



**INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS IN 2025**

<b>NAME OF STANDING COMMITTEE/AGENCY:</b> Presbytery Review Committee	
<b>CONVENER/CHAIR:</b>	Rev Moira McDonald
<b>VICE-CONVENER(S):</b>	Miss Catherine Coull
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	
<b>REMIT:</b>  <p>The PRC was established in 2024 to help fulfil the GA’s powers of oversight of Presbyteries. Under the terms of the draft Presbytery Review Act (expected to be enacted at GA 2025), the PRC will carry out an annual inspection of Presbytery records and conduct a review of Presbyteries on (usually) a five-year cycle.</p> <p>The remit of the Presbytery Review Committee is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) to encourage and enable a Presbytery to reflect on its life and work;</li> <li>b) to assess whether a Presbytery is satisfactorily fulfilling its Functions and Responsibilities;</li> <li>c) to enable action to be taken when in the life of a Presbytery there is conflict or when there are issues of non-compliance with the Functions and Responsibilities;</li> <li>d) to give the opportunity for the leadership and the wider membership of the Presbytery as a whole to challenge one another as to the effectiveness or otherwise of the Presbytery’s structures and the functioning of them;</li> <li>e) to hear of and celebrate good practice by Presbyteries and share such with the wider Church; and</li> <li>f) to assist with the co-ordination of the central resourcing of the wider Church.</li> </ul>	
<b>SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE SOUGHT AT THIS TIME:</b>  <p>The draft Act says that in making nominations, a balance should be sought of ministers, elders and members. The aim must also be to ensure geographical balance.</p> <p>The PRC should include people with considerable experience of (a) Presbytery life, (b) Church life, (c) regulatory functions, (d) charity governance, (e) Church law, practice and procedure, and (f) the operation of Church courts. Each member of the PRC does not have to have experience in all of these, but these should be represented across the PRC. There may also be nominees with other qualities to assist the PRC.</p> <p>In practice, it is envisaged that the PRC should include former Presbytery Clerks and Depute Clerks, Business Conveners and Conveners of other Presbytery Committees, and Presbytery elders.</p> <p>No current employee of a Presbytery may be a member of the PRC.</p>	



**EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS:**

Members of the PRC are expected to participate in meetings of the full Committee, as well as in one or more sub-groups. Reviews of Presbyteries are to be undertaken by Review Groups of three people, which will include Committee members and possibly also co-opted members. The PRC also carries out an annual inspection of Presbytery records, which it does through an Inspection of Records sub-group.

Reviews of Presbyteries and the inspection of Presbytery records are likely to involve attendance at one or more Presbytery meetings as well as requiring meetings with staff and selected members of the Presbytery.

**MEMBERSHIP AND ANTICIPATED VACANCIES:**

**NB: a completed Nomination Form must be submitted by all proposed nominees including anyone wishing to be put forward for proposed re-appointment**

A Convener, Vice-Convener and eleven members nominated by the Nomination Committee and appointed by the General Assembly, together with ex officio the Principal Clerk and the Depute Clerk. In making nominations to the Committee, the Nomination Committee shall seek to ensure a balance of ministers, elders and members on the Committee, and also shall aim for geographical balance. Membership of the Committee shall include persons with considerable experience of Presbytery life, of Church life, of regulatory functions, of charity governance, of Church law, practice and procedure and of the operation of Church courts. Appointments shall be for a three year term with some initial appointments being of shorter terms to stagger those stepping down from the Committee in future years. No current employee of a Presbytery shall be a member of the Committee or co-opted onto a Review Group.

This year the Committee is not anticipating any vacancies but would welcome applications, which will be considered should a vacancy arise.

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

**include mention of any particular day(s) of the week when meetings would fall and whether meetings will be attended online and/or in person**

Meetings of the full PRC are normally held online; the pattern of meetings is still being established as this is a new Committee, but it is likely that at least 5 meetings a year will be required between June and March each year. Meeting dates will be selected, so far as possible, to tie in with the availability of the PRC members.

Members of the PRC may also be asked to join a sub-group to conduct the review of a Presbytery or carry out the annual inspection of records. There are likely to be a number of sub-group meetings throughout the year. These will usually be held online but sub-group members are likely also to be asked to attend one or more Presbytery meetings and to meet with staff and selected members of the Presbytery.

**DETAILS OF SUB-COMMITTEES/GROUPS:**

**include frequency, timings, venue and any particular day(s) of the week when meetings would fall**  
See above



**FURTHER DETAILS:**

**Include any useful web links**

[Appendix A - Legal Questions Committee Report 2024](#)