**Advice for circuits which are re-configuring re presbyteral appointments**

1 The following advice is given by the Stationing Committee to circuits which are reconfiguring and need to consider the possible re-invitation of a presbyter from within one or more of the constituent circuits or to presbyters enter the stationing matching process. The advice is in line with current Standing Orders

*The re-invitation process*

2 Where circuits are reconfiguring, the circuit Invitation Committee of each circuit must carry out its work of consultation for any presbyter seeking a re-invitation and make its recommendation to its own Circuit Meeting, taking into account the needs of the new circuit in addition to the gifts and graces of the presbyter whose invitation is being considered. It should consult the Invitation Committee(s) of the other circuit(s) and anyone else in the other circuit(s) who would properly be consulted if the new circuit already existed. In each case the decision-making body is the Circuit Meeting of the presbyter’s current circuit (see also Standing Order 541).

3 If the new circuit requires a presbyter to be stationed because an existing presbyter has not been re-invited or will move on, please see paragraph 5 below.

*A vacancy arising from the departure of a presbyter where a re-invitation has been declined and where existing circuit boundaries are not crossed*

4 Subject to paragraph 6 below, where circuits are reconfiguring and a vacancy for the new circuit arises because a presbyter in the existing circuit wishes to move on, or has not been re-invited, the Invitation Committee of the circuit in which the departing presbyter was stationed must carry out its work and use its delegated powers or refer the matter to the Circuit Meeting. It would clearly be appropriate, however, for any profile to be agreed with the Invitation Committee of the other circuit(s) and for that/those circuit(s) to be fully consulted at all stages, including being represented when the Invitation Committee meets the presbyter who is matched with the circuit.

5 Where circuits are reconfiguring and a vacancy for an appointment arising from the departure of a presbyter crosses existing circuit boundaries or has a (new) circuit-wide focus, it would be good practice where possible for each Circuit Meeting to appoint an Invitation Committee with the same membership as the Invitation Committee appointed by the other circuit or circuits. That committee should then write the circuit profile and its members should meet any presbyter matched with the new circuit. If it has delegated powers, it can then make the decision separately in the capacity of the Invitation Committee for each of the existing circuits; if not, it should make a recommendation separately to the relevant Circuit Meetings, for formal decision.

6 Existing Standing Orders do not permit shadow bodies to make these decisions, but it would be good practice for shadow bodies to be involved in the consultations as far as is practically possible.

*Stationing Committee*

*April 2020*