

Presbytery Mission Planning Phase 1 Central Area (North)

1. Sederunt	2 meetings were held the first on 16 th September 2021 where 10 representatives were present from all relevant congregations. A follow up meeting was held on 20 th October 2021 where there were 11 representatives present from all the relevant congregations
2. Discussion Notes	<p>Following discussions at both meetings, the following points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Tenure – concern over the length of time that Plans will take to come to fruition due to Unrestricted Tenure (UT). Faith Nurture Forum Update – response received to queries regarding Reviewable Charges, UT and Ministry Posts to be within mandatory limits by 31st December 2025 and a shared with those present who felt the response did not clarify the situation or help the discussions given their response took 7 week to be returned. ii) Building Review – concern from all parties that it is difficult to plan without knowing outcome of building review. iii) Supplemental Information – 2020 figures do not reflect actual figures iv) Representatives from Lochside wished it noted that Lochside is not a church in its own right and should not have been classed as such in the plan – the worshipers are all members of Ayr St Columba at this time.
3. Plans	<p>At the initial Meeting the representatives expressed preferences for the following Plans:</p> <p>Plan B – Ayr St Quivox, & Ayr St James Plan C – (As A but with Lochside as Local Mission Church) Ayr Newton Wallacetown & Lochside.</p> <p>After discussion a Plan D (Initially Plan A with expectation that all congregations are engaged in working towards Plan B) was put forward for consideration.</p>
4. Next Steps	<p>Representatives were asked to take back suggested Plans A-D to their Kirk Sessions for consideration.</p> <p>Further informal meetings to take place between them to try to come to an agreement</p> <p>And the North Central Area group will re-convene on 20th October 2021</p>
5. Plans Update	<p>After further informal meetings, consultation with Kirk Sessions and congregations and further discussions at the follow up meeting the following preferences were recorded:</p> <p>For Plan C Lochside – Ayr St Columba acting on the advice of the entire worshiping congregation of Lochside. Ayr Newton Wallacetown – Kirk Session agreement and after discussion with congregation.</p>

	<p>For Plan B Ayr St James – Kirk Session agreement and after discussion with congregation. Ayr St Quivox – Kirk Session agreement and after discussion with congregation.</p>
6. Outcome	<p>After quite a bit of discussion between all parties and concern for the influence of priority areas. It was clarified that the priority areas when it came to Plan C would be equally shared.</p> <p>There was a real concern among those present that UT would delay the plan whatever option and incur church closures. It was shared with the group that the ministers at St Quivox had written to the Kirk Session to inform them he would be willing to step aside to allow a plan to come to fruition. The minister at St James has expressed willingness to work with congregations to enable a plan to take place.</p> <p>Ayr Newton Wallacetown and Lochside expressed a desire to work together to advance the youth and adult outreach in their area. Although they acknowledged that there is a possibility for a Team Ministry within the North Ayr Area in the future, this is not viable at the present time.</p> <p>Ayr St James and Ayr St Quivox agreed to continue discussions to explore the possibility of working together and update the Convener before the 1st of November if possible.</p> <p>If no agreement can be forged, then the information as stands in regards to Plan B and Plan C will be presented to the mission committee at its next meeting.</p>