

## **BASIC INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS**

### **NAME OF COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE:**

Panel on Review and Reform

### **BRIEF SUMMARY OF AREA OF WORK:**

The Panel's remit is:

- to listen to the voices of congregations, Presbyteries, agencies, and those beyond the Church of Scotland.
- to present a vision of what a Church in need of continual renewal might become and to offer paths by which congregations, presbyteries and agencies might travel towards that vision.
- to consider the changing needs, challenges and responsibilities of the Church.
- to have particular regard to the gospel imperative of priority for the poor, needy and marginalised.

### **NAMES OF CONVENER AND SECRETARY:**

Convener: Rev Jenny Adams

Vice-convener: Ms Christine Cavanagh

### **NUMBER OF MEMBERS:**

Convener, Vice-convener and eight members appointed by the General Assembly with the Ecumenical Officer attending but without the right to vote or make a motion. Other members may be co-opted as necessary. Currently this consists of a representative from the Priority Areas and one with experience in developing young leaders.

### **FREQUENCY, TIMING AND VENUE OF MEETINGS:**

Meetings are normally held every month.

Timings: The first Wednesday of the month 10.30 am to 4 pm, allowing time for work in sub-groups and the full Panel on the same day. This pattern is kept under review.

Venue: Usually in 121 George Street, Edinburgh, with the exception of first plenary following the General Assembly (normally mid-June) which is usually held in a different venue and is a day-long or overnight meeting.

### **DETAILS OF THE PANEL'S CURRENT WORK:**

- ✚ A review of local Leadership including kirk sessions, with a specific focus on how we develop younger leaders
- ✚ Models of discipleship and spiritual formation, including apprenticeship, mentoring, and friendship.
- ✚ Support and development of Path of Renewal Pilot process
- ✚ A review of who should be authorised to administer the Sacraments
- ✚ Ongoing work on the vision for the Church of Scotland and pathways to achieve the vision

### **EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS:**

As the Panel's membership is small, members must be prepared to commit to regular attendance at meetings convened according to current workload requirements. They are also expected to support the work of the Panel as appropriate (for example, attending and facilitating conferences, analysis, writing up material for inclusion in General Assembly reports).

The Panel has a single permanent member of staff, an Administrator, based in 121. Working remotely from Panel members, she requires Panel members to access and respond to e-mails regularly and promptly. In addition the Panel is able to employ research staff or others with specific skills for particular projects.

Panel members may be asked to attend meetings/conferences on the Panel's behalf.

**GENERAL SKILLS/EXPERIENCE SOUGHT:**

The Panel endeavours to have a cross-section of the following skills amongst its membership:

- ✚ Writing papers (eg sections of the report to the General Assembly)
- ✚ Ability to convene meetings and to lead a project on behalf of the Panel
- ✚ Change management
- ✚ Communication skills

**PARTICULAR SKILLS SOUGHT FROM 2018:**

- ✚ Research work
- ✚ Skills and experience in managing a process of change
- ✚ Leadership development
- ✚ An ability to bring theological insights and understanding to the different areas of work of the Panel

Other desirable skills/qualities:

- ✚ Facilitating discussions
- ✚ Note-taking