INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS IN 2027

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Seeds for Growth Committee [as a committee of the Assembly Trustees the members shall be appointed by the Assembly Trustees working in collaboration with the Nomination Committee]	
CONVENER/CHAIR:	Rev Dr Jamie Milliken
VICE-CONVENER(S):	Anthea Bircham
SECRETARY:	Catherine Skinner

REMIT:

The operation of the strategic programme of the Assembly Trustees, known as Seeds for Growth was established by the 2022 General Assembly.

The purpose of Seeds for Growth is as follows: To support the numerical and spiritual growth of the Church of Scotland through:

(i) Developing mission through new worshipping communities,

(ii) Developing and nurturing faith in those under the age of 40, and

(iii) Fostering discipleship and revitalisation within established congregations, with the aim of growing an existing congregation or developing a new worshipping community.

The Committee prioritises applications which have the objective of:

- Developing mission through new worshipping communities and church planting
- Engaging in intergenerational approaches to and participation in worship.

The Committee is to oversee the operation of Seeds for Growth on behalf of the Assembly Trustees. The Committee will adhere to the relevant Regulations issued by the General Assembly and to the guidelines, criteria and governance requirements approved by the Assembly Trustees. Part of the Committee's work will be to advise the Assembly Trustees on the construction, marketing and deployment of this fund as the Church of Scotland moves forward in these transformed times.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE SOUGHT AT THIS TIME:

<u>Essential</u>

In this round of recruitment, we are seeking one individual with a financial and/or accounting background alongside one other committee member.

1. Motivated to see the mission of the Church grow through new worshipping communities, church plants, nurturing faith in those under the age of 40, and/or fostering discipleship and revitalisation within established congregations
2. Experience of sitting on a grant awarding panel and/or grant making or writing grant applications
3. Critical thinking and reflective practice
4. Understanding of working within a Governance structure
5. Ability to effectively provide challenge in a Committee environment

Desirable

6. Practical experience of new worshipping communities/church plants, and/or work with under 40s, and/or fostering discipleship and revitalisation within established congregations
7. Broad expertise in the application of research evaluation techniques
8. Experience of working within a church or other charitable organisation
9. Awareness of Charity Law
10. Experience of developing communication strategies

EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS:

- Prepare for each Committee meeting by reading and considering the application assessments provided by the Church of Scotland
- Attend and participate in all scheduled Committee meetings, or send apologies on occasions where this is not possible
- Ensure that comments, opinions and decisions are on the basis of objective assessment
- To ensure that both grant application process and decision making are open, fair and transparent
- To treat all information received as a Committee member as confidential
- To not disclose the outcomes of funding meetings prior to applicants being informed of the funding decision
- To declare any potential or actual conflicts of interest either before or during the meeting. All Committee members will be required to complete the Declaration of Interest Form prior to commencing position

MEMBERSHIP AND ANTICIPATED VACANCIES:

It is anticipated that there will be two member vacancies to be filled with a start date of June 2027.

Members appointed shall serve a three-year term, renewable unless otherwise determined by the Assembly Trustees. Trustee members will serve as their appointed term as an Assembly Trustee.

FREQUENCY, TIMING AND VENUE OF MEETINGS:

The Committee will meet at least five times per year to consider strategy and applications. Meetings will be held both virtually and in person. Limited travel will be required.

DETAILS OF SUB-COMMITTEES/GROUPS:

The Convener, Vice-Convener, and staff members meet monthly to assess and award Level 1 and 2 applications as well as examining initial proposal forms for Level 3 application.

Further sub-committees and groups may be set up on an ad hoc basis.

FURTHER DETAILS:
Information relating to the Seeds for Growth Fund can be found within the Supplementary Report of the Assembly Trustees 2022
Also see: 'Seeds for Growth' Fund Regulations (Regs IV 2022) (Amended by Regs IV 2023 and Regs III 2024)