

BASIC INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS

NAME OF COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE:

Theological Forum

BRIEF SUMMARY OF AREA OF WORK:

The remit of the Theological Forum is:

- 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.

NAMES OF CONVENER AND SECRETARY:

Convener: Rev Dr Donald MacEwan

Secretary: Miss Nathalie Mares

NUMBER OF MEMBERS:

A Convener, Vice-Convener and eleven members to be appointed by the General Assembly on the nomination of the Nomination Committee; 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; together with one additional member appointed by the Committee on Ecumenical Relations.

FREQUENCY, TIMING AND VENUE OF MEETINGS:

At present, meetings are held in the Church Offices, 121 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4YN. Video-conference facilities can be made available when appropriate.

EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS:

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