

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2024

NOTICES OF MOTION

as at 10am, Thursday 23rd May 2024

Notes:

This paper will first be published on the website on Wednesday 15th May and then as appropriate until the Assembly opens; thereafter, this paper will be published on the website and issued in print to in person commissioners who have no digital means of access on the mornings of each day of the Assembly (ie the Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday).

At this General Assembly the most up to date list of notices will be found in the Assembly Hub, as this will constantly be updated in real time. If you have submitted a notice of motion and you are wondering why it does not appear here or in the Hub, then it is probably because it's still in the process of being published by the Clerks.

*** NB if a Convener is not a commissioner, the Principal Clerk moves the motion and the Depute Clerk seconds**

THURSDAY

REPORT OF THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Motion (amendment to section 4) in the name of the Convener (302)

Add at the end of section 4:

“subject to the following alterations:

Assembly Business Committee

Minister Resigned John Ferguson (May 2024)

Audit Committee

Member Appointed Barbara Finlayson (Edinburgh: The New Town) (1yr)

Faith Action Programme

Leadership Team

Vice-Convener Appointed (and Mission Support Programme Group Leader) Jonathan Fleming (Dec 2023 – **May 2025**) (Greenock: Lyle Kirk)

Vice Convener Appointed (and Presbytery Mission Plan Implementation Group Programme Group Leader) Karen Campbell (Edinburgh: Marchmont St Giles') (1 year)

Presbytery Mission Plan Implementation Group

Ministers Resigning Alan Hamilton, Katherine Taylor

Ministers Appointed Alistair May (Motherwell: Dalziel: St Andrews) (4 years), Lorna Tunstall (formerly Clyne l/w Kildonan & Loth Helmsdale) (3 years)

Members Appointed Barbara Finlayson (Edinburgh: New Town) (1 year), Dan Gunn (Dunblane St Blane's) (2 years)

REPORT OF THE REGISTRATION OF MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Motion (amendment to section 2) in the name of Rev Elspeth McKay (366)

Amend section 2 by adding at the end “but further amended by the deletion of paragraphs 1, 2 & 3 of the proposed Amending Act.”

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF THE FAITH ACTION PROGRAMME LEADERSHIP TEAM

Motion (withdrawal of existing sections 2 to 9 of the Supplementary Report in the print and substitution of new sections 2 to 10) in the name of the Convener (454)

APPRENTICESHIP ROUTE

2. Approve the direction of travel offered by the Apprenticeship Route (*Context based Education and Training for the Church of Scotland Family of Ministries*) and note its possibilities towards encouraging people to consider their calling to the various recognised ministries of the Church.
3. Approve the introduction of a two-year foundational programme to provide a general qualification for ministry, equivalent to a Certificate level education of 120 credits (*Section 1.4.2*).
4. Encourage the development of the Apprenticeship Route to provide a way of developing new forms of ministry required by the Presbytery Mission Planning Process, Team Ministry and the changing needs of the Church.

Initial Ministerial Education for full-time Ministry of Word and Sacrament and the Diaconate

5. Approve the principle of context-based formation for Initial Ministerial Education for full-time Ministry of Word and Sacrament and the Diaconate with a view to achieving a clearer integration of practice and theory.
6. Approve, as the normal model of training for ordination to full-time Ministry of Word and Sacrament and the Diaconate, a full-time formation process leading to a revised BD/ MDiv degree (of at least 360 SQA credits) combined with SQA credit-bearing ministry placements; reducing the current pattern of three years plus probation to three full years (which will include formative activity outwith academic semesters), with equality of time between study and placements.
7. Approve the development of a faster-track model, as an option for candidates for full-time Ministry of Word and Sacrament and the Diaconate under listed criteria, of two years context-based education and training prior to ordination, involving a Diploma qualification (240 SQA credits) (or Graduate Diploma) combined with SQA credit-bearing ministry placements; with an equality of time between study and placements; listed criteria being, for example those with significant practical experience in ministry as a non-ordained worker; those with a prior degree in theology; those who are close to age restrictions in entering training.
8. Instruct the Faith Action Programme Leadership Team to enter into discussions with Academic Providers, the Theological Forum, the Assembly Trustees, the Diaconate Council, and other relevant parties to bring a set of proposals to the General Assembly 2025 together, if required, with legislation to replace Act X 2004 and Act VIII 2010.

Continuing Professional Development

9. Instruct the Faith Action Programme Leadership Team to explore with the Registration of Ministries Committee, the principle of introducing compulsory continuing professional development for those ordained to Full-Time Ministry of Word and Sacrament, and those ordained to the Diaconate, noting that Readers and OLM are already required to undertake such, post their Initial Ministerial Education (*Section 1.5.3.2*).

Funding

10. Instruct the Assembly Trustees to work with the Faith Action Programme Leadership Team to provide a budget to fund the Apprenticeship Route and the new programme of Initial Ministerial Education (*Section 1.5*).