INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS IN 2027

NAME OF STANDING COMMITTEE/AGENCY: Chaplains to His Majesty's Forces Committee	
CONVENER/CHAIR:	Group Captain (Ret'd) Andrew Tait
VICE-CONVENER(S):	Rev Amy Bender

REMIT:

• To keep abreast of Ministry of Defence policy and make a contribution to the formulation of this as it concerns the spiritual well-being of the women and men of the Armed Forces of the Crown.

• To advocate for the recruiting of chaplains, as the MOD- accepted Endorsing Authority for the Church, and to take an interest in the welfare of chaplains and their families.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE SOUGHT AT THIS TIME:

As the size of the Committee has reduced, it has become vitally important to have knowledge of each of the Services within the membership of the Committee, as well as an external perspective representing the wider Church.

EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS:

There are two meetings per year (January online, September in person at the Church Offices, 121 George Street, Edinburgh). Committee members are encouraged to attend parts of the chaplains' annual two days of CPD work, whether this takes place during General Assembly week or at other times of the year. There is often a visit to a Defence establishment for members somewhere in Scotland in the course of the year. Other requirements during the year are minimal, other than to give direction and guidance (when it is requested by e-mail) to the Convener, who fulfils most of the functions of the Committee between its meetings. Depending on their experience and/or background members may be invited to act as part of the interviewing panel for prospective candidates as chaplains, thus fulfilling the Committee's role as Endorsing Authority on behalf of the Church.

MEMBERSHIP AND ANTICIPATED VACANCIES:

Membership of the committee is Convener, Vice-Convener and 4 other members appointed by the General Assembly through the Nomination Committee.

It is anticipated that there will be a Convener vacancy and three member vacancies to be filled with a start date of June 2027.

FREQUENCY, TIMING AND VENUE OF MEETINGS:

See above – meetings (both on-line and in person) are generally held on Thursdays unless agreed otherwise.

DETAILS OF SUB-COMMITTEES/GROUPS:
None.