



INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS

NAME OF STANDING COMMITTEE/AGENCY:	
Theological Forum	
REMIT:	
<p>The remit of the Theological Forum is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) to articulate and develop the doctrinal understanding of the Church in accordance with Holy Scripture and with reference to the confessional standards of the Church of Scotland; b) to express the theological vision of the Church in its worship, fellowship, witness and mission in and beyond contemporary Scotland; c) to respond to particular theological requests as and when these arise from the General Assembly, the Council of Assembly and the ecumenical partners of the Church; d) to draw to the attention of the General Assembly theological matters which the Theological Forum considers to be of pressing contemporary relevance; e) to stimulate wider theological reflection throughout the Church on key doctrinal, ethical and apologetic matters through the provision of appropriate materials and other activities. 	
CONVENER/CHAIR:	Rev Dr Donald MacEwan
VICE-CONVENER(S):	Rev Dr Liam Fraser
SECRETARY:	Nathalie Mares
MEMBERSHIP:	
NB: a completed Nomination Form must be submitted by anyone wishing to be put forward for proposed re-appointment	
<p>Rev Prof Susan Hardman Moore Rev Dr Jean Kirkwood Rev Dr Lynn McChlery Rev Prof Paul Middleton Rev Hector Morrison Rev Dr Ruth Morrison Professor Paul T Nimmo Professor Glen Pettigrove Rev Lance Stone Rev Alastair Symington Dr Andrew Torrance</p>	
FREQUENCY, TIMING AND VENUE OF MEETINGS:	
include mention of any particular day(s) of the week when meetings would fall	
<p>Normally, the Theological Forum’s meetings are held in the Church Offices, 121 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4YN. However, due to the coronavirus pandemic, meetings for 2020 are being held remotely via Microsoft Teams. The meetings are usually between 11 am and 1 pm, and the days of the week vary so that as many members as possible are able to attend. The Theological Forum met on 8 occasions throughout the year 2019/20. This is likely to increase to 9 or 10 post-pandemic.</p>	



DETAILS OF SUB-COMMITTEES/GROUPS:

include frequency, timings, venue and any particular day(s) of the week when meetings would fall

Occasionally the Forum will have a Working Group looking at a particular topic. This is always done on a voluntary basis and varies accordingly.

EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS:

Diligence in reading papers and attending meetings; capacity for theological reflection and comment.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE SOUGHT AT THIS TIME:

The Forum would be particularly keen to have people from the church who are not ordained ministers, and who have an interest in contemporary issues which intersect with theology, including creation, the environment and climate change; varieties of ministry and church life; interfaith questions.

FURTHER DETAILS:

Include any useful web links

The Theological Forum's web page can be found here:

https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/about_us/councils_committees_and_departments/committees/theological-forum

Following an instruction received at the 2018 General Assembly to review the status of the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Theological Forum organised a conference titled *Westminster, Confessions and the Church* which was held at New College on Wednesday 8th May 2019. The conference papers have since been published in the journal *Theology in Scotland* and are available in digital format at the following web address: <https://ois.st-andrews.ac.uk/index.php/TIS/issue/view/188>

The Theological Forum has also produced a paper on online communion in response to the coronavirus pandemic, which can be found [here](#), and, at the request of the Assembly Trustees, a paper on the [Five Marks of Mission](#), which the Trustees drew on in their [Report](#) to the October 2020 General Assembly.