



CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE

Name of Congregation: _____

Profile Purpose

The purpose of this profile is to:

- provide an opportunity for congregations to clarify their sense of identity, the context in which they work, the directions or goals of the congregation, and the leadership needed.
- provide information which will enable a ministry agent to discern if this is a community in which their gifts can be expressed and used effectively.
- Inspire interest in the congregation from prospective ministry agents.

This profile is set out in ten sections:

1. Basic Information
2. Your congregation
3. Your local Context
4. Missional Engagement
5. Future Directions
6. Ministry Leadership
7. Governance
8. Joint Congregations
9. Presbytery Section of Congregational Profile
10. Draft Terms of Placement

Sources

Information about your town or region can be gained from:

- The Australian Bureau of Statistics (www.abs.gov.au)
- Local Government Community Profiles obtained from your local Council Office
- Local Information
- NCLS Community Profile

1. BASIC INFORMATION

Name of Congregation	
Address of Church Building	
Office Address:	
Church Council Contact Person:	
Contact email:	
Contact phone number:	
Website:	

2. YOUR CONGREGATION

2.1 Membership

Number of confirmed members	
Number of members in Association	
Number of Adherents	
Number of Church Councillors	
Number of Church Elders/Leaders	
Number of services of worship each week	
Average numbers at worship twelve months ago	
Average number of people served in mission over a one-month period	
Number of baptisms over the last two years	
Number of confirmations over the last two years	
Number of transfers from other congregations over the last two years	
Number of transfer to other congregations over the last two years	
Number of marriages over the last two years	
Number of funerals over the last two years	

2.2 What groups exist in your congregation? How often do they meet? How many people attend their meetings and activities?

2.3 Are these numbers in 2.1 up or down from the two years previous to this information? Why has this change occurred?

2.4 About Worship:

2.4.1 What styles of worship are featured at your worship service(s) (e.g., *Traditional, Contemporary, Inter-generational, Mixture or other*)

2.4.2 Do you use Powerpoint, printed orders of service, other?

3. YOUR LOCAL CONTEXT

Through accessing the demographic resources listed from NCLS, ABS and local government:

3.1 What is the age profile of your congregation?

Under 12	12-18	18-30	30-50	50-70	Above 70

3.2 Does your congregation reflect the age group in your community?

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3.3 Does your congregation reflect the ethnic make-up of your community?

3.4 Does your congregation have any connections or meeting points with the local community?

3.5 Are you aware of the needs of your community, either pastorally, spiritually, or personally and if so, are you engaged in meeting any of those needs? (Please give examples).

4. MISSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

“Missional” is a word that describes how a congregation engages with the interests of the wider community, more so than the interests of the local congregation, as they live out the gospel.

4.1 List three ways in which you connect with, serve or partner with people in your local community? (Sharing your building with them is a valid response as long as it is not only as an income stream, but an intentional engagement with the community).

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5. FUTURE DIRECTIONS

5.1 Does your congregation have a mission or vision statement that is realistic and achievable?

YES NO

If so, please include it here:

5.2 What realistic and achievable missional goals does the congregation set for the next three years?

6. MINISTRY LEADERSHP

6.1 Lay Leadership

6.1.1 Does your congregation have the capacity to fulfill all the roles required by Church Councils, Elders and sub-committees of your congregation?

6.1.2 Is there encouragement for members to accept a leadership role and training to equip Lay Leadership in your congregation? If so, please elaborate.

6.1.3 List the number of:

Lay Preachers (Accredited)	
Lay Preachers (Non-Accredited)	
Retired Ministers (Active in Ministry)	
Retired Ministers (Non-Active in Ministry)	
Ministers in Association	
Paid staff other than a Ministry Agent	

6.2 Ministry Agents

6.2.1 Is the congregation seeking Full Time or Part Time placement?

	FTE
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6.2.2 Is there a preference for:

Minister of the Word	
Deacon	
Pastor	
Exit Student	

6.2.3 Is the congregation seeking:

An additional placement	
A replacement placement	

6.2.4 What do you expect the principal responsibilities of a new Ministry Agent to be?

6.2.5 Describe in one or two sentences the distinctive characteristics of your congregation that you would like a prospective ministry person to know about you?

7. GOVERNANCE

7.1 Does your congregation have an effective and informed Church Council?

YES NO

7.2 Does your Council comply to proper financial recording mechanisms such as annually audited books and budgets?

YES NO

7.3 Does your Church Council have effective records and minutes?

YES NO

7.4 Is your Church Council aware of all Safe Church, OH&S and Synod Governance matters and do they comply?

YES

NO

7.5 Does the congregation have the capacity to fulfil all the responsibilities of a congregation (Regulation 3.1.1 and 3.1.2)?

YES

NO

8. JOINT CONGREGATIONS

This section is to be completed where linked or clustered congregations relate to the proposed placement. A completed copy of the above profile should be attached to this form.

8.1 Names of Congregations:

8.2 In what ways do the congregations interact?

8.3 List any groups where membership is shared across congregations?

8.4 Do the congregations have separate Church Councils or a Joint Church Council?

Separate Church Councils	
Joint Church Council	

9. PRESBYTERY SECTION OF CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE

Presbytery:

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Congregations involved in placement:

9.1 Does the Presbytery support the mission directions identified by the congregation(s) for the next three/five years?

YES NO

Presbytery comments:

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9.2 Does Presbytery comment on the above differ at any point from the congregation(s) comment in this profile?

YES NO

If yes, please elaborate:

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9.3 Does the Presbytery consider that the congregation(s) should proceed to a new placement at this time?

YES NO

Presbytery comment:

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9.4 For which of the following ministries does the Presbytery consider that the position is suitable?

Minister of the Word	
Deacon	

Pastor	
Exit Student	

Give reasons for this choice:

9.5 Is Priority Placement recommended?

YES NO

Give reasons for this choice:

9.6 Does the Presbytery consider that any changes to placement responsibilities or relationships are required at this time?

YES NO

If yes, please elaborate:

9.7 Date of the most recent Presbytery inspection of the residence/manse:

9.7.1 Is the Presbytery satisfied that adequate and appropriate accommodation will be available, having regard to the Synod requirements for ministers' residences?

YES NO

If no, what steps are being taken to remedy the situation?

9.8 Is the Presbytery satisfied that adequate financial support for the placement and other congregation expenses will be available:

From the congregation(s) alone

With help from Presbytery and/or Synod

List any grants applied for or approved:

9.10 Does the Presbytery wish to make any additional comments?

9.11 Earliest date at which placement may become effective:

9.12 If the JNC is requesting permission to advertise do you support their reasons?

(Please give reasons):

Presbytery Representatives on Joint Nominating Committee/Consultation Team:

Name	Phone Number	Email Address

Date of Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee meeting:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

**Chairperson
Pastoral Relations Committee**

Date on which form is forwarded to the Placements Commission:

Check list for PRC Convener

Profiles are complete and have been approved by PRC.	
Adequate Manse Plans attached / or	
Description of alternative housing arrangements have been approved	
Financial details are attached and have been reviewed by Presbytery to ensure confidence that the Placement can be sustained.	
Presbytery Section Complete and Signed off by Chairperson of PRC	

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