

XIII. AUXILIARY MINISTRY ACT (ACT XIII 2003) (AS AMENDED BY ACTS X AND XI 2004 AND I, VII 2006, X 2007, IX 2011, XVII 2012, XII 2016 AND II AND VI 2017)

Edinburgh, 22 May 2003 Session 7

The General Assembly enact and ordain as follows:–

1. Definitions

Section 1(a) to (c) and (f) to (i) of Act X 2004 shall apply to the Auxiliary Ministry. In addition the following definitions shall apply:–

The Committee is the Candidate Supervision Committee of the Ministries Council, or such other Committee as the Ministries Council may, from time to time, charge with responsibility for overseeing Candidates for the Auxiliary Ministry;

Presbytery of the bounds is the Presbytery containing the larger or largest part of the area of the Auxiliary Minister's responsibilities.

2. Appointments and Reviews

(a) An Auxiliary Minister may serve in one or more Presbyteries of the Church of Scotland, undertaking such designated appointments as the Presbyteries may from time to time determine after approval from the Kirk Session of any congregation to which an appointment is proposed.

(b) The conditions regulating each designated appointment shall be defined in writing by the Presbytery of the bounds in consultation with the Auxiliary Minister and all interested parties including relevant Kirk Sessions.

(c) The Presbytery of the bounds shall be entitled at any time to carry out a review of any designated appointment, and in the light of such review to (a) suspend or terminate the appointment; (b) renew the appointment; (c) vary the conditions regulating the appointment.

(d) When an Auxiliary Minister ceases to serve in a designated appointment then he or she shall become subject to section 19 of the Registration of Ministries Act (Act II 2017).

3. Relationship with Courts of the Church

(a) An Auxiliary Minister shall be associated with the Kirk Session of any Parish or Parishes within which he or she is to operate. He or she shall be entitled to membership of Presbytery. Where an Auxiliary Minister serves in more than one Presbytery, he or she shall have membership of the Presbytery of the bounds. Where there is an equal division of responsibilities between designated appointments, the Auxiliary Minister shall choose the Presbytery of which he or she is a member but shall be subject to both or all Presbyteries.

(b) On retirement from an appointment, an Auxiliary Minister shall be subject to the provisions of section 14 of Act III 2000 as amended.

4. In-Service Training

While in active service, Auxiliary Ministers shall attend those in-service courses provided by the Ministries Council deemed appropriate for Auxiliary Ministers. Such attendance shall be at a level of at least one training course in each two-year period.

5. Remuneration

(1) Auxiliary Ministry is a non-stipendiary form of ministry and no remuneration shall be offered which is directly related to the appointment as an Auxiliary Minister.

(2) An Auxiliary Minister shall be entitled to a regular Pulpit Supply Fee when conducting worship other than in his or her regular appointment.

- (3) Remuneration for any other appointment, for example as a Locum or in chaplaincy which the Presbytery has approved in addition to the designated appointment, shall be at the normal rates set by the Church from time to time.
- (4) Reasonable expenses incurred wholly and necessarily in the course of duties shall be reimbursed at the rates printed annually in the report of the Council to the General Assembly.
- (5) The Ministries Council shall offer to every Auxiliary Minister in a designated appointment an annual resource grant at an amount to be fixed annually by the Council and reported to the General Assembly. The grant will be available for the purchase of resources (eg. books; computer hardware or software; periodicals) to be used in the fulfilment of ministerial duties. The grant shall be awarded on the production of receipts. The Council shall be entitled to seek contributions towards such grants from the Presbytery or Presbyteries designating the Auxiliary Minister's appointment.

6. Transfer to the Full-Time Ministry

In a situation where an Auxiliary Minister desires to transfer to the Ordained National Ministry, the following procedure shall apply:

- (a) The Auxiliary Minister shall inform the Council of his or her wish to transfer, and at the same time shall inform the Presbytery of the bounds;
- (b) Having established eligibility, the Council shall arrange for the Auxiliary Minister to undergo an Assessment Panel in the form of an interview with a psychologist and an interview with two national assessors;
- (c) At the interviews attention shall be paid to the Auxiliary Minister's reasons for his or her wish to transfer, his or her gifts of leadership shall be assessed and his or her understanding of ministry shall be examined;
- (d) If the person is accepted by the Assessment Panel as a prospective candidate for the Ordained National Ministry then that person will thereafter follow the appropriate procedure under Act X 2004, including, though not restricted to, the requirement for nomination by Presbytery as a candidate for the Ordained National Ministry in terms of sections 7 to 11 of that Act and such requirements for education and training as may be determined by the Council, having regard to all the circumstances in each particular case;
- (e) If the person is not accepted by the Assessment Panel as a prospective candidate for the Ordained National Ministry then that person may apply again to transfer to Ordained National Ministry, up to three times in total, but that number shall be reduced by any previous applications made at any time for Ordained National Ministry or for transfer to Ordained National Ministry. A fourth application shall be possible only with the prior approval of the Committee.
- (f) If the person is not at any time accepted by the Assessment Panel as a prospective candidate for the Ordained National Ministry then such decision shall not affect the person's status as an Auxiliary Minister.
- (g) A decision of the Assessment Panel not to accept a person as a prospective candidate for the Ordained National Ministry shall be final and binding on the applicant, subject only to appeal to the Ministries Appeal Panel in terms of Act VI 2007 on the following grounds: (a) an error in Church law; (b) breach of the principles of natural justice or material irregularity of process; and (c) decision influenced by incorrect material fact. The intention to appeal shall be intimated

by the applicant to the Council within 21 days of the Assessment Panel's decision.

7. **Repeal**

Act III 1987 and Regs III 1987 (as amended) are hereby repealed.