.4 million in 2023 to £1.89 in 2027, including the annual £500,000 property investment detailed above. This is before allocating any congregational contributions or other financial assistance which the Trustees will decide upon later in 2022.

The budget does not include the cost of CrossReach becoming a full Scottish Living Wage employer but does include the estimated unfunded element of front-line care workers' increases as agreed by the Assembly Trustees. It is assumed that there will be continued progress towards a Social Care Scottish Living Wage of £12 an hour, with Operational Services having to assimilate the cost annually, after a period of discussion with commissioners.

While Covid-19 continues to present particularly difficult challenges within the care sector generally and to CrossReach, the assumption for the budget is one of a "living with Covid-19" situation with no exceptional costs included for this.

Services will continue to take appropriate steps towards financial sustainability but otherwise the budget at this point does not allow for any change in strategic direction or closures of services.

During 2022/23, the Trustees will take up once again the instruction of the 2019 Special Commission to consider how CrossReach may become financially self-sustainable.

2.12. Other Funds

These are other entities and trusts which are included in the Charity, most significantly the Housing and Loan Fund but also including New College. This is the first year the Other Funds have been included in the budget presented to the Assembly for completeness. These are included in our statutory accounts as part of the Charity and in our monthly reporting. As already mentioned, the Housing and Loan Fund Trustees are undertaking a property improvement programme to ensure:

- a) that all of their properties are at Energy Performance Certificate Level C by 2028, moving them towards the Church's net zero aspirations; and
- b) a more proactive spending regime on their properties for the benefit of the beneficiaries and as a sensible investment in the property portfolio.

The Other Funds have a budgeted net expenditure of £523,000 in 2023.

3. SYSTEMS OF INTERNAL CONTROL

3.1 Role of the Audit Committee and Internal Audit

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining adequate systems of internal control. The Audit Committee's remit includes responsibility for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of the internal financial controls. This function is delivered by Azets as the appointed Internal Auditors alongside the work of the Church's own Audit and Compliance Officer. Azets produce an annual programme of work in consultation with the Committee, Chief Officer, General Treasurer and Director of Finance and Resources for CrossReach. This is based on

an assessment of audit risk which seeks to ensure that all the main areas of activity are periodically reviewed. Audit reports are submitted at the end of each assignment and an annual audit report is made to the Audit Committee expressing an opinion on the systems of internal control in place in the Unincorporated Entities

Azets conducted a number of reviews as part of their 2021 programme of work covering the following areas:

- financial planning and budgeting
- strategic and corporate planning
- workforce planning (CrossReach)
- validated self-assessment of the Trustee Board.

Azets reported to the Audit Committee that, on the basis of the work undertaken for the year ended 31 December 2021, the Charity has a framework of controls in place that provides adequate assurance regarding the organisation's governance framework, risk management and achievement of objectives, subject to the implementation of a range of continuous improvement actions, addressing the higher-graded matters arising from internal audit reviews. This also applies to historic/backlog action implementation.

4. THE SEEDS FOR GROWTH FUND

The Assembly will be aware that a central element of the Radical Action Plan was the creation of a £20-25 million Growth Fund. The 2019 report of the Council of Assembly noted that in the spirit of the *Church without Walls Report* and in learning from our ecumenical partners it was time to very "deliberately [use] the Church's limited reserves to encourage greater faith-sharing, innovation and creativity at local and regional levels." The report went on to say, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Luke 12:34) and it noted that, "there [would be] those who [would] caution that we need to keep hold of these reserves for a rainy day. The reality is, as many would point out, the roof is leaking, and the rain has been coming in for some time in the life of the Church of Scotland."

As soon as the Assembly Trustees were formed work began in earnest to establish this fund and it was the intention of the Trustees to bring an update to the Assembly of 2020 explaining the structure and guidelines for the operation of a Growth Fund entitled *Seeds for Change*. This would have seen the formation of a *Seeds for Change Implementation Group* which would have been ready to invite applications from June 2020 onwards. Detailed work on the various aspects of this scheme had almost been completed when the Covid-19 pandemic struck, and the Trustees were forced to recommend that the planned launch of *Seeds for Change* should be put on hold.

Nonetheless, in April 2020 the Trustees noted that "although proceeding as intended with the *Seeds for Change Fund* is not possible right now, we can position ourselves to be able to act quickly later in the year". Unfortunately, the effects of the pandemic stretched further than any of us imagined at that time, but the Trustees remained at the ready and believe that now is the right time to revisit this crucial strategy.

The pandemic has had a devastating impact at so many levels and there is no hiding from the effect that it has had on the Church's finances. The Trustees' main Report and this Supplementary Report are quite clear that, having managed to eliminate the sources of the deficits of previous years we are now living with the prospect of deficits which have been born out of the changed circumstances which the pandemic has brought.

We will take measures to deal with these, but these measures will not lead to growth in the local Church. We have to be proactive in our approach to Church growth, Church planting and pioneer mission. The trends in relation to our life as a national Church do not lie. For the future, we do not want to be a Church which is asset rich and people poor, so, with the minimum possible delay we must activate this central element of the Radical Action Plan and open a fund which we now consider should operate under the name *Seeds for Growth Fund* with a particular emphasis on the planting of new congregations.

This, in our opinion, is the logical next step following the exceptional and stressful work in Presbytery Mission Planning through which, with the number of ministries which we all hope can be filled and maintained in the foreseeable future, we will be leaner and fitter and in the right place. This initiative is explicitly calculated to meet the aspiration to plant one hundred new congregations across Scotland in the next 10 years and in so doing find new ways to engage with the people of Scotland. Launching this fund two years ago, as first planned, would not have obviated the need for mission planning nor would it have had any bearing on the process of Presbytery reform. With the eventual launch of the *Seeds for Growth Fund* there emerges a different opportunity for fresh expressions of Church life to take root across Scotland.

The landscape against which the *Seeds for Change Fund* emerged has changed markedly. So, in addition to the detailed work that was done in 2019-20 the Trustees will consult more widely with ecumenical partners and with the new Presbyteries in order to ensure that the

Fund will be invested in schemes which are expected to be viable and sustainable and to complement approved mission plans. Additionally, it will be essential to ensure that the resources being set aside for this work meet the aspirations and outcomes defined within the Faith Action Plan. To this end it will be important to develop the right interface between Presbyteries and the Faith Action Programme to ensure that the resources available nationally work in harmony with the aspirations of the new Presbyteries. In order to allow for sufficient time in terms of the structure, shape and focus areas for the Fund, including available grant sizes, the Assembly Trustees propose to launch the fund in October 2022 with applications welcomed from January 2023.

It is the aspiration of the Trustees that the value of this Fund (to be named Seeds for Growth) will, over a seven-year period, will be the original proposed levels of £20-25m and will follow the pattern set out for the General Assembly in the 2019 Council of Assembly Report. Core funding will come from the general unrestricted reserves of the Church, but it is to be hoped that the fund will be supplemented by other gifts and donations. The Trustees propose the repeal of the Growth Fund Regulations (Regs 1 2019) and seek their replacement with the Seeds for Growth Regulations (Regs ? 2022) set out in Appendix 3 below. The Fund will be overseen by a Seeds for Growth Implementation Group which will be a Committee of the Assembly Trustees with Terms of Reference set out in the Schedule to Appendix 3.

The Trustees have no doubt that in March 2020 it was right to suspend the implementation of the *Seeds for Change Fund*. However many of the concerns which led to that decision have been addressed or resolved: central costs have been significantly curtailed, Presbytery planning will reduce the intolerable burden of the costs of vacancies, there are no longer major pension deficits in respect of the Church of Scotland Pension Schemes, the cost of participation in the Redress Scheme is now agreed and, importantly, the review of funds is now complete giving clarity as to the level of funds generally available.

The Trustees are equally certain that we cannot delay implementation any longer than is necessary. So, this proposal is offered to the Church with the prayer that it will be embraced by those who are excited about the possibilities of *doing a new thing* (Isaiah 43: 19).

5. PIONEER MISSION FUND

5.1 Introduction

General Assembly 2021 instructed that a Pioneer Mission Fund be established which aimed to support local church growth and had a particular emphasis on church planting and establishing 100 new worshipping communities. In terms of funding, wide ranging support from individuals, businesses and outside bodies was encouraged in addition to central finances being made available. Appropriate provision for the efficient management and evaluation of the fund in addition to the project that supports it were to be put in place. Whilst in time it is foreseen that the Pioneer Mission Fund will become part of the offerings within the *Seeds for Change Fund*, in order to enable this important area of work to proceed, the following is proposed.

5.2 About the Fund

The Pioneer Mission Fund is managed through the Grants Unit of the Office of Assembly Trustees. Assessment and awards will be made through a volunteer panel comprised of representatives with a particular skills and expertise in Pioneer Mission, representatives from Faith Nurture Forum and those with experience in grants management and evaluation.

The fund will be open to applications between April and September 2022 with assessments being made in monthly meetings between June – December or until the monies are exhausted.

The fund will have an initial £100,000 made available from central resources in this and additional years with monies welcomed to be added to this figure from external sources once the fund has been launched (ensuring all appropriate governance arrangements etc. are in place).

Grants of up to £10,000 can be applied for.

5.3 Eligibility Criteria

- Individual Church of Scotland churches and Presbyteries; or
- Groups of churches or Presbyteries; or
- Individuals through and with the support of their church or Presbytery

Only one project at any time from an individual or church can be applied for and awarded.

Presbyteries can hold more than one grant at a time.

A church or Presbytery may also hold a grant from the Small Grants Fund concurrently with an award from the Pioneer Mission Fund.

There will be no limits given on the reserves a church or Presbytery may hold in terms of applicability to apply.

5.4 Criteria for Applications to Fund Projects

Projects should have a revenue project focus. Projects will support:-

- local church growth.
- church planting.
- the establishment of new worshipping communities.

Applicants will be asked to explain how their project will meet each of the following four criteria.

1. Missional – intends to work with non-churchgoers.
2. Contextual – seeks to fit the context of where you are situated.
3. Formational – aims to form disciples.
4. Church – a community shaped by the gospel and seeing itself as part of the worldwide Christian community.

There will be no requirement for match funding although grant applicants are encouraged to identify potential additional sources.

5.5 What Cannot be Funded?

Money cannot be used for:

- Capital based projects including church repairs.
- Covering retrospective costs.
- Making up for reductions in income or covering existing running costs.

5.6 How Financial Contributions Can Be Made to the Fund

The fund encourages monies wider than central resources to be donated from individuals, business and outside bodies. Work has been undertaken to ensure that due diligence is in place to ensure that additional monies coming into the fund are designated in the correct and proper manner. The intention is that monies will be pooled into the central fund for distribution to successful grant applicants. None of this money will be used to support the fund's administration. Further details on how to support the Pioneer Mission Fund can be found by contacting grants@churchofscotland.org.uk

6 CONGREGATIONAL STATISTICS

Grateful thanks are given to Presbytery Clerks and Congregations for their diligence and strenuous efforts in obtaining these statistics and transmitting them to the National Office. The information which follows greatly assists in supporting the understanding of the Church at all levels.

6.1 Summary

- As at December 2021 there were 283,600 members of the Church of Scotland, a fall of 4.6% from 2020.
- In the last ten years (2011-2021) the number of members has fallen by 34%.
- 57% of congregations offered online worship, with 38% offering alternative offline provision. Many congregations are offering a hybrid form of worship in 2021.
- Almost a third (31%) of congregations reported a New Worshipping Community, with a further four Presbytery-wide initiatives.
- Baptisms and Professions of Faith increased in comparison to 2020, to around half of pre-pandemic levels.

Technical Summary

- Numbers at both Presbytery level and national level have been rounded, in line with best practice, to avoid giving a false sense of precision. Numbers that would round down to 0 are indicated with e.g. "<5" to distinguish them from 0s.
- There was a response rate of 92% to questions about membership, leadership etc.
- Ecumenical discussion across the UK and Ireland took place to improve the data quality on alternative worship provision, both online and offline. These questions had a 73% response rate.
- Information on New Worshipping Communities was requested from the General Assembly of 2019 for reporting from 2021. Questions were included in this collection and had a response rate of 61%.
- Collection was made in mixed mode – some reported through the Presbytery Information Management System (PIMS) others through MS Excel, with additional questions through MS Forms or MS Excel.

6.2 Introduction

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, church buildings remained closed during the first quarter of 2021 with reopening beginning from 26th March 2021. Subsequently social distancing required restricting numbers for many congregations with a number of churches reopening at

different times. As a result, and as seen in 2020, churches were not open for physical worship for the same number of weeks and for many with limited capacity throughout 2021.

With this in mind, the 2021 congregational statistics should be read and interpreted in light of the continuing impact of the pandemic and care should be taken with any comparisons to past years particularly in regards to physical attendance and congregational activities.

6.3 Church Membership and Participation, 2021

Congregations within the Church of Scotland come in all shapes and sizes, from large city congregations to small rural or island communities. In a typical congregation there are 176 members and no adherents.¹ There are also:

- 4 children associated with the congregation, but none receiving communion.
- 40 people worshipping in the church, 32 people worshipping online and none offline.
- no professions of faith.
- 8 funerals, no baptisms, and no weddings.
- a leadership of 16 elders.

Only 11% of congregations welcomed new Christians through Professions of Faith. 28% of congregations welcomed new members through certificates and 20% through resolution of the Kirk Session. Children received Communion in 17% of congregations.

Table 1 shows the reported participation at the smallest 5% and 25% of churches, the typical or median (i.e. middle) church, the largest 25% and 5% of churches (i.e. 75th and 95th percentile), and the mean (average) church.

	5 th percentile	25 th percentile	Median (middle) church	75 th percentile	95 th percentile	Mean (average) church
Members	18	88	176	306	544	217
Adherents	0	0	0	8	40	8
Weekly Attendance						
In person	13	25	40	65	130	52
Average Age	47	57	64	69	74	62
Online	0	8	32	75	200	57
Offline	0	0	0	10	50	10
Professions of Faith						
	0	0	0	0	2	0
Children						
	0	0	4	20	97	21
Children receiving Communion						
	0	0	0	0	8	1
Elders						
	4	9	16	27	51	20
Baptisms						
	0	0	0	1	4	1
Weddings						
	0	0	0	1	4	1
Funerals						
	0	2	8	16	34	11

Table 1: Church participation summary, 2021

Data collected within the congregational statistics is presented in the following tables at Presbytery and total levels.

¹ A “typical” congregation is described using the median value as a few large congregations can result in a larger mean value that may not represent the overall data well.

6.4 Presbytery Data

6.4.1 Reporting

Presbytery	Membership as at 31st Dec 2020	Admissions	Removals	Membership as at 31st Dec 2021	Notices of Removal	Supplementary Roll	Response Rate
EDINBURGH	19,500	170	975	18,700	50	1,085	99%
WEST LOTHIAN	7,000	40	285	6,700	30	1,015	96%
LOTHIAN	10,500	85	700	9,800	<5	1,140	100%
MELROSE AND PEEBLES	5,000	55	320	4,700	15	545	100%
DUNS	2,100	45	130	2,000	20	330	100%
JEDBURGH	4,500	10	145	4,400	–	70	100%
ANNANDALE AND ESKDALE	3,600	20	155	3,500	5	755	100%
DUMFRIES AND KIRKCUDBRIGHT	7,000	25	445	6,600	5	1,015	100%
WIGTOWN AND STRANRAER	4,000	10	200	3,800	15	190	100%
AYR	13,900	65	870	13,100	15	905	100%
IRVINE AND KILMARNOCK	7,600	25	325	7,300	5	1,310	61%
ARDROSSAN	6,700	45	405	6,300	15	590	100%
LANARK	4,700	25	200	4,500	<5	1,035	100%
CLYDE	22,900	190	1,300	21,700	25	2,515	100%
GLASGOW	26,500	150	1,015	25,600	55	1,630	60%
HAMILTON	19,400	125	1,010	18,500	55	3,170	100%
ARGYLL	5,600	55	290	5,400	20	530	94%
FALKIRK	7,800	60	375	7,500	5	880	100%
STIRLING	10,800	65	410	10,400	10	1,150	93%
FIFE	17,500	130	1,110	16,500	25	2,235	99%
DUNKELD AND MEIGLE	3,900	25	220	3,700	<5	265	100%
PERTH	10,300	90	435	9,900	20	1,160	86%
DUNDEE	8,900	65	890	8,000	60	785	100%
ANGUS	10,000	30	400	9,600	10	1,130	97%
ABERDEEN AND SHETLAND	10,900	105	835	10,100	15	775	100%
KINCARDINE AND DEESIDE	6,000	25	310	5,700	50	610	84%
GORDON	10,400	20	415	10,000	<5	850	100%
BUCHAN	8,400	15	385	8,100	10	915	100%
MORAY	5,200	20	330	4,900	5	290	71%
ABERNETHY	900	10	60	900	5	40	100%
INVERNESS	4,600	15	210	4,400	10	365	79%
LOCHABER	800	20	50	800	–	30	100%
ROSS	1,500	60	130	1,400	5	190	95%
SUTHERLAND	500	25	35	500	<5	285	86%
CAITHNESS	900	<5	50	800	<5	75	100%
LOCHCARRON-SKYE	500	<5	20	500	<5	70	75%
UIST	300	5	5	300	–	<5	83%
LEWIS	800	15	45	800	–	–	91%
ORKNEY	2,100	20	85	2,100	<5	170	100%
ENGLAND	1,800	20	155	1,700	–	30	86%
INTERNATIONAL CHARGES	2,300	30	90	2,200	<5	210	75%
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND	297,400	2,015	15,810	283,600	605	30,260	92%

Table 2: Presbytery reporting

6.4.2 Membership

Presbyteries	Number of Congregations as at 31 st Dec 2021	Membership as at 31 st Dec 2021	Admissions			Removals		
			Profession of Faith	By Certificate	Restoration or Resolution	By Death	By Certificate	Otherwise
EDINBURGH	70	18,700	25	80	65	590	125	260
WEST LOTHIAN	26	6,700	10	25	5	200	45	40
LOTHIAN	42	9,800	10	35	45	305	60	335
MELROSE AND PEEBLES	22	4,700	<5	25	25	160	35	125
DUNS	13	2,000	25	5	10	80	10	40
JEDBURGH	16	4,400	<5	5	<5	130	5	10
ANNANDALE AND ESKDALE	19	3,500	5	10	5	95	15	45
DUMFRIES AND KIRKCUDBRIGHT	32	6,600	10	5	10	255	20	175
WIGTOWN AND STRANRAER	18	3,800	–	<5	<5	130	5	65
AYR	48	13,100	10	30	25	460	50	360
IRVINE AND KILMARNOCK	23	7,300	10	15	–	130	25	170
ARDROSSAN	27	6,300	5	30	10	265	55	85
LANARK	20	4,500	10	5	5	165	10	25
CLYDE	73	21,700	45	90	55	750	130	420
GLASGOW	128	25,600	65	50	35	535	85	400
HAMILTON	72	18,500	40	65	20	665	135	205
ARGYLL	47	5,400	<5	30	20	160	50	80
FALKIRK	29	7,500	15	15	30	290	20	60
STIRLING	45	10,400	10	30	20	335	30	50
FIFE	77	16,500	15	80	35	635	105	365
DUNKELD AND MEIGLE	19	3,700	<5	25	<5	105	10	110
PERTH	35	9,900	10	35	45	295	65	70
DUNDEE	35	8,000	15	25	25	285	115	495
ANGUS	31	9,600	<5	20	10	340	30	30
ABERDEEN AND SHETLAND	30	10,100	5	40	60	355	60	415
KINCARDINE AND DEESIDE	19	5,700	<5	10	10	135	5	170
GORDON	28	10,000	<5	20	–	310	25	80
BUCHAN	34	8,100	<5	5	<5	220	30	130
MORAY	21	4,900	–	10	10	115	15	200
ABERNETHY	10	900	<5	<5	10	35	5	20
INVERNESS	30	4,400	<5	5	5	125	35	50
LOCHABER	14	800	10	<5	<5	25	10	10
ROSS	21	1,400	15	20	20	60	5	65
SUTHERLAND	14	500	<5	<5	20	20	<5	15
CAITHNESS	9	800	–	<5	<5	30	<5	20
LOCHCARRON-SKYE	8	500	<5	<5	<5	5	5	10
UIST	6	300	<5	<5	<5	5	–	–
LEWIS	11	800	10	10	–	25	10	10
ORKNEY	19	2,100	–	10	15	70	5	5
ENGLAND	7	1,700	–	<5	15	30	5	120
INTERNATIONAL CHARGES	16	2,200	<5	<5	25	25	<5	65
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND	1,264	283,600	430	870	715	8,955	1,465	5,390

Table 3: Presbytery membership figures

6.4.3 Persons and Agencies in Scotland for 2021

The membership statistics may be stated thus, rounded to the nearest 5 people:

	Removals by Death	8,955	
Less	Admissions by Profession	<u>430</u>	8,525
	Removals by Certificate	1,465	
Less	Admissions by Certificate	<u>870</u>	595
	Other Removals	5,390	
Less	Restoration	<u>715</u>	4,675
	Total decrease		<u>13,795</u>

And shown graphically in Figure 1, below.

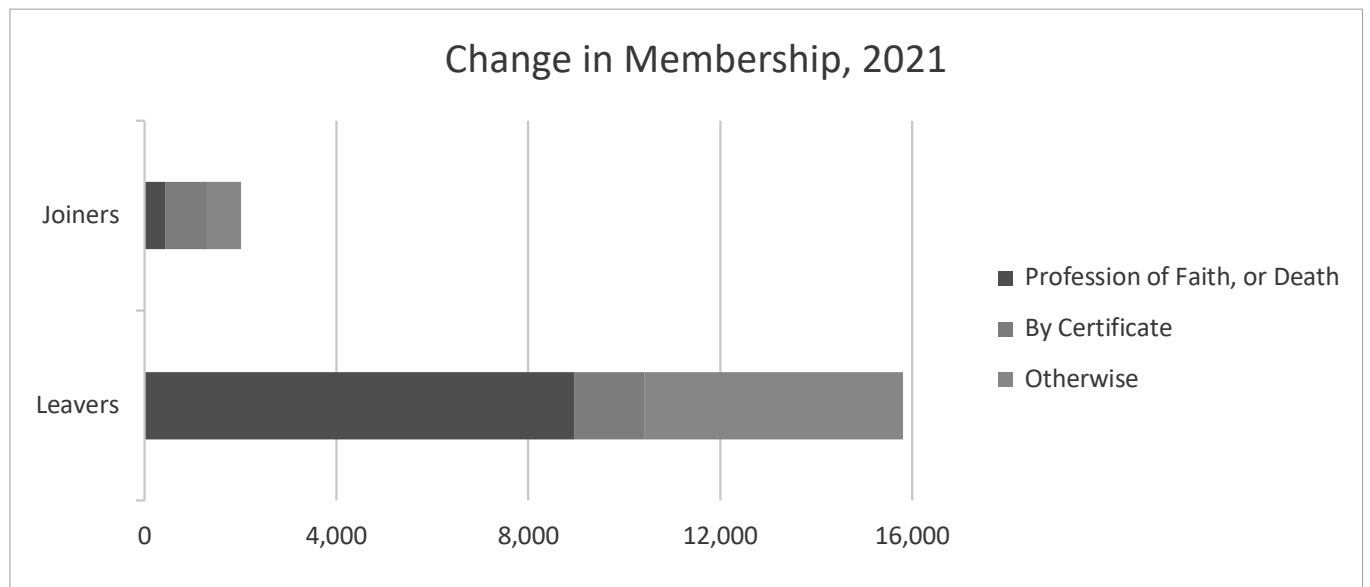


Figure 1: Leavers and Joiners in 2021

6.4.4 Young People and Adults not on the Communion Roll

Work with children and young people was particularly affected throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and Scotland remained in lockdown in the first part of 2021. The data presented below should be read with this in mind.

Reports from the Presbyteries showed that as at 31 December 2021:

1. The number of children and young people aged 17 years and under who are involved in the life of the congregation was 26,755;
2. The number of people aged 18 years and over, whose names are not on the Communion Roll, but who are involved in the life of the congregations was 10,775 and
3. The number of children who receive Holy Communion in terms of Act V, 2000, Section 15 was 1,610, 6% of the total.

Presbyteries	Membership as at 31 st Dec 2021	Children under 17	Children receiving Communion	Adults not on Communion roll
EDINBURGH	18,700	2,410	295	1,160
WEST LOTHIAN	6,700	1,340	45	195
LOTHIAN	9,800	850	105	495
MELROSE AND PEEBLES	4,700	190	10	170
DUNS	2,000	105	5	115
JEDBURGH	4,400	155	10	<5
ANNANDALE AND ESKDALE	3,500	100	15	25
DUMFRIES AND KIRKCUDBRIGHT	6,600	110	10	55
WIGTOWN AND STRANRAER	3,800	175	<5	65
AYR	13,100	880	40	165
IRVINE AND KILMARNOCK	7,300	310	35	85
ARDROSSAN	6,300	375	15	115
LANARK	4,500	820	85	230
CLYDE	21,700	3,795	85	640
GLASGOW	25,600	3,135	195	680
HAMILTON	18,500	3,470	100	525
ARGYLL	5,400	105	<5	220
FALKIRK	7,500	840	65	255
STIRLING	10,400	800	50	305
FIFE	16,500	930	90	345
DUNKELD AND MEIGLE	3,700	135	–	90
PERTH	9,900	835	10	475
DUNDEE	8,000	695	55	200
ANGUS	9,600	370	45	385
ABERDEEN AND SHETLAND	10,100	940	30	260
KINCARDINE AND DEESIDE	5,700	160	20	45
GORDON	10,000	555	50	235
BUCHAN	8,100	455	–	75
MORAY	4,900	275	10	190
ABERNETHY	900	75	10	160
INVERNESS	4,400	345	50	465
LOCHABER	800	55	<5	115
ROSS	1,400	110	<5	405
SUTHERLAND	500	75	<5	75
CAITHNESS	800	60	<5	325
LOCHCARRON-SKYE	500	10	–	310
UIST	300	35	–	220
LEWIS	800	315	25	805
ORKNEY	2,100	115	15	95
ENGLAND	1,700	65	<5	<5
INTERNATIONAL CHARGES	2,200	165	15	25
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND	283,600	26,755	1,610	10,775

Table 4: Young People and Adherents

6.4.5 Occasional Offices

Church of Scotland congregations:

- baptised or gave thanks for 1,280 people, of whom 120 were adult baptisms, 2.7% of Scottish births in 2021,
- celebrated 1,155 marriages, 4.9% of mixed-sex weddings registered in Scotland, and
- conducted 14,265 funerals, 22.4% of those who died in Scotland in 2021.

Presbyteries	Baptisms			Weddings	Funerals
	All baptisms	Adult baptisms	Birth Thanksgiving Services		
EDINBURGH	95	10	5	90	870
WEST LOTHIAN	50	<5	10	30	430
LOTHIAN	70	10	5	55	525
MELROSE AND PEEBLES	20	<5	<5	25	195
DUNS	10	<5	<5	15	125
JEDBURGH	15	–	–	10	180
ANNANDALE AND ESKDALE	20	<5	–	30	145
DUMFRIES AND KIRKCUDBRIGHT	35	–	<5	30	315
WIGTOWN AND STRANRAER	15	<5	5	15	195
AYR	75	5	<5	60	765
IRVINE AND KILMARNOCK	25	–	5	10	250
ARDROSSAN	20	<5	<5	25	430
LANARK	20	<5	<5	15	340
CLYDE	115	10	15	75	1,165
GLASGOW	105	20	10	50	1,025
HAMILTON	115	20	5	75	1,200
ARGYLL	20	<5	–	40	370
FALKIRK	25	<5	<5	20	465
STIRLING	40	<5	<5	35	500
FIFE	65	5	10	80	1,045
DUNKELD AND MEIGLE	20	–	–	40	155
PERTH	15	<5	<5	40	340
DUNDEE	45	10	5	15	270
ANGUS	35	<5	5	35	425
ABERDEEN AND SHETLAND	35	<5	–	35	570
KINCARDINE AND DEESIDE	10	–	5	20	130
GORDON	35	<5	<5	25	380
BUCHAN	15	–	<5	15	220
MORAY	10	–	<5	15	190
ABERNETHY	5	<5	–	10	85
INVERNESS	15	<5	<5	10	185
LOCHABER	<5	–	–	10	90
ROSS	10	<5	<5	5	140
SUTHERLAND	5	<5	–	10	70
CAITHNESS	5	–	–	10	140
LOCHCARRON-SKYE	<5	–	–	<5	35
UIST	<5	<5	–	<5	30
LEWIS	20	<5	–	20	95
ORKNEY	5	–	<5	40	105
ENGLAND	15	<5	–	5	45
INTERNATIONAL CHARGES	20	–	5	10	35
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND	1,280	120	125	1,155	14,265
% Scotland	2.7%			4.9%	22.4%

Table 5: Presbytery baptisms, weddings, funerals figures

6.4.6 Leadership

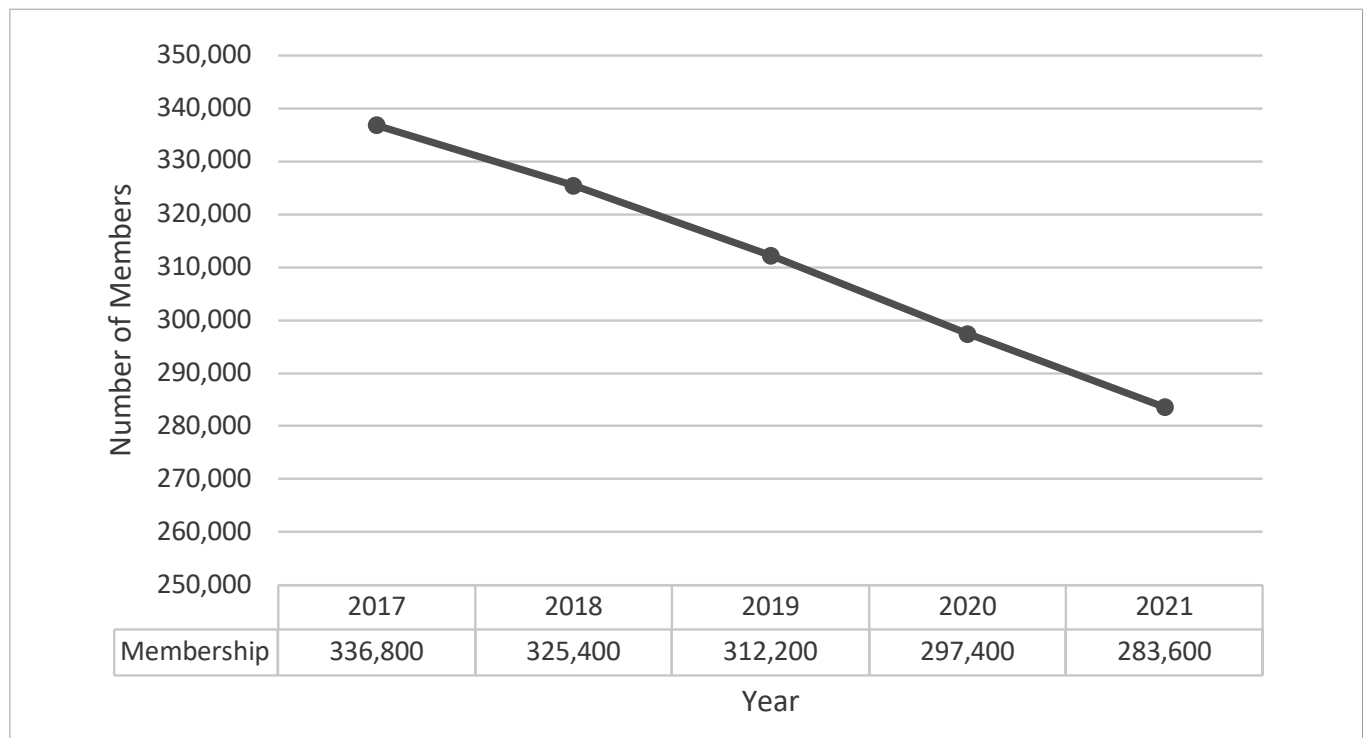
There were 23,575 elders in the Church of Scotland of whom 42.4% are male and 57.6% female. Elders account for 8.3% of the membership.

Presbyteries	Elders			Other leaders		
	Male	Female	All	Male	Female	All
EDINBURGH	805	1,085	1,895	45	90	130
WEST LOTHIAN	275	335	610	80	135	215
LOTHIAN	330	430	765	30	55	85
MELROSE AND PEEBLES	160	175	335	25	40	65
DUNS	75	90	165	15	30	45
JEDBURGH	105	180	290	15	30	45
ANNANDALE AND ESKDALE	120	175	295	5	15	20
DUMFRIES AND KIRKCUDBRIGHT	230	270	500	85	135	220
WIGTOWN AND STRANRAER	90	120	205	15	35	50
AYR	485	705	1,190	55	110	165
IRVINE AND KILMARNOCK	170	245	420	20	20	40
ARDROSSAN	245	365	610	50	100	150
LANARK	150	195	350	15	20	40
CLYDE	1,005	1,345	2,350	140	220	360
GLASGOW	730	1,030	1,755	130	250	385
HAMILTON	890	1,185	2,070	130	210	345
ARGYLL	250	350	600	50	80	130
FALKIRK	270	420	685	45	100	140
STIRLING	355	470	825	50	85	140
FIFE	565	880	1,440	55	120	175
DUNKELD AND MEIGLE	125	150	275	20	30	50
PERTH	265	345	610	5	10	15
DUNDEE	325	380	705	75	115	190
ANGUS	270	410	680	25	40	60
ABERDEEN AND SHETLAND	405	530	935	20	40	55
KINCARDINE AND DEESIDE	95	125	225	<5	<5	5
GORDON	225	315	540	15	40	55
BUCHAN	205	285	485	75	150	225
MORAY	90	175	265	10	35	40
ABERNETHY	35	60	95	<5	10	10
INVERNESS	160	165	325	30	50	80
LOCHABER	40	70	110	15	35	50
ROSS	90	95	185	25	40	65
SUTHERLAND	20	45	70	10	15	30
CAITHNESS	50	50	100	15	45	60
LOCHCARRON-SKYE	20	20	40	25	20	45
UIST	20	5	25	<5	10	10
LEWIS	55	–	55	30	25	55
ORKNEY	80	120	200	10	25	35
ENGLAND	60	85	145	–	–	–
INTERNATIONAL CHARGES	70	80	150	25	25	50
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND	10,005	13,570	23,575	1,495	2,630	4,125

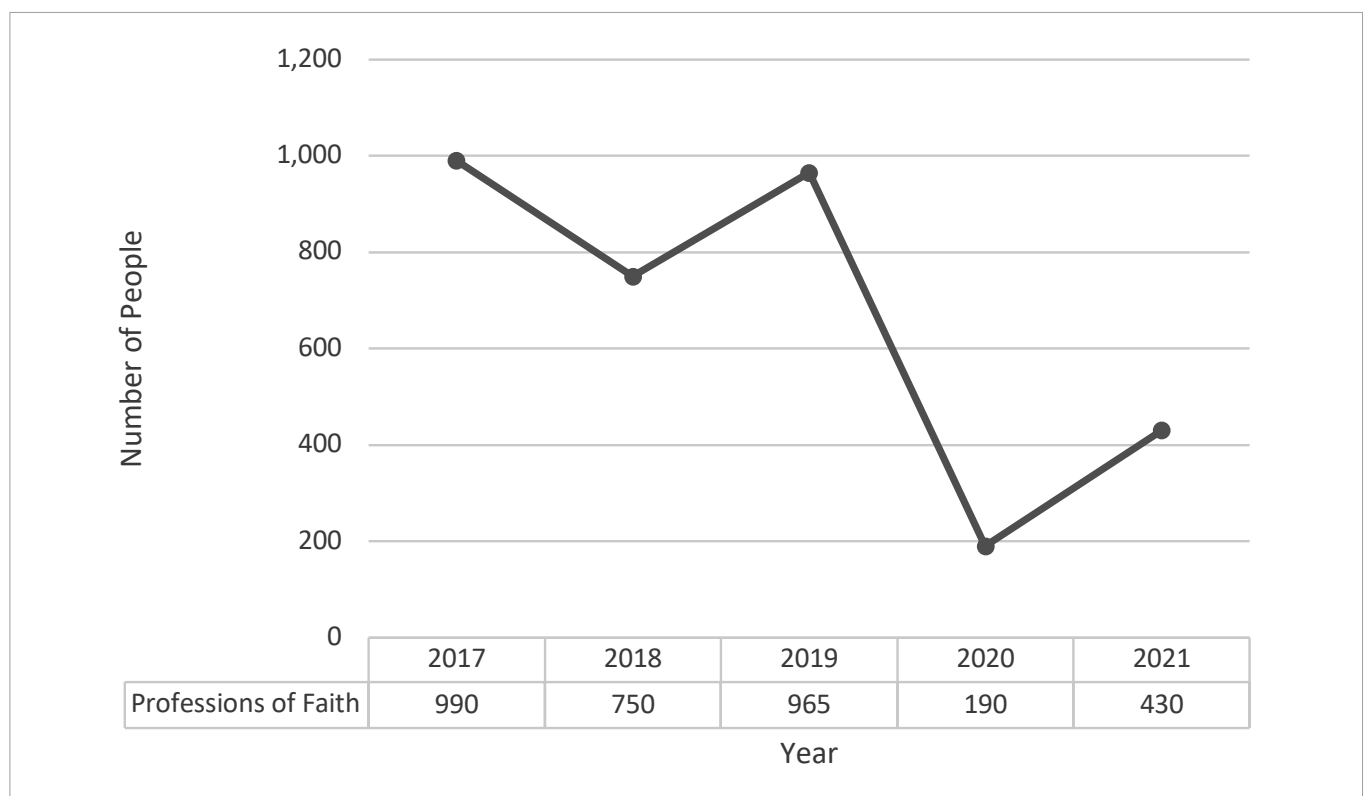
Table 6: Presbytery leadership figures

6.5 Comparative Graphs

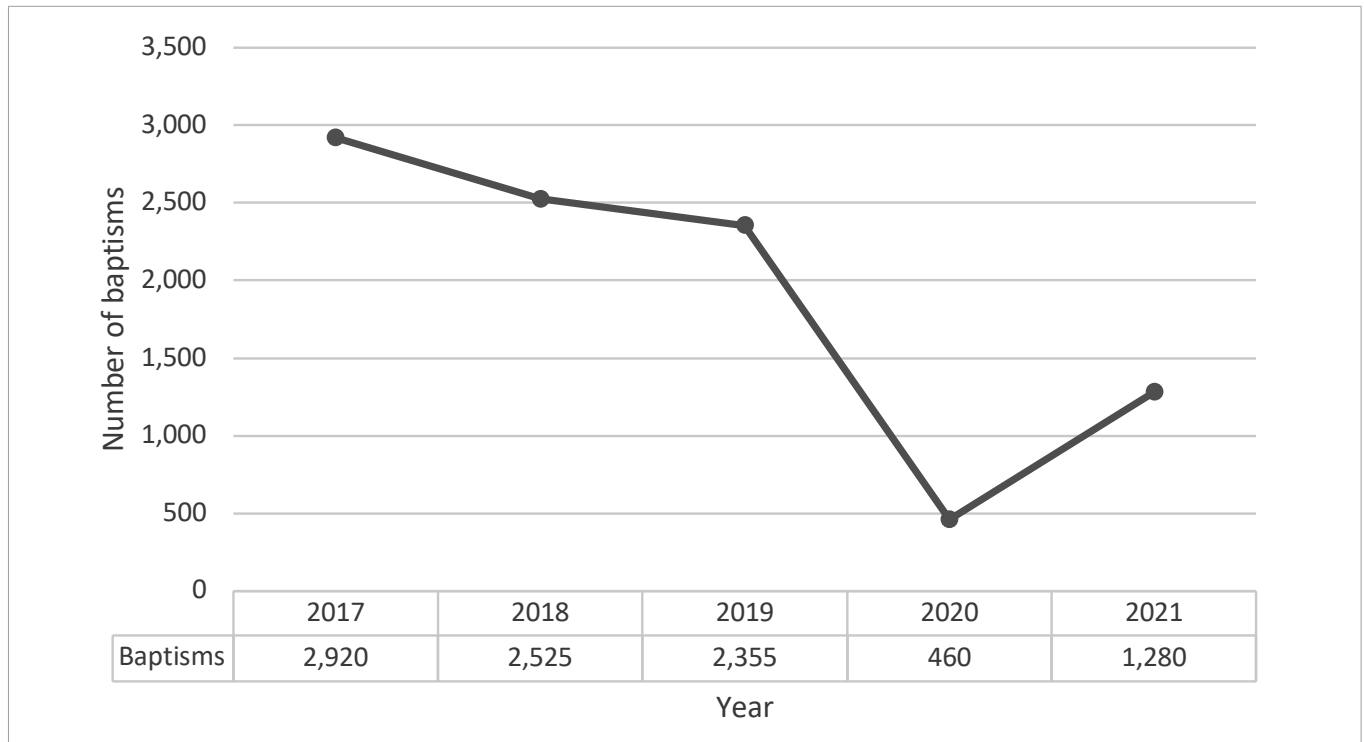
6.5.1 Membership



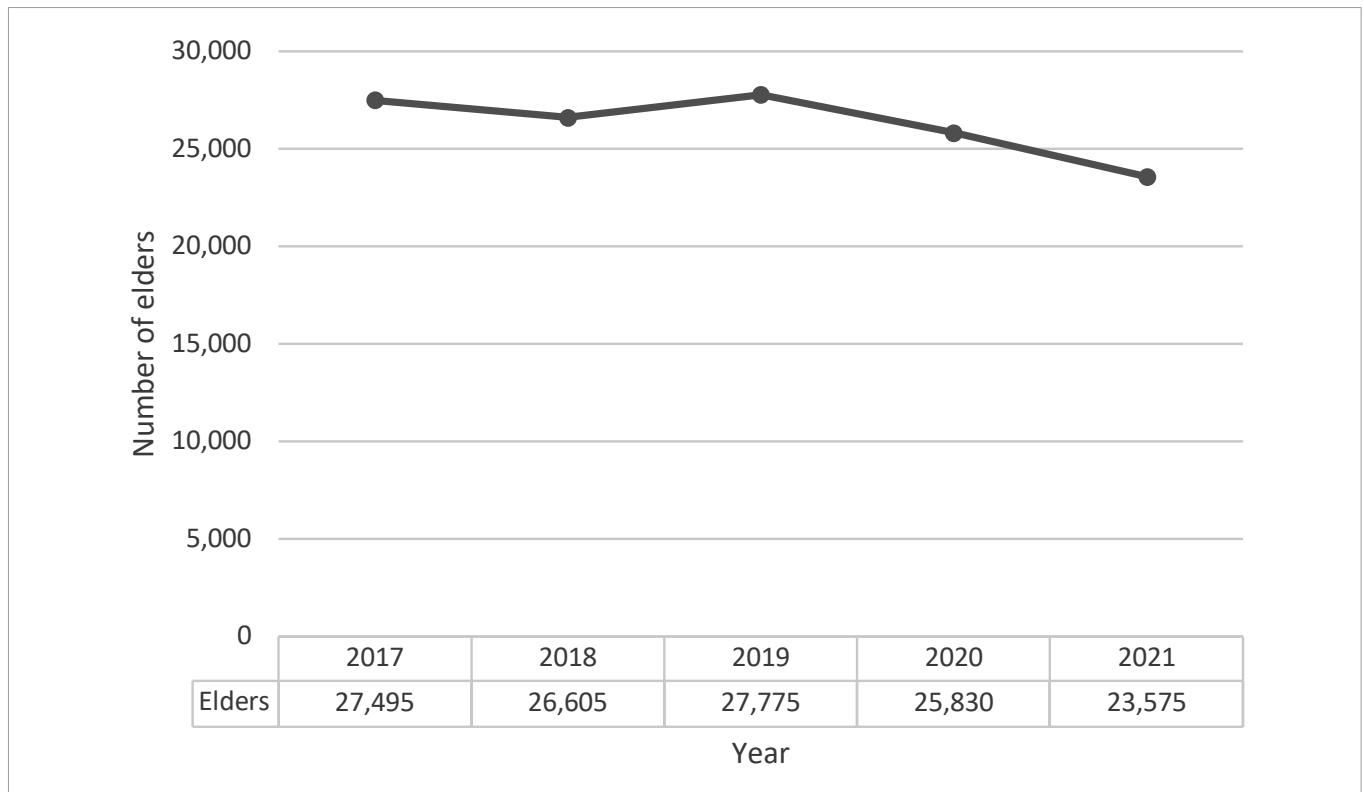
6.5.2 Professions of Faith



6.5.3 Baptisms



6.5.4 Elders



6.6 Public Worship in 2021

Congregational statistics have been gathered on alternative forms of worship to reflect the continuing changes of practice resulting from the pandemic. Whilst many congregations did start reopening buildings from 26th March 2021, alternative worship provision including online services, 'phone-in' services, distribution of service recordings or printed worship sheets continued. Work was undertaken with other denominations across the UK and Ireland to develop guidelines for gathering such congregational statistics. It is very difficult to obtain accurate estimates for the number of online worshippers. However, the levels of engagement are indicative of the wide reach of worship, and the efforts of congregations across the country to allow all who wish to, to worship with their local congregation.

The figures for in-person and accessible worship attendance for Presbyteries are given in Tables 6a and 6b. The overall response rate to these questions was lower – 73% – with no responses from the Presbyteries of England, Hamilton, Lanark, Lochcarron-Skye, Uist and Wigtown and Stranraer.

57% of congregations offered online worship, with 38% making alternative offline provisions such as phone-in services or worship sheets.

From the congregations who responded, we find that around 61,570 people attended worship in person (22% of members), 45,350 online, and 8,275 in other offline ways. Counts are estimated during a 'regular' week in 2021, i.e. not a major festival such as Easter or Christmas. The figures may include double-counting where people take part in worship in a variety of places, as well as undercounting where a number of people watch on the same device. The estimates provide an indication of the levels of engagement in worship outwith the building. It is not possible to accurately estimate the number of individuals viewing online worship or utilising posted material across the Church as a whole.

Presbytery	Age range of worshippers						Number of worshippers	Membership as at 31 st Dec 2021	% Membership attending worship
	Under 16	16-24	25-44	45-64	65-84	85 and over			
EDINBURGH	9%	4%	11%	24%	41%	10%	4,675	18,700	25%
WEST LOTHIAN	7%	1%	8%	23%	53%	7%	1,340	6,700	20%
LOTHIAN	8%	3%	9%	24%	48%	9%	2,365	9,800	24%
MELROSE AND PEEBLES	7%	2%	7%	24%	55%	6%	620	4,700	13%
DUNS	5%	1%	5%	19%	62%	8%	455	2,000	23%
JEDBURGH	3%	1%	3%	18%	64%	10%	560	4,400	13%
ANNANDALE AND ESKDALE	7%	3%	7%	25%	50%	7%	600	3,500	17%
DUMFRIES AND KIRKCUDBRIGHT	5%	1%	7%	21%	60%	7%	905	6,600	14%
WIGTOWN AND STRANRAER	9%	1%	4%	20%	59%	6%	580	3,800	15%
AYR	7%	2%	8%	23%	52%	8%	2,525	13,100	19%
IRVINE AND KILMARNOCK	7%	4%	11%	25%	47%	6%	1,695	7,300	23%
ARDROSSAN	12%	3%	9%	20%	45%	12%	1,435	6,300	23%
LANARK	9%	3%	9%	22%	52%	5%	1,125	4,500	25%
CLYDE	8%	3%	10%	22%	47%	10%	5,105	21,700	24%
GLASGOW	11%	4%	11%	23%	43%	8%	7,695	25,600	30%
HAMILTON	8%	3%	10%	24%	48%	8%	4,995	18,500	27%
ARGYLL	4%	2%	5%	22%	61%	7%	1,520	5,400	28%
FALKIRK	7%	2%	7%	23%	54%	8%	1,290	7,500	17%
STIRLING	10%	2%	8%	23%	49%	9%	2,585	10,400	25%
FIFE	8%	3%	8%	18%	55%	9%	3,790	16,500	23%
DUNKELD AND MEIGLE	1%	1%	5%	16%	69%	9%	590	3,700	16%
PERTH	7%	3%	7%	20%	52%	10%	1,615	9,900	16%
DUNDEE	7%	2%	8%	18%	53%	12%	1,940	8,000	24%
ANGUS	8%	2%	5%	21%	53%	11%	1,185	9,600	12%
ABERDEEN AND SHETLAND	5%	2%	8%	24%	52%	9%	1,770	10,100	18%
KINCARDINE AND DEESIDE	8%	3%	10%	21%	48%	10%	810	5,700	14%
GORDON	10%	3%	11%	24%	44%	7%	1,125	10,000	11%
BUCHAN	5%	2%	6%	26%	54%	7%	1,025	8,100	13%
MORAY	6%	5%	9%	21%	51%	8%	880	4,900	18%
ABERNETHY	6%	1%	6%	32%	47%	8%	450	900	50%
INVERNESS	11%	3%	9%	19%	50%	8%	1,035	4,400	24%
LOCHABER	5%	6%	6%	22%	49%	13%	310	800	39%
ROSS	5%	2%	7%	21%	55%	9%	655	1,400	47%
SUTHERLAND	6%	2%	6%	22%	58%	7%	330	500	66%
CAITHNESS	4%	3%	6%	25%	56%	6%	290	800	36%
LOCHCARRON-SKYE	3%	1%	4%	20%	64%	7%	215	500	43%
UIST	13%	4%	11%	30%	44%	7%	215	300	72%
LEWIS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	800	-
ORKNEY	10%	2%	8%	24%	51%	5%	555	2,100	26%
ENGLAND	9%	4%	10%	28%	41%	9%	320	1,700	19%
INTERNATIONAL CHARGES	7%	6%	19%	26%	31%	11%	390	2,200	18%

Table 7a: Presbytery in-person attendance figures

Presbytery	Able to offer online worship	Estimate of online worshippers	Able to offer alternative offline worship	Estimate of worshippers engaging with alternative offline worship	Membership as at 31 st Dec 2021	Response rate
EDINBURGH	95%	4,000	45%	480	18,700	83%
WEST LOTHIAN	96%	1,200	52%	205	6,700	88%
LOTHIAN	87%	1,550	58%	290	9,800	98%
MELROSE AND PEEBLES	75%	800	50%	100	4,700	100%
DUNS	100%	650	15%	10	2,000	100%
JEDBURGH	50%	350	50%	130	4,400	25%
ANNANDALE AND ESKDALE	50%	300	50%	90	3,500	53%
DUMFRIES AND KIRKCUDBRIGHT	53%	400	43%	285	6,600	94%
WIGTOWN AND STRANRAER	-	-	-	-	(3,800)	0%
AYR	83%	3,500	57%	680	13,100	88%
IRVINE AND KILMARNOCK	43%	700	40%	95	7,300	50%
ARDROSSAN	85%	1,750	60%	140	6,300	74%
LANARK	-	-	-	-	4,500	0%
CLYDE	80%	5,800	53%	495	21,700	85%
GLASGOW	92%	3,950	49%	860	25,600	55%
HAMILTON	-	-	-	-	18,500	0%
ARGYLL	53%	1,150	47%	230	5,400	69%
FALKIRK	70%	800	55%	335	7,500	69%
STIRLING	84%	1,100	80%	375	10,400	56%
FIFE	88%	3,200	62%	855	16,500	76%
DUNKELD AND MEIGLE	37%	1,750	47%	100	3,700	100%
PERTH	89%	700	63%	175	9,900	54%
DUNDEE	83%	1,250	41%	510	8,000	100%
ANGUS	88%	1,000	71%	155	9,600	55%
ABERDEEN AND SHETLAND	80%	850	30%	45	10,100	59%
KINCARDINE AND DEESIDE	76%	650	41%	65	5,700	89%
GORDON	94%	700	50%	100	10,000	57%
BUCHAN	82%	900	24%	120	8,100	50%
MORAY	57%	550	86%	210	4,900	67%
ABERNETHY	83%	250	67%	35	900	60%
INVERNESS	44%	950	32%	115	4,400	100%
LOCHABER	86%	350	86%	440	800	100%
ROSS	82%	1,050	59%	140	1,400	81%
SUTHERLAND	83%	200	67%	70	500	43%
CAITHNESS	75%	100	75%	60	800	44%
LOCHCARRON-SKYE	-	-	-	-	(500)	0%
UIST	-	-	-	-	(300)	0%
LEWIS	73%	1,450	80%	95	800	100%
ORKNEY	50%	500	29%	180	2,100	67%
ENGLAND	-	-	-	-	(1,700)	0%
INTERNATIONAL CHARGES	100%	950	22%	5	2,200	56%
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND	57%	45,350	38%	8,275	254,400*	73%

*Total Church of Scotland membership figure excludes those Presbyteries who provided a nil return for Additional Questions

Table 7b: Presbytery online and alternative offline worship figures

6.7 New Worshipping Communities

Information on New Worshipping Communities were requested as part of the Forsyth Report agreed by the General Assembly of 2019, for reporting from 2021.

New Worshipping Communities can take a multitude of forms, and must show evidence of all the following characteristics:

- **Missional:** the focus is on people beyond existing congregations;
- **Contextual:** their format, culture and activities are shaped by the particular setting;
- **Consistency:** a community is developing, with some of the same people participating regularly;
- **Ecclesial:** it sees itself as part of, and is developing connections with, the wider Church;
- **Formational:** participants are encouraged to grow in Christian faith and character

Additional questions were included in the Congregational Statistics to obtain information on those congregations and Presbyteries with a New Worshipping Community during 2021. We present in Table 8 some overall figures; information gathered through this collection will form the basis of further research within Pioneering Ministries.

The overall response rate was 61%, with no responses from the Presbyteries of England, Hamilton, Lanark, Lochcarron-Skye, Uist and Wigtown and Stranraer.

As with other areas of church life, New Worshipping Communities have been greatly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic with many congregations describing communities that had not operated since the start of the pandemic and moving online.

Within the Church of Scotland:

- 31% of congregations offered at least one New Worshipping Community, with a number of congregations offering more than one.
- Over 400 New Worshipping Communities were reported to be operating in congregations,
- 4 New Worshipping Communities operated at a Presbytery-wide level.
- The majority of New Worshipping Communities were described as Messy Church (35%) and Café Church (14%).
- Other types included Youth Church, Older People's Church, and Forest Church.

A number of New Worshipping Communities were organised in collaboration with other Church of Scotland congregations, other denominations, and some with other organisations. More detailed analysis of information collected on New Worshipping Communities will be undertaken during 2022 within the Faith Nurture Forum.

Presbyteries	Number of New Worshipping Communities at a Presbytery Level	Number of New Worshipping Communities within Congregations	% Congregations with New Worshipping Communities	Number of Congregations as at 31 st Dec 2021	Response Rate
EDINBURGH		35	37%	70	81%
WEST LOTHIAN		20	48%	26	88%
LOTHIAN		15	50%	46	87%
MELROSE AND PEEBLES		15	30%	28	71%
DUNS		5	33%	13	92%
JEDBURGH		–	0%	16	25%
ANNANDALE AND ESKDALE		<5	13%	19	53%
DUMFRIES AND KIRKCUDBRIGHT		<5	7%	32	91%
WIGTOWN AND STRANRAER		–	0%	18	0%
AYR		10	19%	48	88%
IRVINE AND KILMARNOCK	3	15	70%	28	36%
ARDROSSAN		15	45%	27	74%
LANARK		–	0%	20	0%
CLYDE		20	30%	78	77%
GLASGOW		25	25%	129	50%
HAMILTON		–	0%	74	0%
ARGYLL	1	5	20%	52	58%
FALKIRK		10	25%	29	69%
STIRLING		20	40%	45	56%
FIFE		60	58%	79	75%
DUNKELD AND MEIGLE		<5	11%	19	100%
PERTH		15	60%	35	43%
DUNDEE		–	0%	35	100%
ANGUS		15	41%	31	55%
ABERDEEN AND SHETLAND		10	35%	34	50%
KINCARDINE AND DEESIDE		10	35%	19	89%
GORDON		–	0%	28	57%
BUCHAN		10	47%	34	50%
MORAY		<5	29%	21	67%
ABERNETHY		<5	17%	10	60%
INVERNESS		10	20%	34	88%
LOCHABER		15	57%	14	100%
ROSS		10	29%	21	81%
SUTHERLAND		–	0%	14	43%
CAITHNESS		–	0%	9	44%
LOCHCARRON-SKYE		–	0%	8	0%
UIST		–	0%	6	73%
LEWIS		<5	13%	11	0%
ORKNEY		<5	25%	21	57%
ENGLAND		–	0%	7	0%
INTERNATIONAL CHARGES		<5	25%	16	50%
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND	4	410	31%	1304	61%

Table 8: New Worshipping Communities

6.8 Congregational Activities

Congregational activities have been greatly affected throughout the COVID-19 pandemic with some congregations unable to open their buildings to large groups or offer in person activities. This data was not reported upon in 2020 due to this disruption.

Congregations are asked whether they engage in activities relating to:

- School chaplaincy
- Youth work
- Community development
- International links
- Environmental issues
- Political issues
- Health issues
- Economic inequality
- Food Poverty

Data was received from all but two Presbyteries, resulting in the following summary graph:

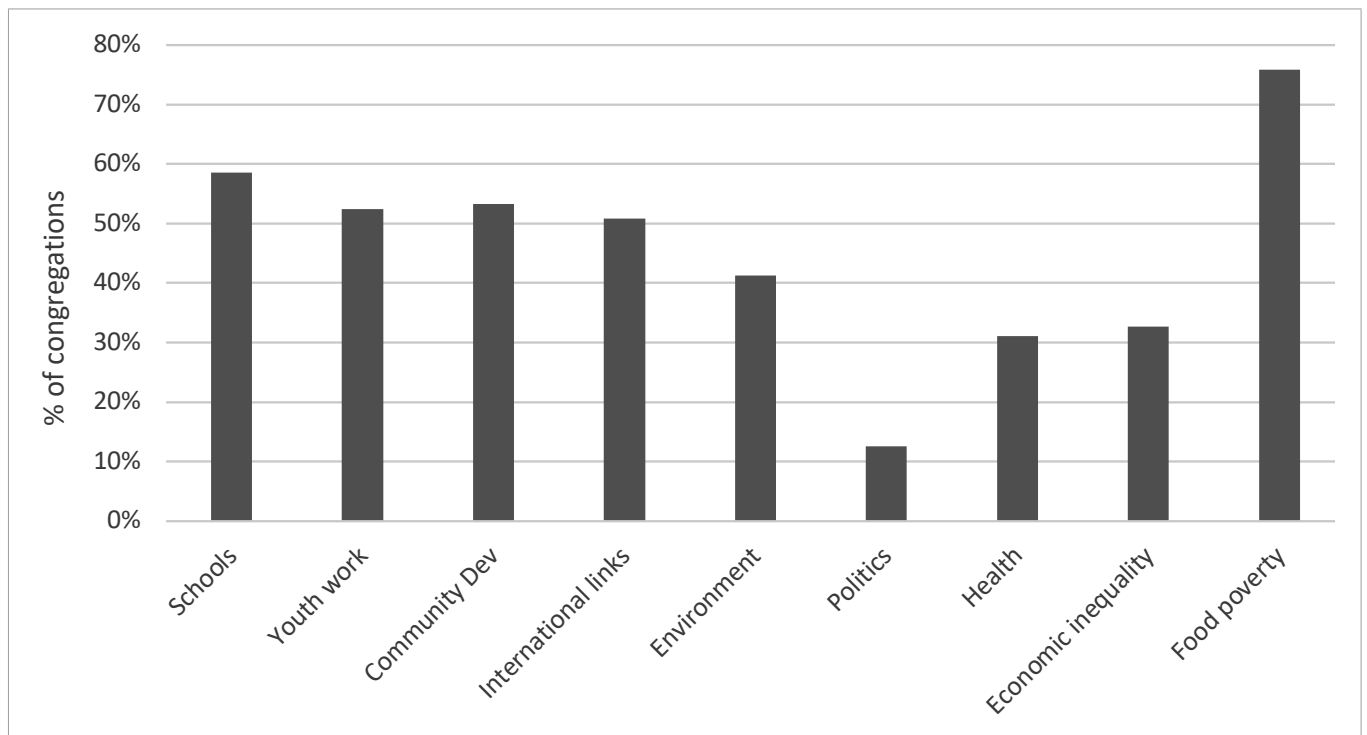


Figure 2: Congregational activities

Alleviating food poverty (76%) and School chaplaincy (59%) were the most common activities in congregations of the Church of Scotland. Engagement with political issues was the least common with only 13% of congregations.

Since 2019, there has been a marked fall in engagement with young people, with school chaplaincy levels and youth work levels falling from pre-pandemic levels of 77% and 66% to 59% and 52% respectively. Community development has also suffered, falling from 67% to today's 53%, and alleviating food poverty from 83% to 76%.

Presbyteries	Schools	Youth work	Community development	International links	Environment	Politics	Health	Economic inequality	Food p'rtly
EDINBURGH	71%	67%	67%	66%	64%	29%	47%	56%	89%
WEST LOTHIAN	58%	73%	50%	58%	42%	19%	50%	35%	85%
LOTHIAN	65%	65%	72%	59%	57%	11%	39%	39%	87%
MELROSE AND PEEBLES	43%	18%	43%	46%	39%	4%	14%	21%	57%
DUNS	55%	36%	55%	45%	55%	9%	36%	18%	100%
JEDBURGH	56%	50%	31%	31%	31%	6%	25%	13%	81%
ANNANDALE AND ESKDALE	63%	42%	63%	58%	42%	11%	37%	32%	74%
DUMFRIES AND KIRKCUDBRIGHT	44%	9%	22%	50%	16%	3%	13%	13%	41%
WIGTOWN AND STRANRAER	44%	39%	28%	28%	28%	0%	0%	11%	94%
AYR	71%	44%	42%	38%	29%	6%	23%	33%	69%
IRVINE AND KILMARNOCK	61%	57%	39%	43%	39%	18%	46%	25%	68%
ARDROSSAN	41%	56%	52%	52%	26%	0%	15%	30%	89%
LANARK	85%	70%	75%	65%	30%	15%	35%	50%	85%
CLYDE	73%	71%	62%	51%	40%	13%	44%	36%	84%
GLASGOW	70%	64%	64%	59%	50%	25%	41%	43%	67%
HAMILTON	65%	62%	62%	54%	43%	15%	41%	36%	85%
ARGYLL	33%	35%	31%	29%	37%	6%	25%	15%	60%
FALKIRK	59%	52%	45%	59%	45%	3%	28%	38%	83%
STIRLING	44%	51%	60%	53%	44%	16%	29%	33%	82%
FIFE	61%	44%	58%	66%	49%	15%	33%	33%	85%
DUNKELD AND MEIGLE	37%	37%	47%	37%	26%	5%	16%	37%	63%
PERTH	57%	69%	57%	29%	40%	3%	34%	40%	83%
DUNDEE	60%	54%	49%	60%	46%	9%	37%	49%	86%
ANGUS	65%	48%	55%	45%	42%	10%	23%	32%	74%
ABERDEEN AND SHETLAND	55%	48%	58%	36%	36%	12%	30%	24%	82%
KINCARDINE AND DEESIDE	79%	58%	68%	58%	42%	5%	32%	21%	68%
GORDON	86%	64%	61%	54%	54%	14%	21%	39%	75%
BUCHAN	41%	50%	21%	41%	9%	0%	12%	18%	62%
MORAY	57%	57%	48%	52%	29%	19%	19%	24%	81%
ABERNETHY	70%	70%	70%	90%	80%	30%	60%	50%	90%
INVERNESS	33%	30%	30%	33%	33%	0%	17%	10%	57%
LOCHABER	71%	36%	64%	50%	43%	7%	14%	21%	86%
ROSS	50%	63%	63%	63%	25%	6%	19%	19%	75%
SUTHERLAND	57%	21%	57%	29%	50%	14%	14%	21%	86%
CAITHNESS	33%	22%	33%	22%	22%	11%	22%	11%	67%
LOHCARRON-SKYE	33%	67%	33%	33%	0%	0%	33%	0%	100%
UIST	80%	80%	0%	20%	20%	20%	20%	40%	40%
LEWIS									
ORKNEY	33%	38%	43%	52%	29%	14%	10%	19%	48%
ENGLAND	29%	14%	71%	57%	57%	14%	29%	57%	86%
INTERNATIONAL CHARGES	17%	42%	67%	67%	42%	25%	42%	42%	58%
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND	59%	52%	53%	51%	41%	13%	31%	33%	76%

Table 9: Congregational activities

In the name of the Committee

JOHN CHALMERS, Convener
DAVID HARRISON, Vice-Convener
JAMES MCNEILL, Administrative Trustee

CONGREGATIONAL INCOME ANALYSIS

	2019 Actual £'000	2020 Actual £'000	2020 Increase/ (Decrease) %	2021 Provisional £'000	2021 Increase/ (Decrease) %	2022 Projected £'000	2022 Increase/ (Decrease) %	2023 Projected £'000	2023 Increase/ (Decrease) %
CONGREGATIONAL INCOME									
Offerings	60,851	52,852	(13.1%)	54,707	3.5%	55,000	0.5%	58,000	5.5%
Tax Recovery on Offerings	10,212	10,246	0.3%	9,611	(6.2%)	10,000	4.1%	10,500	5.0%
Total Offerings	71,063	63,098	(11.2%)	64,318	1.9%	65,000	1.1%	68,500	5.4%
Other Ordinary Income	15,945	8,492	(46.7%)	8,213	(3.3%)	10,500	27.8%	13,800	31.4%
Total Ordinary Income	87,008	71,590	(17.7%)	72,531	1.3%	75,500	4.1%	82,300	9.0%

Note: Excludes income which is not assessable as well as endowment, glebe and consolidated fabric fund income

Appendix 2**Church of Scotland Unincorporated Entities
Budget 2023-2027**

	Budget 2023 £000s	Indicative Budgets			
		2024 £000s	2025 £000s	2026 £000s	2027 £000s
National Budget Income					
Congregational Contributions	39,269	37,490	35,117	33,396	32,210
Stipend Endowment Income (and Glebe Rent)	3,640	3,640	3,640	3,640	3,640
Investment Income	1,801	1,801	1,801	1,801	1,801
Other Income	3,577	3,592	3,640	3,661	3,704
Total Income	48,287	46,523	44,198	42,499	41,355
National Budget Expenditure					
Parish Ministries direct costs	35,811	33,492	32,000	30,700	29,673
Faith Nurture Forum other costs	4,406	4,395	4,375	4,355	4,365
Faith Impact Forum costs	1,873	1,689	1,689	1,689	1,689
Office of the General Assembly	1,249	1,270	1,276	1,289	1,298
Support and Services Departments:					
Office of Assembly Trustees	821	826	829	832	834
Safeguarding	388	385	385	385	385
Stewardship and Finance	1,506	1,454	1,470	1,477	1,482
Law	998	1,004	1,008	1,012	1,012
Information and Communications Technology	952	1,010	1,064	1,125	1,191
Facilities Management	1,008	1,021	1,036	1,052	1,070
Central Properties Department, Health and Safety	-	-	-	-	-
Human Resources	433	434	434	434	434
Media and Communications	584	587	592	597	602
	6,690	6,720	6,818	6,913	7,010
National Budget Operational Net Expenditure	(1,742)	(1,044)	(1,960)	(2,448)	(2,680)
Presbytery Funding	1,440	1,440	1,440	1,440	1,440
Transition Funding	638	571	485	-	-
Strategic Projects	1,953	2,213	1,048	959	1,001
Net Expenditure	(5,773)	(5,268)	(4,933)	(4,847)	(5,121)
Other Funds including Housing and Loan Fund					
Net income	497	497	497	497	497
Property improvement programme	(1,020)	(1,020)	(1,020)	(1,020)	(1,020)
Other Funds net expenditure	(523)	(523)	(523)	(523)	(523)
Overall Net Costs National Budget	(6,296)	(5,791)	(5,456)	(5,370)	(5,644)
CrossReach					
Operational Income	47,581	48,228	48,880	49,512	50,098
Operational Expenditure	(49,502)	(49,993)	(50,490)	(50,991)	(51,497)
Property improvement programme	(500)	(500)	(500)	(500)	(500)
Total Net Costs	(2,421)	(2,265)	(2,110)	(1,979)	(1,899)
Unincorporated Entities Overall net costs to be met from reserves	(8,717)	(8,056)	(7,566)	(7,349)	(7,543)
Before Gains/Losses on Properties and Investments					

Appendix 3**'SEEDS for GROWTH' FUND REGULATIONS (REGS XX2022)****'Seeds for Growth' Fund Regulations**

1. The Church of Scotland *Seeds for Growth Fund* ("the Fund") shall be established from 1 January 2023.
2. Responsibility for the Fund shall rest with the Assembly Trustees who act as the Trustees of the Unincorporated Entities Scottish Charity Number 011353 ("The Trustees"). The Trustees may establish a body to oversee the Fund on their behalf.
3. The purposes of the Fund are to support the numerical and spiritual growth of existing Church of Scotland congregations and of new Church of Scotland worshipping communities through (i) the planting of new worshipping communities; (ii) work focused on the development of new forms and fresh expressions of church life; (iii) creative engagement with all sectors of society in particular with those aged 40 and under, in every case promoting the advancement of religion and the overarching purpose of the numerical and spiritual growth of the Church; and (iv) The enablement of community transformation motivated by Christian service. In the initial three years (2023 – 2026) the Fund shall prioritise the support of: (i) the planting of new worshipping communities and (ii) work with people aged 40 and under.
4. The Fund shall operate for a 7-year period until 31st December 2029. A review conducted by the Trustees shall take place after the first three years of operation and shall measure the success of the Fund against previously agreed criteria to determine future direction and investment.
5. The Fund shall replace the *Go For It Fund*. Administration of grants already awarded out of the *Go For It Fund* shall become the responsibility of the Fund. Monies already committed in the *Go For It Fund* at 31 December 2019 shall be transferred to the Fund.
6. An application to the Fund may be made by a Presbytery or a group of Presbyteries.
7. Applicants to the Fund should be able to show that they have worked diligently to: (i) raise funds from local sources (including the Presbytery/ies and congregation(s) making or involved in the application); and, (ii) raise funds from appropriate external sources. Funding, up to 100%, will not necessarily be contingent on funding being provided by any other body.
8. The Trustees shall provide core funding from the unrestricted funds held on behalf of the Unincorporated Entities. This money shall cover both grants to be paid from the Fund and the administration of the Fund.
9. The Fund may be supplemented by other funds raised within and beyond the Church.
10. The Terms of Reference for use of the Fund set out in the Schedule below shall be developed and monitored by the Trustees and any amendments shall be approved by the General Assembly as part of the annual reporting on the operation of the Fund. The Trustees may also fund grants from restricted funds held by the Unincorporated Entities if the purpose is consistent with donor restrictions.
11. The Trustees shall be responsible for monitoring the ongoing effectiveness of the Fund. The Trustees shall report annually on the work of the Fund to the General Assembly with a focus on how the Fund is achieving its primary aims as set out in section 3 of these Regulations.
12. If the General Assembly decides that the Fund shall be closed before 31st December 2029 any monies remaining in the Fund shall be transferred back to the General Fund.

Schedule

The Seeds for Growth Fund Implementation Group Terms of Reference Committee

1. The *Seeds for Growth Fund* Implementation Group (the “Committee”) is a Committee of the Assembly Trustees.
2. The purpose for which the Committee is established is to oversee the operation of the *Seeds for Growth Fund* on behalf of the Assembly Trustees. In carrying out those duties the Committee shall adhere to the relevant Regulations issued by the General Assembly and to the guidelines, criteria and governance requirements approved by the Assembly Trustees.
3. The size of individual grants, guidelines, criteria and governance requirements shall be reviewed annually by the Assembly Trustees in consultation with the Committee. Grants in excess of £75,000.00 shall require individual approval by the Assembly Trustees.

Purpose

- (a) the purpose of the Fund is to seek the numerical and spiritual growth of existing Church of Scotland congregations and of new Church of Scotland worshipping communities through:
 - (i) the planting of new worshipping communities;
 - (ii) work focussed on the development of new forms and fresh expressions of church life; and
 - (iii) creative engagement with all sectors of society in particular with those aged 40 and under; and
 - (iv) the enablement of community transformation motivated by Christian service
- (b) the Committee shall, in all its determinations, promote the advancement of religion and the overarching purpose of the numerical and spiritual growth of the Church.

Criteria

The Committee shall assess applications in accordance with the following criteria.

1. Applications must come from Presbyteries or groups of Presbyteries. Collaboration with other partners, specifically including ecumenical co-operation, will be encouraged where such collaboration furthers either numerical or spiritual growth within the Church or community transformation motivated by Christian service.
2. Applications must demonstrate a visionary approach to church growth, church planting and pioneer mission and must set out the anticipated effect of the project at a congregational or Presbytery level and include a clear plan and measurable targets.
3. Applications must provide a realistic assessment of how the project will continue beyond the period of funding and whether it will generate growth elsewhere within the Church.
4. Applications must include means of developing and sharing related experiences and good practice across the Church.
5. Applications must be focused on a defined project.
6. Applications will be assessed in accordance with the following prioritisation:
 - Developing mission through new ecclesial communities and church planting
 - Engaging in intergenerational approaches to and participation in worship

Governance

1. The operation of the *Seeds for Growth Fund* shall be overseen by a Committee of nine persons, two of whom will be Assembly Trustees. The other members shall be appointed by the Assembly Trustees working in collaboration with the Nomination Committee. Members so appointed shall serve a three-year term, renewable unless otherwise determined by the Assembly Trustees. Of those first appointed, four shall serve three years renewable and three shall serve two years, renewable for a three-year term. Trustee members shall serve during their appointed term as an Assembly Trustee.
2. The Committee shall meet at least five times per year to consider strategy and applications. On special cause shown the Committee may consider an application outwith those times; but in so doing the Committee must determine both that there is an urgency as to the application which requires a special meeting and also that the application is of such importance that to consider it without comparison with other applications would not improperly disadvantage such potential applications.
3. In carrying out their duties the Committee will engage with applicants through regional teams and carry out the process of assessment in partnership with local Presbytery representatives. Each team shall be convened by a member of the Committee and shall comprise two members of the Committee, in addition to two other persons with local knowledge chosen by the Presbytery. Each team shall be appointed to work within the life-cycle of the purpose for which the grant application is being considered. Once a grant application has been approved by the Committee, a team shall report to the Committee

both in respect of the terms of the grant and also for determinations on any matter requiring consideration outwith the terms of the grant.

4. A quorum of the Committee shall be five, whether attending in person or by electronic means. One attendee must be an Assembly Trustee and one must be the Convener or another trustee specifically nominated by the Convener for the purpose of the meeting in question. If meeting by electronic means, the Committee shall comply in all respects with the provisions of GA Act VI 2018 (Virtual Attendance at Meetings Act).
5. The Committee shall maintain Minutes of their meetings, duly approved by all members attending within two weeks of the meeting. The Minutes shall include a full account of the work of the regional "team" with a synopsis of all applications received and the reasoning for recommendations made to the Committee.
6. In respect that the Assembly Trustees are the Charity Trustees for the assets to be used by the *Seeds for Growth Fund*:
 - (i) the Minutes of meetings of the Committee shall be sent to the Assembly Trustees within one month of the meeting
 - (ii) in carrying out their duties the Committee shall submit quarterly reports to the Assembly Trustees as to their administration of the assets of the Fund and any proposed strategy for future operation, such report to be in terms of a template to be provided by the Assembly Trustees
 - (iii) the Committee shall maintain such accounts as the Assembly Trustees require
 - (iv) the work of the Committee in considering and granting applications shall be carried out in accordance with a budgetary framework, agreed with the Assembly Trustees and
 - (v) any liability arising out of the acting of a Committee member in good faith shall be borne as if the acting of an Assembly Trustee.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF THE ASSEMBLY BUSINESS COMMITTEE MAY 2022

Proposed Deliverance

The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Supplementary Report.

Report

1. AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS FOR THE HYBRID GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2022

1.1 Proposed amendments to Standing Orders for the General Assembly 2022 which will be held in a hybrid format (ie with some people present in person and others attending online) are set out after the Standing Orders in the Order of Proceedings. The section of deliverance to move these amendments has been anticipated in the Report of the Legal Questions Committee (section 2).

In the name of the Committee

DONALD G B MCCORKINDALE, Convener
SUSAN J PYM, Vice-Convener
GEORGE J WHYTE, Secretary

Standing Orders

Please also see the amendments for the hybrid General Assembly which are proposed to these Standing Orders by the Assembly Business Committee, which are to be moved on the first day of the Assembly, a print of which follows at the end at pages 75-76.

STANDING ORDERS

- I. Commissions..... 67
- II. Conduct of Business 67
- III. Members not Commissioners..... 69
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Standing Orders

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 circulate 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 circulated 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. Acts of Assembly. The Committee on Commissions (SO 5) shall arrange for the text of the Acts of Assembly to be finalised and shall include 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) Each of the following bodies shall have the right to appoint for each day of the General Assembly, one member or staff-member to act as a Corresponding Member: Faith Nurture Forum, Faith Impact Forum, Social Care Council, Ecumenical Relations Committee, General Trustees, Church of Scotland Guild, Trustees of the Housing and Loan Fund, the Legal Questions Committee, the Nomination Committee, Safeguarding Committee, Stewardship and Finance Department, the Church of Scotland Pension Trustees and the Theological Forum.
- (b) Each such body will advise the Assembly Business Committee not less than one week before the commencement of the General Assembly of the name of the Corresponding Member appointed for each day. The names of Corresponding Members appointed under this Standing Order shall be included in the Assembly Papers.

2. The Chief Officer, the Head of Faith Action, the Secretary of the Social Care Council, the Ecumenical Officer, the Editor of Life and Work, the General Treasurer, 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 Chair of the General Trustees as an Assembly Trustee *ex officio*), being 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) A further ten persons between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five on the opening day of the General Assembly shall be appointed as Youth Representatives to each Assembly, such Representatives to be selected by the Faith Nurture Forum in terms of a process prescribed by that Forum and the names passed to the Clerks of Assembly by 31 March each year.
- (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 seek the permission of the Moderator; for the avoidance of doubt, such permission may be sought

during a debate. 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 included and circulated 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. Circulation of Reports and Proposed Deliverances. It shall be the duty of the Clerks to arrange for all such Reports and Proposed Deliverances to be circulated in the authorised form 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 a copy of each 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 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 circulated to Members, shall be submitted to the Clerks of Assembly at least one day prior to their being considered, and included 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. Circulation of Overtures. The Clerks shall arrange for the circulation of Overtures to Commissioners, at the expense (if any) of those promoting them, 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 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. Proposals with Budgetary Implications. Prior to making any proposal, Commissioners should give due consideration as to whether this will incur the use of additional resources or affect the incoming resources for the Church's work, ie whether the proposal has budgetary implications. Advice on any proposal can be sought from the General Treasurer. A proposal with budgetary implications must be in the hands of Commissioners in proper form (for example, as a Proposed Deliverance, Notice of Motion, or Crave of a Petition). Specifically, to ensure sensible budget controls:

- (a) Any proposal which involves new or additional expenditure whether of a one-off or recurring nature, must be accompanied by a statement specifying where funding will be found, whether by a reduction of existing costs; funding external to the Church or by an increase in the total amount to be met by congregations.
- (b) Any proposal which results in a potential reduction in income, including a reduction in the total to be met by congregations, must be accompanied by a statement of where replacement funding will be found or expenditure reduced to compensate for the reduction in the income.

The Assembly Trustees shall have the right to comment upon any proposal in category (a) or (b) before any decision is taken.

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 circulated in the volume of Reports), shall be circulated to Members and laid on the table of the Assembly 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) PROVISION OF PAPERS

62. Circulation. 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 circulated to Members in authorised form.

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 circulated separately and may be dealt with by the Assembly in private.

64. Cost of Circulation of Papers. 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 circulation (if any) shall be borne by the Assembly Business Committee; in other circumstances by the Complainer or Appellant. In all other cases the expenses of circulating papers (if any) 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. A copy of every circulated paper shall be kept by the Clerks of Assembly to be 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 a copy of all papers circulated 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:-

- a) 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.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) 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 circulated 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.
- e) Where motions appearing 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 included in the "Assembly Papers" not later than the day on which the business is to be taken. Such circulated 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 in the "Assembly Papers"; and, as approved by the Assembly, shall be included in the Minutes, if the reasons of dissent have been so circulated.

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 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 Faith Nurture and Faith Impact Forums.
7. **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*.
8. **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.
9. **Faith Impact Forum**..... 15
Convener, Vice-Convener and 13 members nominated by the Nomination Committee and appointed by the General Assembly.
10. **Faith Nurture Forum** 15
Convener, Vice-Convener and 13 members nominated by the Nomination Committee and appointed by the General Assembly.
11. **General Trustees**
Trustees are appointed as required, by the General Assembly on the nomination of the Trust.
12. **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.
13. **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.
14. **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.

15. **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.
16. **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.
17. **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.
18. **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.
19. **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.
20. **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* 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.
21. **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.
22. **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.
23. **Social Care Council**..... 12
 Convener, Vice-Convener and 9 members appointed by the General Assembly, with the Chief Executive Officer of CrossReach as a non-voting *ex officio* member. At least one member shall be a Church of Scotland minister.
24. **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.
25. **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 circulated 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 included 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.

AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS FOR THE HYBRID GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2022

The Standing Orders in their current form shall apply save for amendments as follows which shall, where there is any conflict with an existing Standing Order, apply in preference:

Generally: references to “laid on the table” shall include “circulated electronically in advance”.

New Standing Order 8 – Assembly Hub for online attendees: All Commissioners, Members *ex officio*, Corresponding Members, Delegates, Visitors (if any) and Youth Representatives attending the General Assembly online shall require to use the Assembly Hub software application (the “Assembly Hub”) to participate in the General Assembly as set out below. All such persons shall be supplied in advance with login details to the Assembly Hub and training on its use shall be made available. In particular, the Assembly Hub shall be used by online attendees throughout the General Assembly to do the following:

- to follow the business of the General Assembly, read sections of deliverance and vote on them;
- to submit notices of motion (to amend an existing section of deliverance, to propose a counter-motion to an existing section of deliverance, or to propose a new motion);
- to second a notice of motion; and
- to indicate a request to speak (ask a question, make a comment or raise a point of order).

New Standing Order 8A – In Person/Online Participation: Commissioners, Delegates, Corresponding Members and Youth Representatives may participate in person or online at the General Assembly of 2022. A person shall be designated in advance by the commissioning Presbytery as either an in person or an online attendee for the entire duration of the Assembly. No change to a person’s status as an in person or online attendee shall be possible after 15 April 2022, save only in the following circumstances: if an in person attendee becomes ill and unable to attend the Assembly in person, they shall advise the Office of the General Assembly as soon as possible by emailing pcoffice@churchofscotland.org.uk. When doing so they may request to change to being an online attendee and the Office of the General Assembly shall enable this if possible.

Amendments to specific Standing Orders

Additional wording: Standing Order 26 – Acts of Assembly: A list of proposed Acts of Assembly shall be circulated electronically in advance in the Assembly Paper.

Additional wording: Standing Orders 45 – Questions on Reports & 46 – Questions requiring Notice

[If attending in person]: If such a person has a device enabling them to do so, they may use the Assembly Hub as in the subsequent paragraph. Alternatively an in person attendee may use one of the stations placed in the Hall to enter a “request to speak” against the relevant section(s) of deliverance.

[If attending online]: Commissioners, Delegates, Youth Representatives and Corresponding Members who wish to ask a question or to make a comment on a Report should use the Assembly Hub to enter a “request to speak” against the relevant section(s) of deliverance.

Additional wording: Standing Order 89 – Notice of Motion

[If attending in person]: If such a person has a device enabling them to do so, they may use the Assembly Hub as in the subsequent paragraph. Alternatively an in person attendee may email a duly completed notice of motion form to the Clerks of Assembly using pcoffice@churchofscotland.org.uk, or may complete and return to the Clerks at the top table or to the Assembly Office, a paper notice of motion form.

[If attending online]: Commissioners, Members and Youth Representatives should use the Assembly Hub to register a notice of motion in advance in respect of the relevant section(s) of deliverance.

[For all attendees]: All persons entitled to do so are asked to register a notice of motion before the start of the relevant Standing Committee’s business slot, i.e. before debate on the relevant Report starts.

Additional wording: Standing Order 105 Taking the Vote:

[For all attendees] Quick approval of business: The Moderator shall have discretion to gauge approval, without need formally to vote, of any section of deliverance by combining the following indications and forming a view: having taken into account any “requests to speak” which have been registered, they may ask in person commissioners to stamp their feet or stand and at the same time may ask online commissioners to “raise a hand” on Zoom to indicate approval of a section of deliverance. If following use of this procedure any commissioner requests a formal vote, then the Moderator shall call for an electronic vote to take place.

Where an electronic vote is used, it shall proceed as follows:

[If attending in person]: An in person attendee shall vote using a Bluetooth handset supplied to them at the start of the Assembly. Voting for such persons via the Assembly Hub will be disabled.

[If attending online] An online attendee shall use the Assembly Hub to vote. In the event of a failure in the technology operating the Assembly Hub, online attendees shall vote using Zoom Polls or shall use such other voting mechanism as may be prescribed at the time by the Procedure Committee.

[For all attendees]: The votes from both from in-person attendance and the Assembly Hub shall be added together and the result shall be announced by the Moderator. The voting figures shall be minuted where the Moderator, in his or her discretion, specifically requests this, or where the Clerks of Assembly decide that it would be appropriate to do so. In no circumstances shall a second vote be taken on a matter which has already been the subject of a vote by electronic voting.

Additional wording: Standing Orders 106-110 – Dissents

[If attending in person]: If such a person has a device enabling them to do so, they may email their dissent as in the subsequent paragraph. Alternatively, an in person attendee may sign the list provided by the Assembly Office.

[If attending online]: A dissent shall be entered or adhered to by sending an email to: **pcoffice@churchofscotland.org.uk**

with the subject line stating “Dissent against....*[insert name of Standing Committee and number of relevant section of deliverance]*”. To be recorded in the minute, any such email must be received by the Clerks by the close of the last session of the Assembly.

OTHER INFORMATION

For In Person Commissioners

IMPORTANT: FIRE PROCEDURE

The following arrangements **MUST BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO:**

A. ON DISCOVERING A FIRE –

Sound the Alarm by operating the nearest break-glass Call point. This will automatically call the Fire Brigade.

B. ON HEARING THE ALARM –

1. Evacuate building by the nearest safe available exit route following the stewards' directions

Debating Chamber Level: Main doors down to QUADRANGLE

Gallery Level: 4 Exits on to LAWNMARKET

2. Do not use the Lift in the event of an emergency, due to the risk of power failure
3. Do not stop to collect belongings, ie. Coats, brief-cases, handbags, etc.
4. Exit doors must remain clear at all times. When exiting leave in an orderly fashion
5. **ASSEMBLE – WHEN CLEAR OF THE ASSEMBLY HALL, KEEP MOVING AND FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS OF THE STEWARDS TO A PLACE OF ASSEMBLY**
6. Do not re-enter the building until you have been told it is safe to do so.

(Note: The above-mentioned arrangements relate to the Assembly Hall building. If present within New College when the College fire alarm sounds, leave the College by the nearest available exit. New College areas include the Assembly Office, Stewards' Office, Media Rooms and Rainy Hall.)

THE FASTI – Some hard copies of the recently published Vol XII of the *Fasti* (the latest volume of the record of ministries in the Church of Scotland since the Reformation) will be available for purchase at the Assembly. These will be held in the Assembly Office and any person who wishes to purchase one should visit the Office to arrange this.

FIRST AID ROOM – This room is off the “black and white” corridor of the Assembly Hall.

REPORTS – The Volume of Reports can be downloaded [here](#).

TIME LIMIT FOR SPEECHES – A bell will notify Speakers that they are approaching the time limit and are expected to finish their speeches within one minute.

HEARING AIDS – These should be switched to “T” for best results from the induction loop. BSL interpreters will cover each session of the General Assembly. Please advise the Office of the General Assembly if you would find this facility helpful so that a seat can be reserved for you in the appropriate area.

SEATING FOR COMMISSIONERS – Commissioners should sit in the ground floor and in the south and west galleries.

FILMING/PHOTOGRAPHY – We draw to your attention that cameras are used to film and photograph the General Assembly throughout its meeting and that the footage will be streamed live on the Church of Scotland website and used in other media including Social Media. In addition the footage and live stills obtained may, at some future point, be broadcast on national or international television and/or be used in other publications. If you do not wish to be filmed/photographed in this way, you should sit out of range of the cameras in the corners against the back wall on the ground floor of the Assembly Hall, and not behind any of the microphones which are located around the Hall. If you are unsure where this is, please ask a steward.

LOST PROPERTY– Please report or hand this in to the Assembly Office.

LUGGAGE AND COATS – Luggage may be left in a cloakroom opposite the Assembly Office on the Saturday and Thursday mornings; bags and coats may be left in this space Monday to Wednesday. All items are left at commissioners' own risk.