

P12 Pastoral Relations Committee

NAME AND STATUS

- P12.1 The name of the Committee is the “Pastoral Relations Committee” (hereinafter called the Committee), a committee appointed by and responsible to the Presbytery of Western Australia.

MEMBERSHIP

- P12.2 The membership of the Committee shall be in accordance with Reg 3.7.3 (a) and (c), and shall consist of:
- (a) a Chairperson, shall be elected by the Presbytery for a two year term.
 - (b) up to six other persons elected by the Presbytery for a two year term.
- P12.3 The membership of the Committee must include at least two ministers and two lay persons. [Reg 3.7.3 (a)]
- P12.4 The Committee may co-opt up to two further members, for a term of up to two years, to ensure balanced representation or to provide the Committee with knowledge, abilities or experience not otherwise available to the Committee. The appointment of co-opted members shall be subject to endorsement by Presbytery or Presbytery Standing Committee.
- P12.5 A majority of the membership of the Committee shall be members of the Presbytery.
- P12.6 The Committee may appoint from among its members a Secretary on an honorary basis for such period up to two years as the Committee determines. The appointment of a Secretary shall be subject to endorsement by Presbytery or Presbytery Standing Committee.
- P12.7 The Presbytery Minister (Pastoral) will attend and resource the Committee but not vote.
- P12.8 The Committee may invite any person to attend and participate in a meeting on a non-voting basis to assist the Committee in fulfilling its purpose and responsibilities.
- P12.9 The Chairperson of the Presbytery may, at their own discretion, attend and speak at any meeting of the Committee but is not eligible to vote.

MEETINGS

- P12.10 The Committee will meet at least six times per year.
- P12.11 The meetings of the Committee will be conducted in accordance with the principles and procedures of the *Manual for Meetings*.

QUORUM

- P12.12 The quorum for meetings of the Committee shall be the whole number next above one-half of the members elected under P12.2 (a) and (b).

REPORTING

- P12.13 The Committee shall report to the Presbytery at least annually, to the Presbytery Standing Committee when requested and forward the minutes of each Committee meeting to Presbytery Standing Committee.

ROLE

- P12.14 The role of the Committee is:
- (a) to assist the Presbytery fulfil its duties in regard to the pastoral and administrative oversight of all lay and ordained ministries, Congregations and Faith Communities within the Presbytery;
 - (b) to assist the Presbytery fulfil its duties in regard to the oversight of all Congregations and Faith Communities within the Presbytery;
 - (c) to consult with the Synod Placements Commission on placements.
 - (d) to consult regularly with the other continuing Presbytery committees.

POWERS

- P12.15 The Committee shall have the power to fulfill all the responsibilities of the Pastoral Relations Committee as prescribed in Regulation 3.7.3 (b) and is authorised to act on behalf of the Presbytery to:
- (a) provide support and oversight of congregations including Life and Witness consultations and reviews;
 - (b) maintain the Presbytery roll of Ministers in conjunction with Synod Placements Commission and dealing with the enrolment of Ministers on Congregational rolls;
 - (c) maintain the Presbytery roll of Lay Preachers;
 - (d) arrange, in conjunction with the Presbytery Chairperson, the induction of Ministers, the commissioning of Pastors and services to mark the commencement of a placement or appointment of other persons within the bounds of the Presbytery and to mark the termination of such placements or appointments;
 - (e) consult with the Candidates for Ministries Committee, the Placements Committee and CEDAL in relation to the placement, ordination and induction of exit students;
 - (f) the appointment of Presbytery representatives on a Joint Nominating Committee for a Congregational placement and designating the chairperson of such Joint Nominating Committees;
 - (g) grant approval to a Joint Nominating Committee of any recommendation to issue a call and the terms of placement of that call;

- (h) the extension of a placement in a Congregation beyond the tenth year in conjunction with the Thrive Mission Committee;
- (i) designating a ministry location as appropriate for the ministry of a Pastor, and making arrangements, in conjunction with the Presbytery chairperson, for the commissioning of Pastors once they have demonstrated the core competencies;
- (j) determine applications for persons other than Ministers of the Word or Deacons to preside at the celebration of the sacraments;
- (k) recognise and provide on-going support for Lay Ministry Teams; and
- (l) provide oversight and support to congregations without an ordained minister in placement.
- (m) promote and monitor adherence to the professional standards and policies of the Church by lay and ordained ministry agents, including participation in professional supervision and other practices that support healthy and effective ministry.

P12.16 The Committee shall make recommendations to the Presbytery in regard to:

- (a) the withdrawal of the recognition of a Minister;
- (b) determining any limitations on the exercise of any or all of functions of ministerial office;
- (c) the withdrawal of the recognition of a Lay Preacher;
- (d) the recognition and the withdrawal of recognition (including closure) of a Congregation;
- (e) the amalgamation of and the organisational structures between congregations; and
- (f) the recognition and the withdrawal of recognition (including closure) of a Faith Community.