

BASIS OF PARISH GROUPING

The congregation of Greyfriars Kirk, Greyfriars Place, Edinburgh, EH1 2QQ, Church of Scotland (SC 003761) ("**Greyfriars**") and the congregation of The Parish Church of St Cuthbert, 5 Lothian Road, Edinburgh, EH1 2EP (SC 010592) ("**St Cuthberts**") shall form a Parish Grouping for a period of _____ years from the _____ day of _____, and that on the following terms and conditions:

1. **Name:** The name of the Parish Grouping shall be Greyfriars St Cuthbert's.
2. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the Parish Grouping shall comprise the existing bounds of the respective parishes of Greyfriars and St Cuthbert's or as the Presbytery may determine.
3. **Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of each congregation shall remain the property and funds of each congregation as at present.
4. **Kirk Sessions:** The Moderator of the Kirk Session of St Cuthberts is the Reverend Peter Sutton (failing whom any Moderator appointed to St Cuthberts by Presbytery). The Moderator of the Kirk Session of Greyfriars is the Reverend Richard Frazer (failing whom any Moderator appointed to Greyfriars by Presbytery). The Kirk Sessions of each of St Cuthberts and Greyfriars will each continue to meet separately until such time as each shall have resolved that in future meetings shall be joint and shall have agreed the frequency, purpose, structure and formalities of joint meetings.
5. **Congregational Management:** The temporal affairs of each congregation shall be administered as at present. The office-bearers of the congregations shall meet together annually to decide on their portion to related expenses, listed expenses and maintenance of the manse(s) and the salaries and related expenses of the other team members.
6. **Ministry Team:** The Ministry team will consist of the Reverend Richard Frazer, Minister of Greyfriars and the Reverend Peter Sutton, Minister of St Cuthbert's.
7. **Ministry Team Support:** The stipend of the minister(s) shall be payable in terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
8. **Manses:** The Manse of Greyfriars, occupied by its incumbent Minister, the Reverend Richard Frazer is at 12 Tantallon Place, Edinburgh EH9 1NZ. The Manse of St Cuthberts, occupied by its incumbent Minister the Reverend Peter Sutton, is 8A Chester Street, Edinburgh EH3 7RA.
9. **Areas of Co-operation:** The Congregations and Kirk Sessions will work to co-ordinate and develop all their areas of worship mission and outreach endeavour, taking account of:
 - worship – times, locations, people, lay involvement, communion, prayer, music etc.
 - other services - joint with ecumenical and other partners, the cycle of the Christian year, traditional services/worship events hosted by each church;
 - articulate vision, integrate and/or co-ordinate existing initiatives, establish ways for individuals and groups to participate and develop initiatives together
 - integrate, co-ordinate or mutually support through communications and enabling access to bible study groups, discussion groups (e.g. Oasis), lecture events, social groups and clubs, opportunities to learn and grow in faith, integration of life and faith
 - exploring forms and channels for worship, reflection and faith participation, sharing the Gospel and church life in a diversity of settings and spaces, celebrating and sharing the transformative experiences the arts offer, engaging the arts as channels to work toward peace and justice.
 - integrate and co-ordinate events enabling congregations to come together during festivals and special moments in the Christian year, and city festivals and special occasions (e.g. as festival venues, and participating in church initiatives such as the Edinburgh Festival of the Sacred Arts).

- Eco-congregation – climate initiative participation/support, information and education for congregation and community, improvements to infrastructure and practises where possible to be eco-friendly congregations and community
- share approaches, with congregations and the wider community and complementary charities;).
- integrate/co-ordinate communications, promotions and co-ordinated support for mission partners, international charities and global church initiatives.
- Both Churches should support outreach events and activities encouraging these to be to be self-sustaining where possible, and contribute to the wider mission of the churches, e.g. hire prices, balance of use between different types of events etc
- Work together as ambassadors of Christ with the vulnerable and homeless in our Parishes and have some joint events EG Steps to Hope joining with the Grassmarket Community Project Open Door event.

10. **Power to Adjust:** While the articles and terms shall form the Basis of Parish Grouping for the congregations now agreeing, the congregations shall be free, like any other congregation, to adjust arrangements under the authority of the Presbytery as need may arise.