

**Pioneering** and *Pioneer ministry* are in principle two **different** things:

## ***Pioneer Ministry:***

*Currently the Kirk has five Pilot Pioneer Ministers, working in five challenging and rewarding posts, all very different, as we are also different. In these unique callings the gospel remains the same. How do we genuinely spread the gospel beyond church, entirely with the unchurched? Put on the New Self - was a General Assembly 2019 fringe event.*

**Report of Ministires Council to G.A. 2019 - download from:**

<https://ga.churchofscotland.org.uk/publications/blue-book> :

there ... **4.4 Pioneer Ministry Pilot Project**

Also ... see CofS website: [https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/connect/going\\_for\\_growth](https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/connect/going_for_growth)

## **Pioneering**, fresh expressions and mission in Scotland **G.A.2019 Report of the Joint Emerging Church Group** **- download from:**

<https://ga.churchofscotland.org.uk/publications/blue-book>

### **2.2 PRINCIPLES AND RECOMMENDATIONS – OUTLINE SUMMARY**

#### **Key Principle**

Through ‘Church of Scotland Pioneer Initiatives’, the formation of 100 new worshipping communities in Scotland by 1<sup>st</sup> July 2030.

Pathways for formation of ‘Church of Scotland Pioneer Initiatives to be fully operational by 1st July 2020.

#### **National Pioneer Facilitator**

The appointment of a ‘National Pioneer Facilitator’, who has direct responsibility for the pro-active identification, training and support of pioneering and church planting Initiatives.

#### **2.3 Local Pioneer Enablers**

Local groups of Presbyteries, or a larger individual Presbytery, to appoint a ‘Local Pioneer Enabler’, as the key contact and instigator for Initiatives at ground level.

#### **2.4 Presbyteries - Acceptance of ‘Church of Scotland Pioneer Initiatives,’ Local Pioneer Centre, and Presbytery Plan**

#### **3.4.5 Pioneer Minister posts supported by the church nationally**

There are five Pioneer Minister posts supported by the church nationally (<http://bit.ly/2TciAJV>). These are:

- Glasgow City Centre, arts community: Rev Peter Gardner;
- Paisley, Ferguslie Park, priority area: Rev Stuart Davidson;
- Ayr, farming community: Rev Chris Blackshaw;
- Lothian, New housing development: Rev Elisabeth Spence;
- Stirling, University Campus: Rev Janet Fogie.

In addition, Presbyteries have also funded local Pioneer Ministry Posts, such as the Pioneer Minister at Edinburgh University, Rev Dr Liam Fraser (<http://bit.ly/2HgPS39>).

### **3.4.6 Online Church**

Sanctuary First (<http://bit.ly/2INYYa5>) is a prominent example of a church that is developing a significant online presence, allowing people to be part of an online church (not just accessing church resources or information online).

**3.5** It is extremely important to recognise the Church’s ministry and mission in the most economically deprived areas of Scotland, many examples of which can be found on the website (<http://bit.ly/2GW1eu9>). While this work is beyond the remit of the JECG and is overseen by the Priority Areas Committee of the Ministries Council, considerable and innovative progress is being made in these areas that is certainly worthy of note in the context of this strategy.

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### **3.8 Support – Mentors and Networks**

### **3.9 Support – Training: Nature, Mode and Providers**

### **3.10 Training: Routes of Delivery**

### **3.11 Training: Candidates for Ministries**

### **3.12 Training: Ordination and Induction**

## **4. RESEARCH ON PIONEER MINISTRY AND CHURCH PLANTING**

### **4.1 What are they?**

### **4.2 What is their purpose?**

### **4.3 Why do we need them?**

### **4.4 Who might do this?**

### **4.5 Do we not do this already?**

### **4.6 How do others do this?**

**4.4.3** Work has been undertaken on an evaluation document by which each Pilot can report individually and together. It is anticipated that the means of reporting and sharing learning will evolve in response to the work and to the needs of the Church so that the aims of the Pilot – experimenting in and learning from Pioneer Ministry – can be more fully realised across the Church of Scotland. A fuller report will be brought to the General Assembly of 2020, recognising that the current pilot is due to end in December 2021.

## **7. NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITIES**

Processes for initial assessment, and the acceptance by Presbytery, of a project as a ‘Church of Scotland Pioneer Initiative’.

### **Appendix I**

#### **INSPIRING NEW WORSHIPPING COMMUNITIES: PATHWAYS FOR PIONEER MINISTRY AND CHURCH PLANTING IN THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

**Rev. Dr Sandy Forsyth, T.F. Torrance Lecturer in Theology and Mission, New College, School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh<sup>[1]</sup>**

also see links in footnotes of this research in Appendix 1 ...

### **GA Podcast of Thursday, May 23, 2019 (PM)**

[http://stream1.churchofscotland.org.uk/about\\_us/general\\_assembly/news\\_updates](http://stream1.churchofscotland.org.uk/about_us/general_assembly/news_updates)

**By Laurence Wareing with Simon Bendle:**

**Report of the Joint Emerging Church Group**

... the Joint Emerging Church Group has drawn on a major piece of research by the Revd Dr Sandy Forsyth into *pioneering and church-planting*. Dr Forsyth’s work, which sets a goal of creating 100 new worshipping communities in Scotland over the next decade, is published in the Blue Book.

“The implementation of this strategy will be a challenge,” Mr Porteous said, “and we need to be honest about that too. But if the choice is between trying to do our best to grow or of continuing to manage decline, then I know what bus I want to be on!”

In the discussion that followed, Mr Porteous spoke about *Fresh Expressions*, the *pioneering* ecumenical initiative working to engage with people who do not go to traditional church. He said lessons have been learned in particular from the ambitious goals of the Church of England Diocese of Oxford.