

P 4.2 RURAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE

NAME

P 4.2.1 The name of the committee is the "Rural Ministry Committee"(herein after called the Committee), a committee appointed by and responsible to the Presbytery of Western Australia.

DEFINITION

P 4.2.2 Rural Ministry Team means those persons appointed as Associates by the Presbytery to provide a network of support to rural congregations who are without an ordained minister in congregational placement, and includes the Rural Ministry Team Co-ordinator.

MEMBERSHIP

P 4.2.3 The Committee is appointed at each annual meeting of the Presbytery and consists of:

- (a) the Chairperson, elected annually by the Presbytery;
- (b) the Rural Ministry Team Co-ordinator or another person appointed by the General Secretary; and
- (c) two representatives from each Presbytery Region being served by the Rural Ministry Team, elected annually by the Presbytery;

P 4.2.4 The Committee may co-opt up to two further members, for terms not exceeding twelve months at a time, to ensure balanced representation or to provide the Committee with knowledge, abilities or experience not otherwise available to the Committee.

PURPOSE

P 4.2.5 The purpose of the Committee is to act for the Presbytery:

- (a) in supporting the Rural Ministry Team; and
- (b) in providing an overview of rural ministry and the development of policies and procedures that support, encourage and challenge ministry in rural areas.

RESPONSIBILITIES

P 4.2.6 The responsibilities of the Committee include:

- (a) developing policy and strategies in conjunction with the Mission Planning Committee to meet the challenges and issues of the rural Church;
- (b) assisting with the monitoring and evaluation of current and new initiatives in rural ministry;
- (c) working collaboratively with the Rural Ministry Team, supporting and encouraging them in their ministries;
- (d) advocating on rural Church issues in the committees, councils and commissions of the Church;
- (e) working collaboratively with the other committees, commissions and staff of the Presbytery to ensure good stewardship of the gifts, resources and skills of the Church;

- (f) encouraging the whole Church to celebrate the achievements of the rural Church;
- (g) when requested by the Presbytery, Presbytery Standing Committee or the General Secretary assisting with the review of Rural Ministry Team staff and the appointment of new staff; and
- (h) any other matters relating to rural ministry that may arise from time to time.

MEETINGS AND REPORTING

P 4.2.6 The Committee will:

- (a) meet face-to-face at least once each year and consult using other means at least quarterly;
- (b) report to the Mission Planning Committee, the Presbytery Standing Committee and the General Secretary as requested or when necessary.