

## REGISTRATION OF MINISTRIES COMMITTEE MAY 2018

### Proposed Deliverance

#### The General Assembly:

1. Receive the Report.

### Report

#### 1. REMIT OF THE COMMITTEE

**1.1** The Registration of Ministries Committee plays a limited but significant role in relation to the Registration of Ministries. It is charged with assessing all applications for category O registration from individuals in categories E, R or I or from individuals whose category O registration is due to expire. It also deals with applications for change of category of registration from individuals in categories S and L or who left a post for reasons of ill-health. In order to do this as fairly as possible it was created as a stand alone Committee.

**1.2** The Registration of Ministries Act came into force on 1 January 2018.

**1.3** The responsibility for the creation of and maintenance of the Register of Ministry, and for processes of registration lies with Presbyteries and the Ministries Council and not the Registration of Ministries Committee.

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#### 2. INITIAL WORK

**2.1** The Committee met between June and November 2017 to devise a process for dealing with applications for category O registration, which would be thorough, equitable and as simple to operate as possible. Inevitably it could only imagine the sort of applications it would receive and therefore what the best way of handling them might be.

**2.2** The Committee met in December 2017 and January 2018 to consider applications (and expects to meet at six weekly intervals thereafter). At the time of writing it has dealt with four applications. In all cases it was satisfied that, with certain amounts of updating (much of which would be done on a self-certifying basis) category O registration could be given immediately.

**2.3** The Committee is continually learning from experience and adapting its processes. For example, it quickly became obvious to it that interviews could be conducted by video link or conference call, saving both applicants and Presbytery representatives from needing to travel to Edinburgh.

**2.4** It welcomes comments from those who have submitted applications as to how the process might be improved.

**2.5** The Committee publishes its meeting dates on the Church's website so as to assist those wishing to make an application.

*In the name of the Committee*

NEIL DOUGALL, *Convener*  
HAZEL HASTIE, *Vice-Convener*  
JAYNE SCOTT, *Registrar*