

CLYDE PRESBYTERY DRAFT MISSION PLAN

2023-2027

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Clyde Presbytery • Presbytery Mission Plan (2023-2027)

1.1 Background

The General Assembly of 2021 instructed every Presbytery in the Church of Scotland to create a Presbytery Mission Plan. This Presbytery Mission Plan is to be approved by 31st December 2022.

Nationally, the Church of Scotland is reducing to 600 FTE posts with room for 60 vacancies.

Clyde Presbytery was informed that the number of centrally funded posts would be reduced to 40 FTE posts from their current level in the most recently approved Presbytery Plan.

1.2 Where are we as a church and as a presbytery?

The Church of Scotland faces many challenges. Membership has steadily declined (from a peak of 1.3 million in 1956 to under 300,000 to date) with attendance at church services also struggling to recover from pre-pandemic numbers. There are buildings which are not well-equipped spaces for the 21st century, in the wrong place and/or in a state of disrepair that is simply beyond the financial means of many congregations. Many ministers are due to retire in the next 5 to 10 years with few ministers being called to replace them.

Clyde Presbytery is facing the exact same challenges. Membership in our Presbytery has fallen in line with the rest of the church with few professions of faith. We have a number of vacancies alongside a number of ministers who will be looking to retire in the not too distant future. We also have a surplus of buildings.

It is in this context that this Mission Plan has been produced.

1.3 How we have got to this point

In 2021, an ad-hoc working group was created to gather information from all congregations in the form of a Mission Audit that asked six key questions:

- What does our church do?
- · What does our church do well?
- What should our church stop doing?
- What should our church be doing?
- What would you say is the most exciting thing that has happened in our congregation in the last five years?
- Looking ahead 5 years, what would you most like to happen here?

These audits have allowed us to gather valuable information about what lies at the missional heart of many of our congregations as well as seek ways of nurturing these initiatives during our decision-making processes.

Some of our Local Mission Groups conducted community audits, which asked similar questions.

1.3.1 Timeline

The following timeline has been adopted between the Ad Hoc Committee and Presbytery Planning Committee:

September 2021: Initial conference with ministers

October 2021 – January 2022: Distribution and return of Mission Audits (see 1.3)

March 2022: Presbytery Conference

June 2022: Consultation document issued

and received by Presbytery

August 2022 – October 2022: Consultation visits with clusters,

Kirk Sessions and Ministers

September 2022 – Present: Additional building criteria agreed upon;

AMBA scores and additional criteria issued with request for updates on building condition.

Ongoing: Quinquennial reports from congregations updated

with building work underway/new developments.

1.4 The Priority of Mission

The Mission of God is to bring about the redemption of humanity in Jesus Christ, the realisation of Christ's coming Kingdom on earth, the healing and renewal of creation in all its aspects and the consummation of creation according to God's final purpose for it in Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 1: 3 -10)

'The Mission of the Presbytery of Clyde is to create, sustain and support vibrant communities of faith, charges and groupings of congregations and new witnessing communities that will proclaim Christ and his kingdom, reach out to the world in loving service and work for the transformation to a more just society and the renewal of creation.'

1.4.1 The Five Marks of Mission

The Presbytery of Clyde in accordance with the stated policy of the Church of Scotland seeks to understand and construct its life according to the **Five Marks of Mission**.

It will do this in the following ways:

To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom – by developing charges and communities of faith – including new expression of church- which will be energetic and enthused by the gospel and confident in their ability to proclaim it. We aim to create self- sustaining and active charges and other configurations of faith communities that have the capacity- both in financial and personnel terms – to sustain and grow vibrant congregations as well working co-operatively with others to proclaim the gospel.

To teach, baptise and nurture new believers – discipleship is the key to building up capacity within the people of God in order that they may live authentic Christian lives of service. The true marks of the church according to the Reformed tradition is 'where the Word of God is truly preached and heard, the sacraments celebrated according to Christ's command and discipline observed.' This requires a ministry of Word and Sacrament dedicated to the task of building up the people of God for his service in the world – offering the renewal of life through response to the preaching of the Word and participation in the sacramental life of the Church. Those within our various ministries will also use the developing discipleship programmes of the national church as part of the emerging Faith Action programme to create congregations of purpose which are intentional about mission.

To respond to human need by loving service – the diaconal ministry of the church is to serve the world and its needs in the name of Christ. The Presbytery of Clyde seeks to set its members free from simply sustaining outworn patterns of church towards service of Christ by showing his love for the world in their actions.

By having fewer but better resourced congregations, employing a diversity of ministries – including locally paid workers and enhanced Presbytery staffing structures – we seek to enable Christ's people to be about the task of living as faithful and joyful Christians in their communities by responding to the needs of the community rather than being exhausted by the material needs of the church. Using a variety of resources such as community audits, we challenge our congregations to discern the missional needs of their communities, to respond appropriately, in local partnerships where possible, and to undertake well targeted and resourced interventions that have the mission of God at their heart.

To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation – drawing from the lead of the national programmes of the Church of Scotland in these regards ,we seek to educate our congregations and charges with regard to the issues of justice and peace in the world and to collaborate effectively with other Church of Scotland congregations, ecumenical partners, other faith traditions and like-minded secular groups, to work together in a common cause for the betterment of society and the healing of the world. We need to recover the sense that Christian service to the world in all its various dimensions – work, family, neighbour, community- is a genuine calling and vocation – a diaconal ministry for the Christian to pursue.

To quote Martin Luther – 'God does not need our good works, but our neighbour does.' (Wingren, *Luther on Vocation*, 10). More intensely, "We conclude, therefore, that a Christian lives not in himself, but in Christ and the neighbour."

"He lives in Christ through faith, and in his neighbour through love" (Freedom of a Christian, LW 31:371)

To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth – stewardship and safekeeping of the earth for future generations is perhaps the most compelling Christian calling for today. It is our *Kairos* moment and the Presbytery of Clyde will play its part in striving to make this a centrepiece of its common life together. By developing a reduced number of well – equipped spaces in the right places we hope to help our congregations tread lightly on the earth through a variety of eco initiatives. We will do all we can to promote the use of 'greener' forms of energy, for example, and encourage those congregations which have green spaces to develop and nurture them in environmentally friendly and appropriate ways.

This approach is both a communal and individual response and it will be incumbent upon Presbytery to give a lead on this issue to its congregations.

1.5 Buildings

1.5.1 Criteria Used in Determining Building Viability

At a meeting of Clyde Presbytery held on September 13th 2022, a set of criteria was agreed upon in order to make the buildings determinations required as part of the Draft Presbytery Mission Plan.

The additional criteria in some areas help to explain why a building with a higher AMBA score is a lower category than a lower scoring building given a higher category.

At the same Presbytery meeting, it was also explained that there were many inconsistencies within the AMBA scores due to the number of different people conducting the surveys, as well as the inflexibility of the system itself.

The Planning Committee are grateful for the time and work given by those who conducted the surveys. What has become clear, however, is that it is not possible to use AMBA scoring as the only determining factor in our decision-making process.

1.5.2 The Criteria

The agreed criteria consist of:

- AMBA results
- A report from our Presbytery Building Officer, Jamie McNamara which shows an analysis of quinquennial surveys, information gathered on in-person visits and the associated costs. Mr McNamara has also offered very helpful comments to create a précis of survey findings for individual congregations.

Additional criteria used:

- Location to optimise Mission
- Accessibility
- Condition (Known repair costs/stewardship questions)
- Heating (economy and scale of building [Eco considerations])
- Adaptability (Is the space multi-function? Can it be used/is it suitable for likely future congregational sizes?)
- Capacity/Resources (Some judgement as to the ability of a congregation to maintain/sustain the building going forward)

1.5.3 Building Designations

Apart from the two designations offered at present:

- A Required for future use
- B Not required for future use and to be disposed of.

We have also used the category of B (Provisional) when further work is required to determine the future of a building in the life of the current plan. This may be during a union, for example, where all buildings are in similar condition but only one is required.

1.6 Supplementary Information

1.6.1 Ministries within Clyde Presbytery

Our Ordained Local Ministers (OLM) have not been assigned in the current process as we seek to engage with them to determine how best to deploy our OLMs in the most effective way possible. The same discussions will take place with our Readers as appropriate.

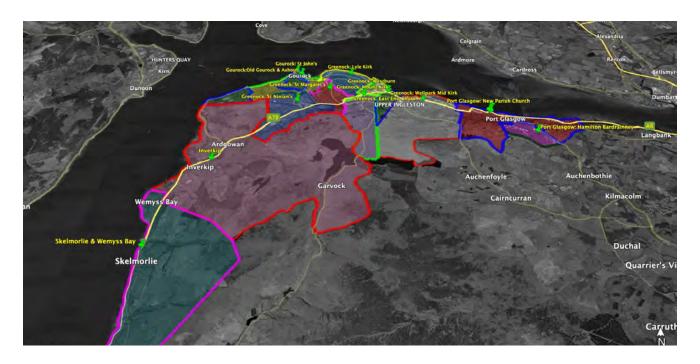
1.6.2 Priority Areas

On top of the 64 most deprived parishes, the Church of Scotland have also identified 112 parishes across Scotland who have part of their population in the 5% most deprived areas. These parishes, appear on the Priority Areas Supplementary List and will also receive support from the Priority Areas team. These congregations are marked with an asterisk on the front information page of each cluster.

It is also worth noting that very few congregations in this Presbytery are without neighbourhoods in the bottom 20% of the SIMD.

Cluster A

Gourock, Greenock, Inverkip, Port Glasgow, Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay



Net Population: 44,776

Parish Area: 34.84 sq. miles Current Allocation: 8.5 FTE Proposed Allocation: 6 FTE

Priority Areas within Cluster

Port Glasgow: New

Port Glasgow: Hamilton Bardrainney*

Greenock: East End Greenock: Mount Kirk*

Greenock: St Margaret's

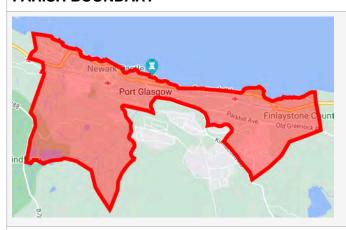
Greenock: Wellpark Mid Kirk

Greenock: Westburn

* Denotes Supplementary List

A1 - Port Glasgow

PARISH BOUNDARY



Net population: 4,282

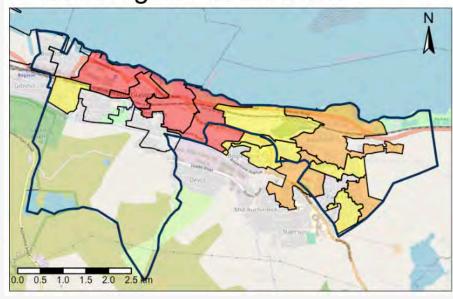
Parish Area: 2.36 sq.miles

2022 M&M Allocation: £52,033

Is this a Priority Area? YES

Church Address: 51-55 Princes St, Port Glasgow PA14 5JH

Port Glasgow: New Parish



SIMD 2020

5% most deprived 10% most deprived 20% most deprived Other areas (Data Zones)

Church of Scotland

- Parish Boundary

(See cluster appendix for further analysis of areas in 5% most deprived)

PROPOSED ALLOCATION	1.0 FTE
BUILDING CATEGORISATION	A
(See cluster appendix for buildings rationale)	
HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS	

Port Glasgow New Parish Church has its own identity and emerging vision for mission. It has a strong community footprint and works ecumenically in the town. It embraces

technology and seeks to streamline its administration. It is exploring mission effectiveness, beginning with a fresh exploration of its calling to the local community. In Port Glasgow: New, there is well developed community engagement with clear pathways to help people find faith. The clarity of these pathways is usually reflected by a very high number of professions of faith in recent times.

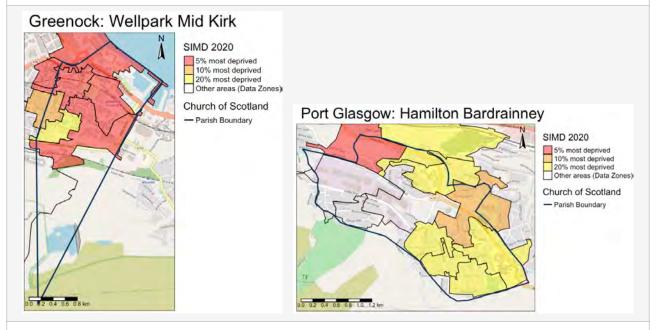
In the course of discussions with Port Glasgow New and Port Glasgow: Hamilton Bardrainney, it became abundantly clear that both congregations were on very different trajectories and that this was not a good basis on which to move forward together.

The proposed allocations seek to take account of these circumstances (See A2).

A2 - Greenock: Wellpark Mid Kirk and Hamilton Bardrainney



DEPRIVATION STATISTICS



(See cluster appendix for further analysis of areas in 5% most deprived)

PROPOSED ALLOCATION	1.0 FTE
BUILDING CATEGORISATIONS	
Wellpark Mid Kirk	Α
Hamilton Bardrainney	B (Provisional)
HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS	

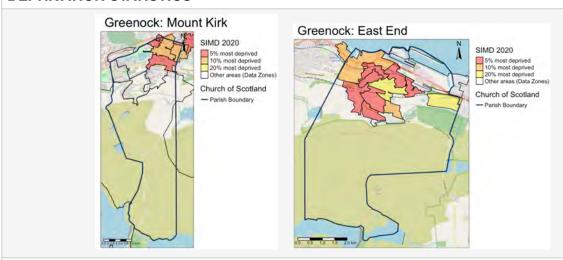
The opportunities and early signs of life in fledgling links forming between Wellpark Mid Kirk and the Nigerian and refugee communities should be encouraged and developed as having good potential for growth and renewal.

It is the view of the committee that the civic responsibilities in regard to Inverclyde Council, which traditionally have been undertaken solely by the minister of Wellpark Mid Kirk, should be shared by all the serving ministers within the Inverclyde area.

A3 - Greenock: Mount Kirk and Greenock: East End

PARISH BOUNDARIES Net population: 7,724 Parish Area: 5.46 sq.miles 2022 M&M Allocation: Mount Kirk: £38,728 East End: £4,926 Are there Priority Areas within this area? YES (ALL) Church Addresses: Greenock: Mount Kirk, Dempster St, Greenock, PA15 Greenock: East End 49 Belville Street, Greenock, PA15

DEPRIVATION STATISTICS



(See appendix for further analysis of areas in 5% most deprived)

PROPOSED ALLOCATION	1.0 FTE
BUILDING CATEGORISATIONS	
Greenock: East End	RENTED
Greenock: Mount Kirk	Α
HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS	

The committee welcomes and commends the focus on innovation, church planting and youth discipleship in this zone.

A4 - Greenock: Westburn, Lyle Kirk and St Margaret's

PARISH BOUNDARIES ORDER ORDE

Net population: 10,461 Parish Area: 2.15 sq.miles 2022 M&M Allocation:

Westburn: £72,229 Lyle Kirk: £80,874 St Margaret's: £22,522

Are there Priority Areas within this area? YES

Greenock: Westburn Greenock: St Margaret's

Church Addresses: Greenock: Lyle Kirk,

31 Union St, Greenock, PA16 8DD

Greenock: St Margaret's

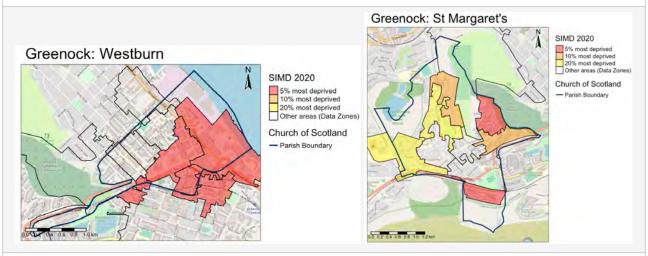
58 Finch Rd, Greenock, PA16 7DE

Greenock: Westburn

9 Nelson Street, Greenock, PA15 1TT

DEPRIVATION STATISTICS (See cluster appendix for further analysis of areas in 5% most deprived)

ninhill Golf Course 🕻



PROPOSED ALLOCATION	1.0 FTE
BUILDING CATEGORISATIONS	
Westburn	В
Lyle Kirk (Union Street)	Α
St Margaret's	А
HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS	

The committee are encouraged by the joint work between Westburn and Lyle Kirk, such as joint worship, shared events, holiday clubs and school chaplaincy. The ministers of Westburn and Lyle Kirk are also currently the only two trained facilitators in Scotland for 'Junior Peaced Together' - a Christian creative arts therapy programme, which they run in Ardgowan Primary School. They, along with neighbouring congregations also share in services and events as 'Connect' as well as being a part of the Clydeview Academy Chaplaincy Team.

Lyle Gateway at Lyle Kirk is an important development in terms of addressing poverty and deprivation with good partnerships forming with other agencies.

It is hoped that a similar model can also be implemented in the St Margaret's parish. St Margaret's have also recently launched 'Soup and Blether' which operates in a similar way to Gourock: St John's.

A5 - Greenock: St Ninian's, Gourock, Inverkip, Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay

PARISH BOUNDARIES Net population: 17,401 Parish Area: 23.73 sq.miles 2022 M&M Allocation: Greenock: St Ninian's: £15.566 Gourock: OGA: £73,072 Gourock: St John's: £75,529 Inverkip: £46,474 SWB: £47,240 **Are there Priority Areas** within this area? NO Church Addresses: Gourock: Old Gourock & Ashton 41 Royal Street, Gourock, PA19 Skel Gourock: St John's 15 Bath Street, Gourock, PA19 **Inverkip Parish Church** 2 Langhouse Rd, Inverkip, PA16 Skelmorlie & Wemyss Bay 3 Shore Rd, Skelmorlie, PA17 PROPOSED ALLOCATION 2.0 FTE **BUILDING CATEGORISATIONS** Greenock: St Ninian's В Gourock: St John's Α Gourock: Old Gourock & Ashton Α

The Soul Searching and Café Church initiatives in the villages of Inverkip, Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay are promising in terms of reaching out to those who do not presently belong to the church with more investment in these initiatives being commended.

HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS

Skelmorlie & Wemyss Bay

Inverkip

Α

Α

It is anticipated that there will ultimately be one Minister for Gourock and one for the villages of Inverkip, Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay. Due to the current condition of the St Ninian's building, disposal of this site is required, for which dissolution may be the best option.

Note: St Ninian's currently worship in a community space, that they rent on a weekly basis for Sunday Worship.

Cluster A Appendix - Supplementary Data

A1 - Port Glasgow

2021 Membership

PORT GLASGOW NEW PARISH 424

Number of Funerals (According to 2021 Return)

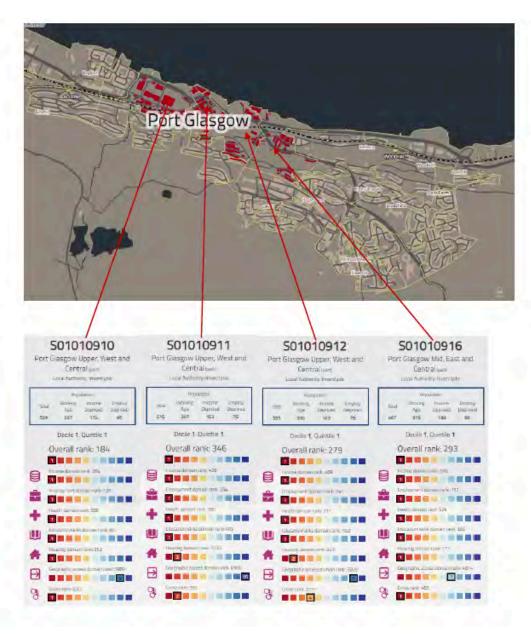
PORT GLASGOW NEW PARISH 38

Parish Statistics:

PORT GLASGOW NEW PARISH

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/150830.pdf

Deprivation Statistics (Most deprived 5%):



A2 - Greenock: Wellpark Mid Kirk and Hamilton Bardrainney

2021 Membership

GREENOCK: WELLPARK MID KIRK 419
PORT GLASGOW HAMILTON BARDRAINNEY 195

Number of Funerals (According to 2021 Return)

GREENOCK: WELLPARK MID KIRK 27
PORT GLASGOW HAMILTON BARDRAINNEY 19

Parish Statistics:

GREENOCK WELLPARK MID KIRK

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/150814.pdf

PORT GLASGOW HAMILTON BARDRAINNEY

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/150820.pdf

Deprivation Statistics (Most deprived 5%):

Hamilton Bardrainney



Greenock: Wellpark Mid Kirk



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A3 - Greenock: Mount Kirk and Greenock: East End

2021 Membership

GREENOCK MOUNT KIRK 285 GREENOCK EAST END 45

Number of Funerals (According to 2021 Return)

GREENOCK MOUNT KIRK 23 GREENOCK EAST END 17

Parish Statistics:

GREENOCK MOUNT KIRK

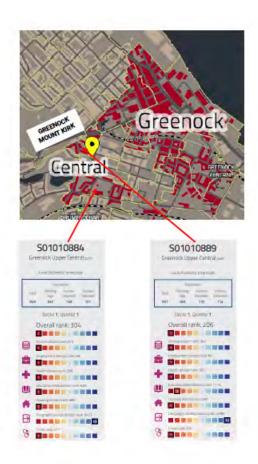
https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/150827.pdf

GREENOCK EAST END

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/150826.pdf

Deprivation Statistics (Most deprived 5%):





A4 - Greenock: Westburn, Lyle Kirk and St Margaret's

2021 Membership

GREENOCK WESTBURN 466 GREENOCK LYLE KIRK 653 GREENOCK ST MARGARET'S 144

Number of Funerals (According to 2021 Return)

GREENOCK WESTBURN 23
GREENOCK LYLE KIRK 20
GREENOCK ST MARGARET'S 0

Parish Statistics:

GREENOCK LYLE KIRK

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/150801.pdf

GREENOCK ST MARGARET'S

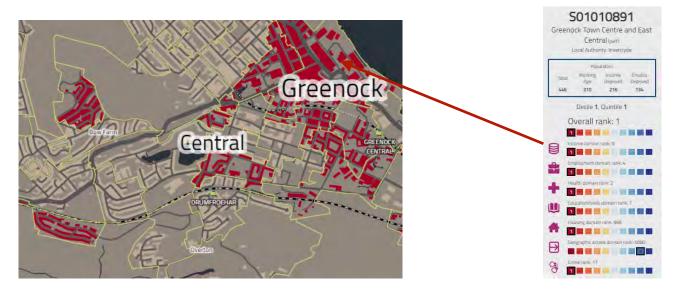
https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/150807.pdf

GREENOCK WESTBURN

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/150815.pdf

Deprivation Statistics (Most deprived 5%):

Westburn:



Note: According to the 2020 SIMD, this is the most deprived area in the whole of Scotland

St Margaret's:



A5 - Gourock, Inverkip, Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay

2021 MEMBERSHIP

GOUROCK ST JOHN'S	355
GREENOCK ST NINIAN'S	197
INVERKIP	278
OLD GOUROCK & ASHTON	523
SKELMORLIE & WEMYSS BAY	202

NUMBER OF FUNERALS (ACCORDING TO 2021 RETURN)

GOUROCK ST JOHN'S	24
GREENOCK ST NINIAN'S	6
INVERKIP	9
OLD GOUROCK & ASHTON	45
SKELMORLIE & WEMYSS BAY	10

Parish Statistics:

GOUROCK ST JOHN'S

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/150796.pdf

GREENOCK ST NINIAN'S

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/150809.pdf

INVERKIP

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/150816.pdf

OLD GOUROCK & ASHTON

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/150798.pdf

SKELMORLIE & WEMYSS BAY

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/150825.pdf

Buildings Rationale

It is important to acknowledge that there is a fairly tight range of AMBA scores in this cluster with the majority of buildings being categorised as 'Green' or 'Amber' by the scoring system.

A1 - Port Glasgow

Port Glasgow New Parish Church scores well in the AMBA audit and is suitable for mission in this part of the cluster. **It should be Category A.**

A2 - Wellpark Mid Kirk and Port Glasgow: Hamilton Bardrainney

Wellpark Mid Kirk was the highest scoring building in the cluster (84%). In its current condition and with the signs of new community forming in this congregation, it is felt that this building should remain **Category A.**

Hamilton Bardrainney scored 74%, placing it in the 'Amber' category in the AMBA audit. Given that its location is suitable for mission in this part of the cluster as well as recent repairs that have been carried out on the building, it should be designated as Category B (Provisional) to allow time for missional opportunities to be developed in this area and reviewed in due course.

A3 - Greenock Mount Kirk and East End

Greenock Mount Kirk scores well in AMBA (78%). According to the quinquennial report from September 2021, approx £40,000 of repairs are required to repoint sandstone along with localised roof repairs. **It should be Category A**

Greenock East End use rented accommodation.

A4 - Westburn, Lyle Kirk and St Margaret's

Although Westburn and Lyle Kirk's Union Street building are just one percentage point apart in AMBA scores, a significant issue has arisen in the bell tower of Westburn's sanctuary, which stands to cost several hundred thousand pounds to put right. While it is regrettable that Westburn's hall accommodation has recently been refurbished following criminal damage during the pandemic, it is the view of the committee that Westburn should be designated as **Category B.**

While Lyle Kirk's Union Street building has a number of issues to put right, a number of the items listed in the quinquennial survey from 2021 have since been or have begun to be rectified.

With the proceeds of the recent sale of the Esplanade building and the pending disposal of the Newark Street building, funds will be available in Lyle Kirk's fabric funds to cover all of the costs listed as well as residue to allow for future development.

With these points and observing the vast amount of mission work underway on this site, it should be Category A.

Given that the location of **St Margaret's** is conducive to mission in this area and that many initiatives could be developed from here, it was agreed that **it should be Category A**.

A5 - Gourock, Inverkip, Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay

With two buildings just 400 yards apart in **Gourock**, we welcome the suggested repurposing of **St John's** as a community building, where fresh expressions of worship beyond Sunday morning would be explored. This exploration needs time, so in order that this may remain a venture operating under the auspices of the **Gourock** churches, both buildings have been designated as **Category A** for the life of this plan.

The **St Ninian's** buildings have remained closed since the 2020 pandemic owing to its dilapidated state. Based on the AMBA score of 47%, making this the only '**Red**' category in the cluster, this building is designated as **Category B**.

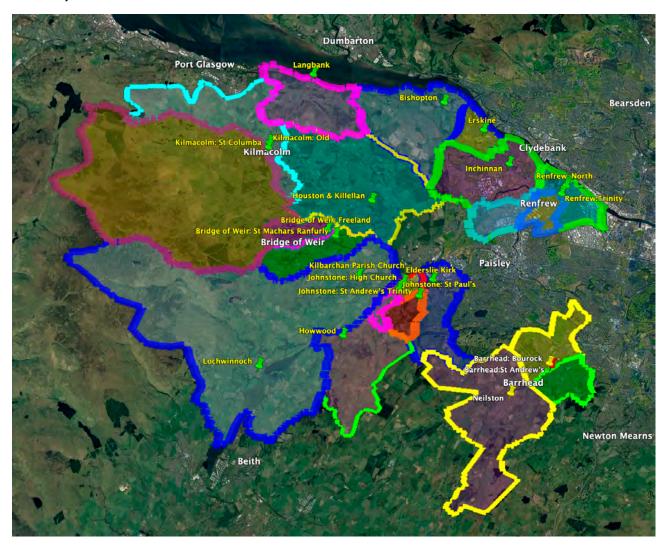
Both of the **Inverkip** and **Skelmorlie & Wemyss Bay** buildings are categorised as '**Amber**' in the AMBA scores with 67% and 68% respectively. Both buildings are the only two suitable buildings in their communities for worship, as a result of which it is the committee's view that both **Inverkip** and **Skelmorlie & Wemyss Bay** should remain **Category A**.

Cluster AMBA Scores

Building; Church only or Church With Adjoining Hall	Minimum Standards Church Score	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	Location Assessment Score	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	TOTAL	As a Percentage of Total Available Score
Greenock, Wellpark Mid Kirk	58	89%	40	77%	98	84%
Port Glasgow New Parish Church	57	88%	40	77%	97	83%
Gourock St John's	55	85%	40	77%	95	81%
Old Gourock & Ashton Parish Church & Arran Halls	56	86%	36	69%	92	79%
Greenock St Margaret's Church	53	82%	37	71%	90	77%
Greenock Westburn	51	78%	38	73%	89	76%
Mount Kirk, Greenock	51	78%	38	73%	89	76%
Greenock Lyle Kirk Union Street	51	78%	37	71%	88	75%
Port Glasgow Hamilton Bardrainney	53	82%	33	63%	86	74%
Skelmorlie & Wemyss Bay Parish Church	43	66%	37	71%	80	68%
Inverkip Parish Church	45	69%	33	63%	78	67%
Greenock Lyle Kirk Newark Street	39	60%	32	62%	71	61%
Greenock St Ninian's Church	28	43%	27	52%	55	47%

Cluster B

Barrhead, Bishopton, Bridge of Weir, Elderslie, Erskine, Houston & Killellan, Howwood, Inchinnan, Johnstone, Kilbarchan, Kilmacolm, Langbank, Neilston, Renfrew



Net Population: 85,510

Parish Area: 127.37 sq. miles Current Allocation: 18.25 FTE Proposed Allocation: 12 FTE

Priority Areas within Cluster

Barrhead: Bourock *

Johnstone: St Paul's •

* Denotes Supplementary List

• Denotes those transitioning off the Priority Areas list in 2023.

B1 - Bishopton

PARISH BOUNDARY Reer Cylis Battogton Frikme Southbar Inchinnan

Net population: 6,234

Parish Area: 6.5 sq.miles

2022 M&M Allocation: BISHOPTON £65,654

Is this a Priority Area? NO

Church Address:

BISHOPTON

Ferry Road, Bishopton, PA7 5PP

DEPRIVATION STATISTICS: N/A

PROPOSED ALLOCATION	1.0 FTE
BUILDING CATEGORISATION	
BISHOPTON - CHURCH	Α
BISHOPTON - CORNERSTONE BUILDING	Α
HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS	

The congregation of Bishopton serves an adjusted population of around 6,300 *which includes the new estate of Dargavel*. The minister and Kirk Session are very committed to the opportunities which are available to them in terms of mission within Bishopton and Dargavel. They have very good relations with Our Lady of Lourdes RC Church and hold joint ecumenical services at Easter and Christmas with them.

The minister and Kirk Session are committed to holding more services in the Cornerstone and are exploring ways of also doing the same in the Dargavel estate.

Erskine

PARISH BOUNDARIES	
Erskine Southbar Google My Maps Amended Bourdary	Net population*: 7,109 Parish Area*: 1.52 sq.miles 2022 M&M Allocation: ERSKINE £61,305 Is this a Priority Area? NO Church Address: Erskine Parish Church Rashielee Avenue, Erskine, PA8 6HA * BEFORE PROPOSED ADJUSTMENT
DEPRIVATION STATISTICS: N/A	
PROPOSED ALLOCATION	1.0 FTE
BUILDING CATEGORISATIONS	
Erskine	А
HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS	

The congregation of Erskine serves an adjusted population of just over 7,000.

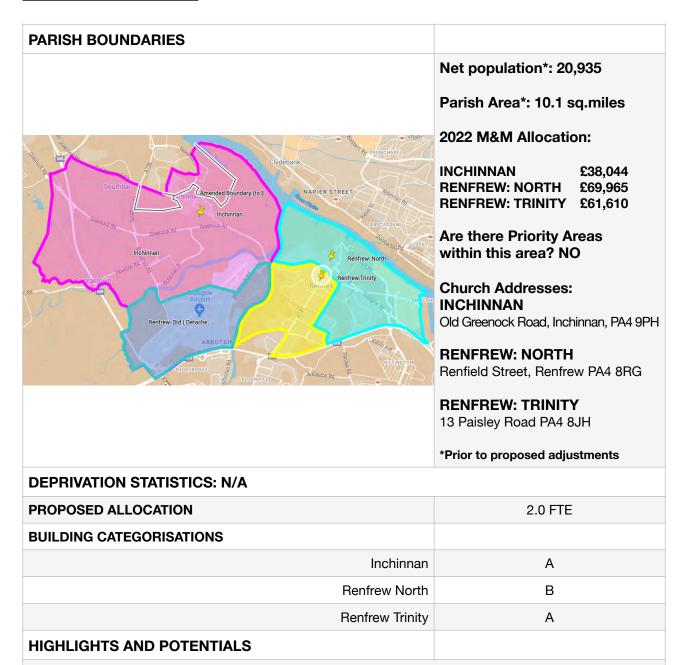
There was a recognition that Erskine and Inchinnan have no history of working closely together in part due to a restricted travel corridor. There was a desire on the part of the Kirk Session to an alteration to Parish boundaries which would result in 3,750 moving from Inchinnan Parish to Erskine of homes which actually lie in Erskine.

There is a real desire for the congregation to engage with the local community in initiatives including Jesus and Me and EBI Unites (Community Group)

The congregation hope to develop their involvement with CrossReach Waterfront Campus.

With a well-equipped building, that is in a good position to serve the community of Erskine, the building should be **Category A**.

Inchinnan and Renfrew



The congregation serves an adjusted population of just over 5,000. It was agreed that apart from some Inchinnan members being involved in Jesus and Me with Erskine, there is no real collegiate work with Erskine. It would appear that there is a more natural relationship with Renfrew North due to their historical links and, more recently, their joint school chaplaincy work.

It is recommended that a union should take place between Inchinnan and Renfrew: North with one Minister of Word and Sacrament allocated.

With the facilities on offer (car parking, transport links etc) it is recommended that the Inchinnan building should be retained and designated as Category A.

Renfrew North

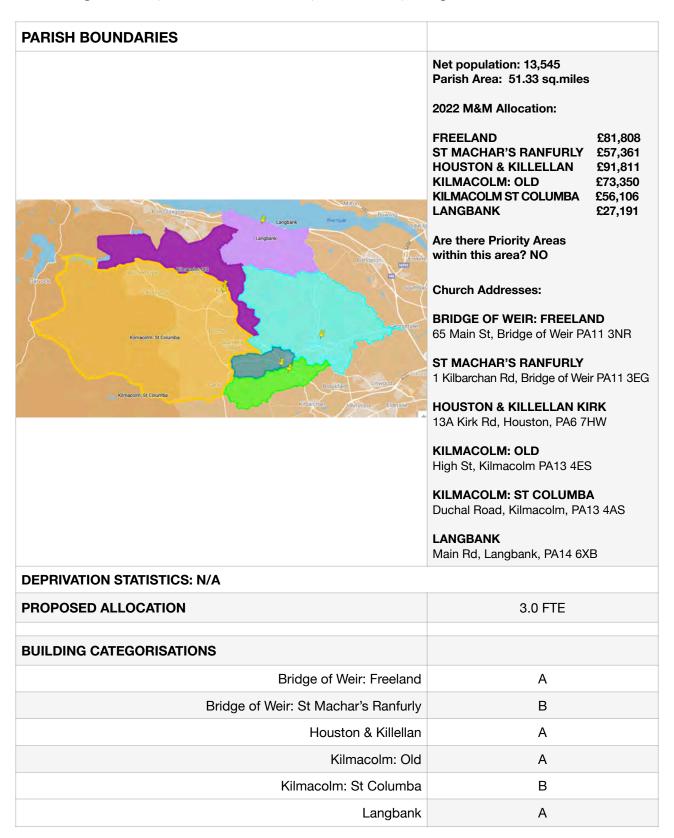
A busy church with healthy youth organisations, the Parish of Renfrew North has recently experienced a significant degree of development in the Braehead area. It was also acknowledged that they have more in common with Inchinnan than Renfrew Trinity owing to significant theological differences between both the two Renfrew congregations. This difference thus allows a choice of Church for the population of Renfrew. With the proposed union with Inchinnan approximately 1,700 will be added to the population and this will necessitate a review of the parish boundaries to ensure a more equitable apportionment to each congregation in the town.

This building has been designated Category B.

Renfrew Trinity

Renfrew Trinity is also a busy church and the Kirk Session also highlighted just as Renfrew North did the theological differences which exist between them. There is a genuine desire to see the church grow in Renfrew and a deeply held view that both churches in Renfrew have much to offer the youth and younger adults in the town. **The building has been designated A.**

B2 - Bridge of Weir, Houston & Killellan, Kilmacolm, Langbank



HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS

Bridge of Weir

Encouraged by the long term history of working together in certain areas with scope to explore further avenues for collaboration, it is recommended that the two churches in Bridge of Weir should unite to form a single charge with an allocation of 1.0 FTE.

Owing to its central location, it is also recommended that Freeland should remain Category A with St Machar's Ranfurly becoming Category B.

Houston & Langbank

Encouraged by the array of mission initiatives in this congregation as well as the high attendance of all ages at Sunday Worship, it is the view of the committee that the ministry and fabric of Houston and Killellan should remain unaltered.

The congregation of Langbank serves an adjusted population of just under 1000 and is presently in guardianship. The congregation have a vision of providing Langbank with a Church that has been refurbished and as well as a place of worship would also provide a community Hub for the village. The congregation have aspirations to grow the Church in Langbank but that aspiration appears to hinge very much on them providing a refurbished Community Hub.

It is recommended that Houston and Langbank unite with Langbank becoming a Local Mission Church.

Kilmacolm

Following a review of the ministry situation in Kilmacolm in 2021 permission was granted by PMPIG for an exemption to the Presbytery Mission Planning procedure to allow the churches in Kilmacolm to unite under one Ministry and retaining one suite of buildings and one manse.

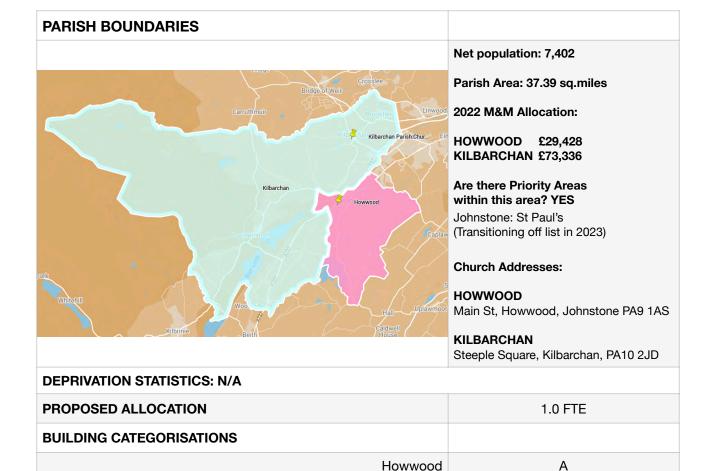
As part of this process a team from Glasgow Presbytery were asked to assess the church buildings in Kilmacolm. It was the conclusion of this team that the suite of buildings at Kilmacolm Old would be the better to be retained.

During our meeting with the representatives from Kilmacolm St Columba it was explained that neither the Kirk Session nor the Congregation fully understood the terms of reference of the review or the basis of the conclusions.

We support the recommendation that there is a union between Kilmacolm Old and St Columba churches, and that one minister of Word and Sacrament is allocated to the charge.

It has already been determined that the St Columba manse is not appropriate for continued use and should be disposed of. In light of the current energy crisis and general fiscal prudence, we recommend that the Old Kirk Manse should also be disposed of and a new manse for the new united charge purchased.

B3 - Howwood and Kilbarchan



HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS

The charge of Howwood is currently linked with Johnstone St Paul's.

Both of these churches have a strong sense of calling to witness for Jesus in their own communities and we have seen that Howwood and Kilbarchan are very separate and distinct communities.

Kilbarchan

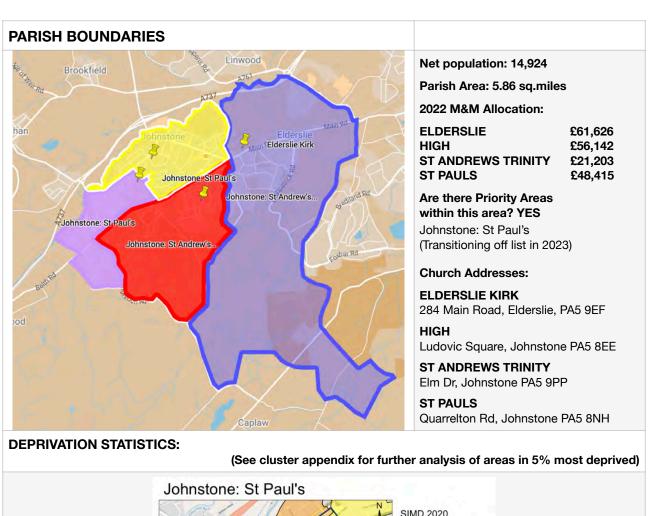
Α

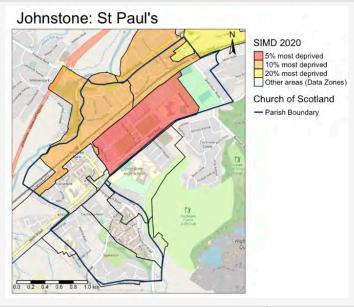
Therefore, we recommend that a linked charge be created between Kilbarchan and Howwood churches, and that one minister of Word and Sacrament is allocated to the charge.

We recognise that the link between Howwood and Johnstone St Paul's will need to be severed. This will take place at an appropriate time to be determined within the life of this plan.

We further recommend that it is made clear in the basis of linkage that following the translation, demission or retirement of the current MWS that the congregations in this link will unite before calling another minister.

B4 - Elderslie, Johnstone St Andrews Trinity, Johnstone St Paul's





PROPOSED ALLOCATION	2.0 FTE
BUILDING CATEGORISATIONS	
Elderslie	Α
Johnstone: High	В
Johnstone St Pauls	А
Johnstone St Andrews Trinity	А

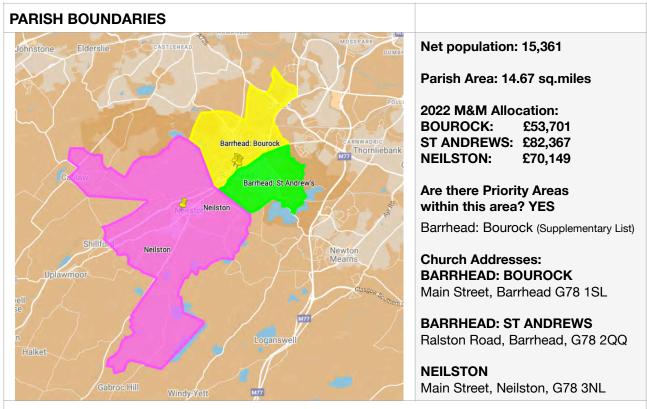
HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS

Several possible avenues were explored by the congregations including a union of all the congregations, two unions and the possibility of St Andrews Trinity becoming a Local Mission Church.

There was a universal commitment from all four Kirk Sessions that they were prepared to work with any of the other churches in the group.

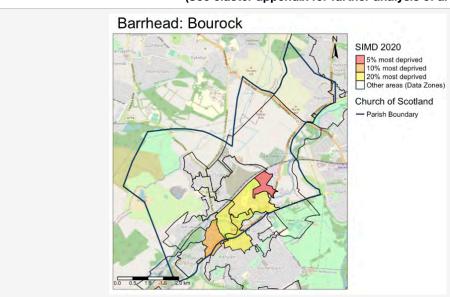
It is recommended that a union take place between Elderslie and Johnstone: High as well as a union between Johnstone: St Andrews Trinity and Johnstone: St Paul's with 1.0 FTE allocated to each charge.

B5 - Barrhead: Bourock, Barrhead: St Andrews and Neilston



DEPRIVATION STATISTICS

(See cluster appendix for further analysis of areas in 5% most deprived)



PROPOSED ALLOCATION	2.0 FTE
BUILDING CATEGORISATIONS	
BARRHEAD: BOUROCK	B (Provisional)
BARRHEAD: ST ANDREW'S	B (Provisional)
NEILSTON - CHURCH	B (Provisional)
NEILSTON - HALLS	B (Provisional)

HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS

All three Kirk Sessions have been meeting together to plan the way forward and there is a genuine desire to work together.

Two of the Kirk Sessions have agreed that there should be a three-way union which would come into effect when the reviewable tenure of the Neilston minister comes to an end, or when one of the charges becomes vacant.

It is recommended that a three-way union take place, which will better serve the three congregations with **two ministry posts**.

It is recommended that all four buildings be given the category of B Provisional in order that the congregations can best determine the buildings that remain.

Cluster B Appendix - Supplementary Data

B1 - Bishopton

2021 MEMBERSHIP

BISHOPTON 583
ERSKINE 280
INCHINNAN 215
RENFREW NORTH 515
RENFREW TRINITY 214

NUMBER OF FUNERALS (ACCORDING TO 2021 RETURN)

BISHOPTON 26 ERSKINE 19 INCHINNAN 24 RENFREW NORTH 47 RENFREW TRINITY 11

LINKS TO STATS FOR MISSION

BISHOPTON

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140740.pdf

ERSKINE

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140758.pdf

INCHINNAN

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140748.pdf

RENFREW NORTH

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140782.pdf

RENFREW TRINITY

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140784.pdf

B2 - Bridge of Weir, Houston & Killellan, Kilmacolm, Langbank

2021 MEMBERSHIP

BRIDGE OF WEIR: FREELAND	358
BRIDGE OF WEIR: ST MACHAR'S RANFURLY	274
HOUSTON & KILLELLAN KIRK	644
KILMACOLM: OLD	324
KILMACOLM: ST COLUMBA	117
LANGBANK	105

NUMBER OF FUNERALS (ACCORDING TO 2021 RETURN)

BRIDGE OF WEIR: FREELAND	15
BRIDGE OF WEIR: ST MACHAR'S RANFURLY	8
HOUSTON & KILLELLAN KIRK	19
KILMACOLM: OLD	15
KILMACOLM: ST COLUMBA	3
LANGBANK	0

LINKS TO STATS FOR MISSION

BRIDGE OF WEIR: FREELAND

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140741.pdf

BRIDGE OF WEIR: ST MACHAR'S RANFURLY

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140742.pdf

HOUSTON & KILLELLAN KIRK

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140746.pdf

KILMACOLM: OLD

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/150817.pdf

KILMACOLM: ST COLUMBA

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/150821.pdf

LANGBANK

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/150819.pdf

B3 - Howwood and Kilbarchan

2021 Membership

HOWWOOD 98 KILBARCHAN 373

Number of Funerals (According to 2021 Return)

HOWWOOD 3 KILBARCHAN 24

LINKS TO STATS FOR MISSION

HOWWOOD

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140747.pdf

KILBARCHAN

Not currently available

B4 - Elderslie, Johnstone St Andrews Trinity, Johnstone St Paul's

2021 Membership

ELDERSLIE	377
JOHNSTONE HIGH	173
JOHNSTONE ST ANDREW'S TRINITY	168
JOHNSTONE ST PAUL'S	294

Number of Funerals (According to 2021 Return)

2021 Membership

ELDERSLIE	15
JOHNSTONE HIGH	9
JOHNSTONE ST ANDREW'S TRINITY	7
JOHNSTONE ST PAUL'S	21

LINKS TO STATS FOR MISSION

ELDERSLIE

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140744.pdf

JOHNSTONE HIGH

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140749.pdf

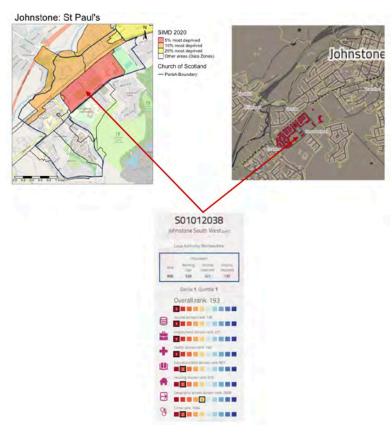
JOHNSTONE ST ANDREW'S TRINITY

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140750.pdf

JOHNSTONE ST PAUL'S

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140751.pdf

Deprivation Statistics (5% most deprived)



B5 - Barrhead and Neilston

2021 Membership

387
316
363

Number of Funerals (According to 2021 Return)

BARRHEAD BOUROCK	12
BARRHEAD ST ANDREW'S	27
NEILSTON	26

LINKS TO STATS FOR MISSION

BARRHEAD BOUROCK

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140737.pdf

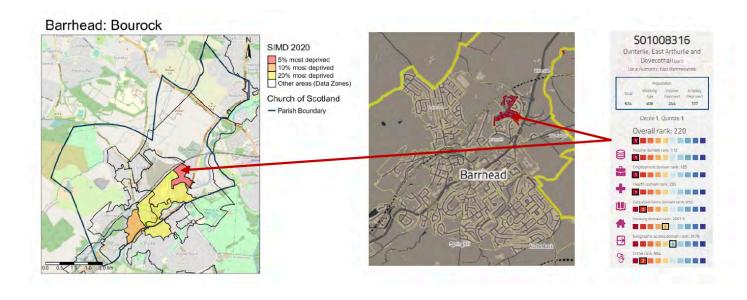
BARRHEAD ST ANDREW'S

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140738.pdf

NEILSTON

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140757.pdf

Deprivation Statistics (5% most deprived)



Buildings Rationale

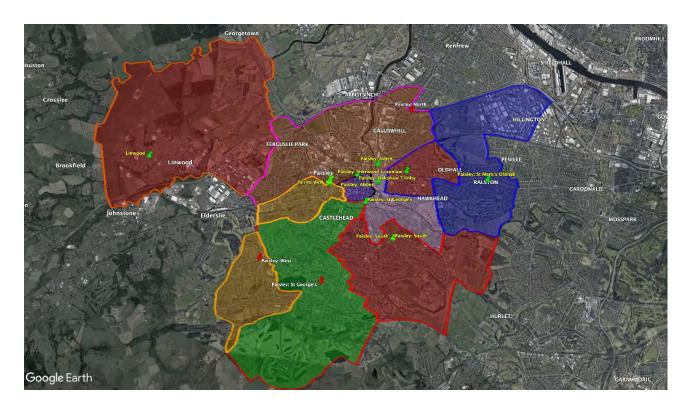
Comments and suggestions have been included in the Highlights and Potentials section of this cluster.

Cluster AMBA Scores

Building; Church only or Church With Adjoining Hall	Minimum Standards Church Score	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	Location Assessment Score	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	TOTAL	As a Percentage of Total Available Score
Barrhead Bourock	59	91%	44	85%	103	88%
Kilmacolm St Columba	55	85%	42	81%	97	83%
St Paul's Church, Johnstone	56	86%	40	77%	96	82%
Freeland - Bridge of Weir	54	83%	41	79%	95	81%
Barrhead St. Andrew's Church	50	77%	44	85%	94	80%
Elderslie Church	52	80%	41	79%	93	79%
Bishopton Parish Church	52	80%	40	77%	92	79%
Houston and Killellan Kirk	59	91%	33	63%	92	79%
Inchinnan Parish Church	49	75%	42	81%	91	78%
St Machar's Ranfurly Church	49	75%	41	79%	90	77%
Howwood Church	56	86%	34	65%	90	77%
Renfrew North	49	75%	41	79%	90	77%
Erskine Parish Church	49	75%	39	75%	88	75%
Renfrew Trinity	51	78%	37	71%	88	75%
Kilmacolm Old Church	49	75%	39	75%	88	75%
Johnstone High Church	49	75%	34	65%	83	71%
Kilbarchan Church	45	69%	38	73%	83	71%
Neilston Parish Church	41	63%	40	77%	81	69%
Langbank Parish Church	44	68%	28	54%	72	62%
St Andrew's Trinity Church, Johnstone	45	69%	24	46%	69	59%
Building; Separate Hall on Same Site as Church	Minimum Standards Hall Score (Same Site)	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	Location Assessment Hall (Same Site)	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	TOTAL	As a Percentage of Total Available Score
Barrhead St. Andrew's Community Hall	56	86%	44	85%	100	85%
Cornerstone Hall, Bishopton	59	91%	40	77%	99	85%
Kilmacolm Old Hall	49	75%	39	75%	88	75%
Kilbarchan Church Halls	49	75%	38	73%	87	74%
Elderslie Church Hall	45	69%	41	79%	86	74%
Building; Separate Hall on Separate Site	Minimum Standards Hall Score (Separate Site)	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	Location Assessment Hall (Separate Site)	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	TOTAL	As a Percentage of Total Available Score
Johnstone High Church Hall	49	78%	26	84%	75	80%
Houston & Killellan West Halls	49	78%	23	74%	72	77%
Neilston Church Halls	36	57%	22	71%	58	62%

Cluster C

Linwood and Paisley



Net Population: 61,452

Parish Area: 17.91 sq. miles Current Allocation: 9 FTE Proposed Allocation: 6.5 FTE

Priority Areas within Cluster

Paisley: North Paisley: West*

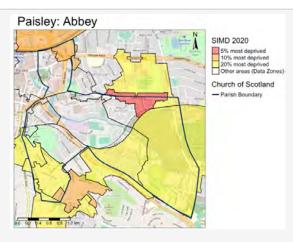
Paisley: Sherwood Greenlaw*

* Denotes Supplementary List

C1 - Paisley Abbey

PARISH BOUNDARY Net population: 3,164 Parish Area: 0.69 sq.miles 2022 M&M Allocation: ABBEY £93,393 Is this a Priority Area? NO Church Address: ABBEY Abbey CI, Paisley, PA1 1JG

DEPRIVATION STATISTICS:



PROPOSED ALLOCATION	0.5 FTE Transition Ministry Post
BUILDING CATEGORISATION	
ABBEY	B (Provisional) Discussions with General Trustees, Renfrewshire Council and Historic Scotland

HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS

Paisley Abbey (Vacant as of December 2022)

The Abbey sits in the heart of Paisley and is in many respects a national monument as well as being a congregation of the Church of Scotland.

This means that the Abbey is used for various civic services as well as being a centre point of the town. This brings both opportunities and challenges for the Abbey, namely trying to maintain a national historic monument (i.e. keeping it open to the public and the associated costs thereof), alongside trying to finance this as an individual congregation of the Church of Scotland.

The challenge for the Abbey going forward is that as a congregation of the Church of Scotland it cannot realistically afford to maintain a historic national monument, and potentially a tourist attraction. This dilemma will not go away in the years to come and therefore it is essential to not only consider this but to look to actively resolve this issue in deciding the future of the Abbey and its congregation.

As such, we believe it is imperative that all avenues of discussion and potential partnerships with interested parties be explored, including Historic Scotland, the General Trustees and Renfrewshire Council. In terms of Historic Scotland we believe it is unlikely that an approach would be successful as they are not taking on new buildings and indeed are struggling to maintain and finance their existing portfolio. With regard to the General Trustees we believe it is of benefit for a deeper and wider ranging conversation to be had – looking at the very particular circumstances of the Abbey and indeed other similar congregations and buildings, e.g. Dunfermline Abbey, Saint Machar's Cathedral, Aberdeen and St John's, Perth to name but three. These historic churches all share a distinctive place in the history of our country and so we believe that a high-level consultation and engagement by the General Trustees and other agencies within the church would be beneficial. The final option, namely Renfrewshire Council, would entail an approach to them to take over the Abbey with the Church being responsible for the provision of ministry therein.

Opportunities

We believe that significant opportunities remain for the Abbey to flourish in the centre of the town as a tourist attraction as a historic national monument, and to continue be the church for the town itself. The Session believe that with the right marketing and branding that the Abbey could become a significant tourist attraction in its own right, thereby generating additional income to go towards the maintenance of the building – whether that be directly for the Abbey, or for the council etc.

It is far beyond the control and remit of Presbytery, however if there was a more inclusive, yet traditional and mainstream, worship style available at the Abbey then its utility as a vibrant centre of worship in the heart of Paisley would be considerable.

Challenges

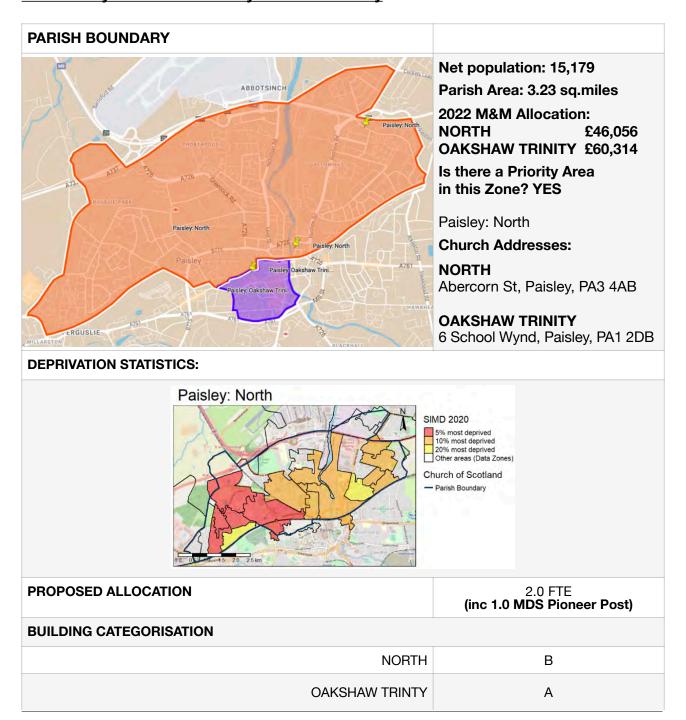
The Abbey is currently facing significant existential challenges. These are principally financial and buildings costs related as mentioned above, and in addition the congregation will move into vacancy at the beginning of December 2022. A period of consultation and reflection as to future direction is therefore advisable at this time.

Recommendation

An allocation of 0.5 FTE Transition Ministry is recommended for the lifetime of the current plan with a view to:

- (a) transitioning the ownership/funding arrangements for the Abbey on to a more stable basis
- (b) developing an alternative, more broadly based, worship service in addition to the high choral tradition,
- (c) to develop a distinctive outreach from the Abbey within Paisley town centre which would include the civic dimension and tourism but also to other 'communities' that attach themselves to the city centre, e.g. homeless and refugee outreach.

C2 - Paisley: North and Paisley: Oakshaw Trinity



Paisley North

Description

This is a very recent (May 2021) Union between the former Wallneuk North and Sandyford Street congregations, following the dissolution of the former Union of Martyrs and Sandyford (now West). This parish consists a variety of areas of priority and deprivation, particularly those of Ferguslie Park and Gallowhill. The church building is within the ring road in the centre of Paisley, and so while easily accessible by public transport it is not in the heart of the communities it seeks to serve.

Opportunities

The opportunities for outreach and mission to areas such as Ferguslie Park and Gallowhill are substantial, and the appointment of a Pioneer Minister must be seen as a positive development to establish new paths of ministry and mission in the areas of greatest need.

Challenges

It can equally be viewed that the church has withdrawn from the very areas it seeks to serve and has taken a substantial 'hit' in the loss of the St Ninians, St James and Sandyford buildings and the loss of the MDS worker attached to St Ninians. The difficult union with Martyrs, then subsequent dissolution, has been especially difficult for the Sandyford congregation. Much healing and outreach is required.

An additional challenge is the current condition of the North building and considerable sums of money that will be required to be spent here (over £400,000). Presbytery will require to give serious consideration to the merits of any amount of significant expenditure here, and to whether this would make it a 'well equipped space in the right place'.

Recommendation

A union with Oakshaw Trinity is recommended as well as the provision of a 1.0 FTE Pioneer Ministry post for the Ferguslie Park area.

While an immediate union may not be the most pastorally sensitive approach given recent history, it is probably the most realistic direction of travel. Appropriate amendments to the associated parish boundaries should also be discussed with relevant congregations and actioned in due course.

Oakshaw Trinity

Description

Oakshaw Trinity is a Local Ecumenical Partnership in conjunction with the United Reformed Church. The Parish is based on the old town centre of Paisley. The Church has operated the Wynd Centre for almost 40 years, and this Centre has offered many missional opportunities. The Centre is very well used and is a modern complex. It is a model which many other Congregations could learn from.

Opportunities

The Congregation are focussing on increasing the usage of the Wynd Centre currently at 65% capacity. In addition the current Parish boundary restricts the mission work being carried out. They are willing to share the burden of mission with other adjacent areas of the town and in particular it is their belief that if the district of Shortroods were included in the Parish they would be able to expand their missional vision and assist the work of the Pioneer Minister.

Challenges

To increase the usage at the Wynd Centre and develop missional opportunities across an expanded Parish.

Recommendation

It is recommended that a union with Paisley: North should proceed with a 1.0 FTE MWS allocated to this charge, who would also oversee the work the Pioneer Ministry post in Ferguslie Park. A redrawing of the Parish boundaries would greatly assist in increasing the missional opportunities.

C3 - Paisley South

PARISH BOUNDARY Net population: 8,678 Parish Area: 2.22 sq.miles 2022 M&M Allocation: £77,187 Is there a Priority Area in this Zone? NO Church Address: 123 Rowan St. Paisley PA2 6RZ

DEPRIVATION STATISTICS: N/A - As a new parish, these are not currently available.

PROPOSED ALLOCATION	1.0 FTE
BUILDING CATEGORISATION	
SOUTH	А
HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS	

Paisley South is a fairly recent Union between the former St Luke's and Lylesland parishes, with a recently inducted Minister.

Opportunities

The induction of the Minister took place during the COVID lockdown and so there are missional opportunities to be explored and developed as the Union comes together. It is intended to conduct a community audit to see what and where the missional needs are.

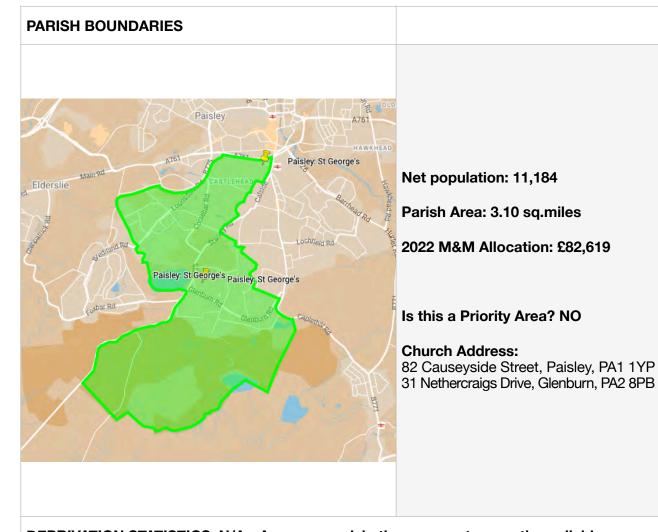
Challenges

The post-COVID world looks different to what it was pre-pandemic and so the challenge is to find new and relevant ways of ministry and mission in this context.

Recommendation

It is recommended that a 1.0 FTE MWS post be allocated to this charge.

C4 - Paisley St Georges



DEPRIVATION STATISTICS: N/A - As a new parish, these are not currently available.

PROPOSED ALLOCATION	1.0 FTE
BUILDING CATEGORISATIONS	
Causeyside Street Complex	А
Glenburn Outreach Centre (Nethercraigs Drive)	B (Provisional)

HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS

Paisley St George's is a new union between Stow Brae and Glenburn.

Opportunities

The retention of the Church building in Nethercraigs Drive, Glenburn (now the Outreach Centre) offers great missional opportunities for the Congregation whilst continuing the ongoing work at the Causeyside Street buildings.

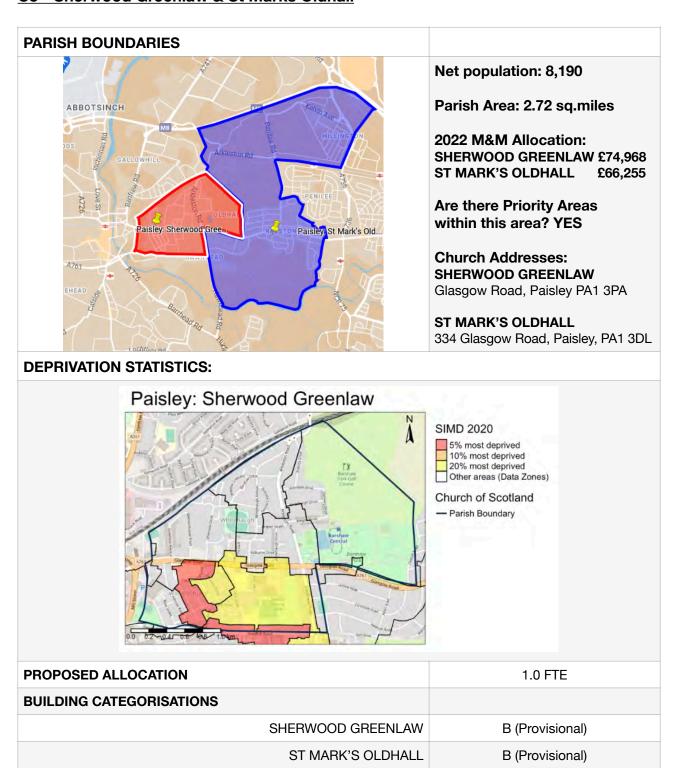
This new union has increased the size of the Parish and offers missional opportunities.

Challenges

To integrate the two former Congregations and to build on the missional work to be carried out in the Parish. With significant work required at the Glenburn Outreach Centre, this has been categorised as **B** (**Provisional**) pending the outcome of a feasibility study that the congregation hope to carry out soon.

Recommendation: It is recommended that a 1.0 FTE MWS post be allocated to this charge.

C5 - Sherwood Greenlaw & St Marks Oldhall



HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS

Description

The parishes of Sherwood Greenlaw and St Mark's Oldhall lie to the east of Paisley, extending out the A761 Glasgow Road. Cardonald Parish and Glasgow Presbytery lie further to the east of St Mark's Oldhall. Both of these are healthy congregations whose halls are widely used by their respective community and organisations.

Opportunities

Both congregations are aware of the need to unite in the future and have begun working together to help realise this objective. A joint letter from the respective Ministers has been issued to both congregations to this effect. A joint 'befriending' initiative is currently being established, and the potential of providing 'warm spaces' is also being considered. A partnership with the Church of North India is seen as an exciting way forward. Both congregations see the sharing of worship and events in the future as being a way to manage the process towards union.

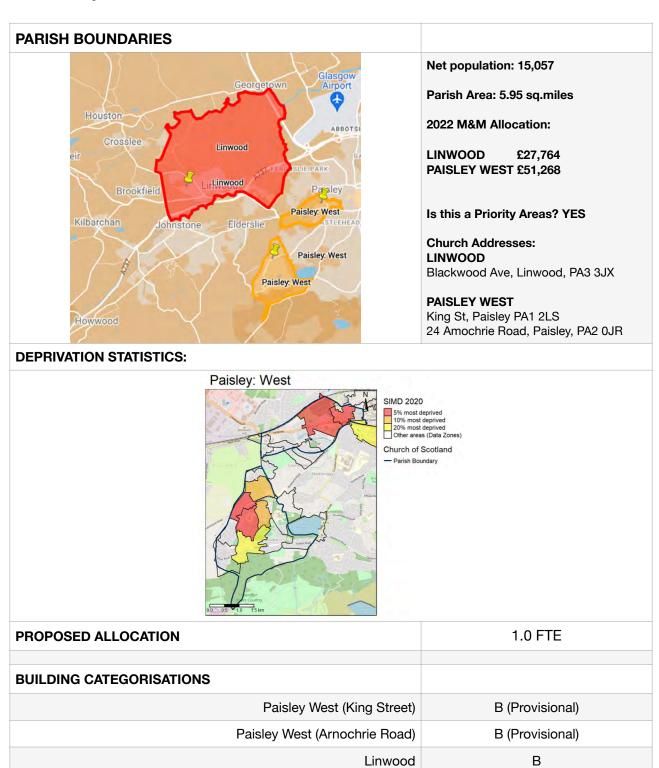
Challenges

Both buildings are well maintained and well used. We acknowledge that the buildings determination will be difficult as both have their advantages and disadvantages in terms of location. In the short term, it is worth noting that Sherwood Greenlaw is more of a 'gathered' congregation while St Mark's Oldhall is much more parish centred.

Recommendation

A deferred union is recommended with one Minister of Word and Sacrament allocated to this charge. The congregations should be left to determine the future building of choice. It is also recommended that a portion of the Gallowhill area of Paisley: North's parish should be transferred to the parish of Paisley: Sherwood Greenlaw.

C6 - Paisley West and Linwood



HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS

Paisley West

Description

Paisley West was formed by uniting Paisley Martyrs and St Columba's Foxbar. This was done after the previous union between Martyrs and Sandyford was severed.

Opportunities

Paisley West is the Church for the West of Paisley and Foxbar. There are great missional opportunities which the Office Bearers and congregation are keen to build on, particularly in Foxbar. The committee feels that this energy could be continued across into Linwood, where mission life is needing reimagining and reawakening.

Challenges

There has been a history of hurt in the congregation which has been exacerbated by the closure of the Church building in Foxbar. The congregation face the challenge of uniting the congregation and exploring the missional opportunities in the whole Parish.

Linwood

Description

The congregation has traditionally served the wider parish community of Linwood. *The congregation is currently in vacancy.*

Opportunities

The parish of Linwood is sizeable and there is a considerable population within the parish bounds which presents a missional opportunity for the church.

Challenges

The present building (c. 1965) has become a burden for the current office bearers, and the Session have struggled to find people to take on key roles in recent years. The illness and subsequent retiral of their Minister has left the worshipping congregation of c.30-40 in an uncertain position going forward. The Session are prepared to consider relinquishing the building and moving into a local community centre for worship, but wish to remain some form of ministerial representation for Linwood in the future.

Recommendation

The committee feel that the creation of a Local Mission Church (based in the community of Linwood) is the best way forward for the congregation. The congregation of Paisley: West appears to be the best fit in terms of transport links, and more particularly to connect with the appointment of an Interim/Transition ministry there to reinvigorate the missional life of Foxbar and Linwood. The committee also sees possibilities for synergies and shared initiatives with the Pioneer Ministry for Paisley: North.

The appointment of a 1.0 FTE Interim/Transition ministry to be shared between Paisley: West and Linwood is recommended.

Cluster C Appendix - Supplementary Data

2021 MEMBERSHIP

LINWOOD	136
PAISLEY ABBEY	393
PAISLEY NORTH	515
PAISLEY OAKSHAW TRINITY	391
PAISLEY SHERWOOD GREENLAW	290
PAISLEY SOUTH	347
PAISLEY ST GEORGE'S	352
PAISLEY ST MARK'S OLDHALL	364
PAISLEY WEST	285

NUMBER OF FUNERALS (ACCORDING TO 2021 RETURN)

LINWOOD	25
PAISLEY ABBEY	15
PAISLEY NORTH	26
PAISLEY OAKSHAW TRINITY	12
PAISLEY SHERWOOD GREENLAW	29
PAISLEY SOUTH	20
PAISLEY ST GEORGE'S	28
PAISLEY ST MARK'S OLDHALL	18
PAISLEY WEST	5

LINKS TO STATS FOR MISSION

LINWOOD

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140755.pdf

PAISLEY ABBEY

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140759.pdf

PAISLEY NORTH

N/A – Data not available yet

PAISLEY OAKSHAW TRINITY

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140767.pdf

PAISLEY SHERWOOD GREENLAW

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140780.pdf

PAISLEY SOUTH

N/A – Data not available yet

PAISLEY ST GEORGE'S

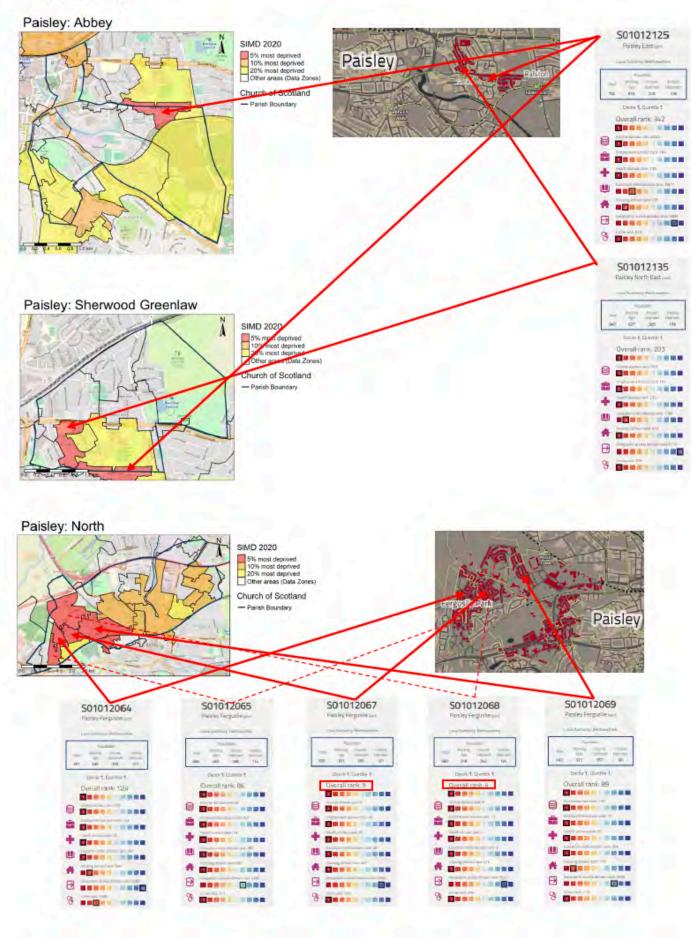
N/A – Data not available yet

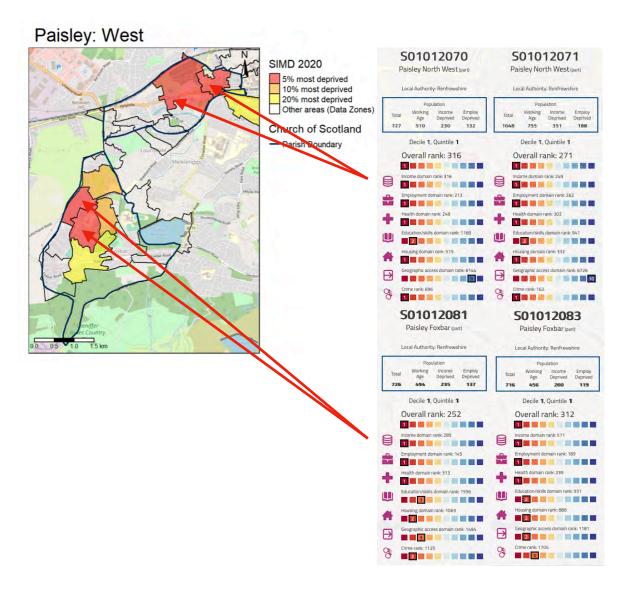
PAISLEY ST MARK'S OLDHALL

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/140775.pdf

DEPRIVATION STATS

5% most deprived



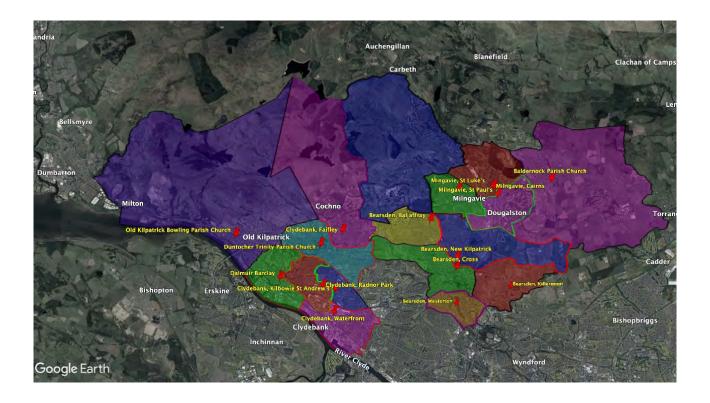


Cluster AMBA Scores

Building; Church only or Church With Adjoining Hall	Minimum Standards Church Score	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	Location Assessment Score	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	TOTAL	As a Percentage of Total Available Score
Paisley Abbey and Place of Paisley	58	89%	47	90%	105	90%
Paisley St Mark's Oldhall	59	91%	39	75%	98	84%
Paisley South	55	85%	43	83%	98	84%
Paisley North	56	86%	41	79%	97	83%
Paisley St George's Church	56	86%	40	77%	96	82%
Paisley Sherwood Greenlaw Church and Hall	54	83%	39	75%	93	79%
Paisley Oakshaw Trinity	50	77%	43	83%	93	79%
Paisley West	53	82%	32	62%	85	73%
Linwood Parish Church	49	75%	34	65%	83	71%
Paisley St George's Outreach Centre	37	57%	28	54%	65	56%
Building; Separate Hall on Same Site as Church	Minimum Standards Hall Score (Same Site)	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	Location Assessment Hall (Same Site)	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	TOTAL	As a Percentage of Total Available Score
Paisley Oakshaw Trinity	54	83%	43	83%	97	83%
Building; Separate Hall on Separate Site	Minimum Standards Hall Score (Separate Site)	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	Location Assessment Hall (Separate Site)	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	TOTAL	As a Percentage of Total Available Score
Paisley Abbey Halls	51	81%	24	77%	75	80%
St Columba Hall, Foxbar, Paisley	38	60%	12	39%	50	53%

Cluster D

Baldernock, Bearsden, Clydebank, Duntocher, Dalmuir, Faifley, Milngavie and Old Kilpatrick



Net Population: 58,603

Parish Area: 33.78 sq. miles

Current Allocation: 12.6 FTE (inc 1.0 MDS for Dalmuir)

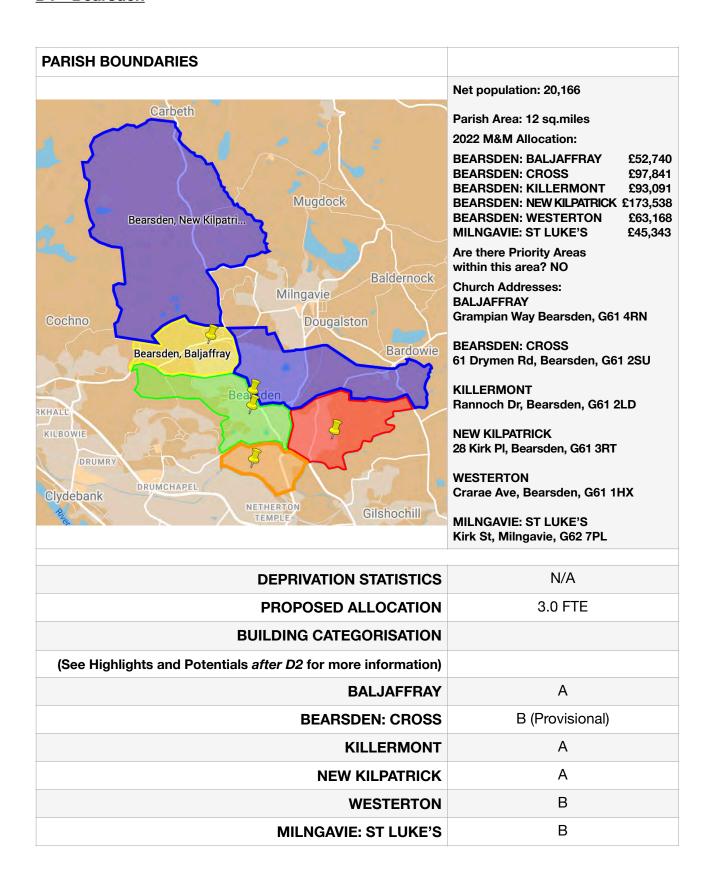
Proposed Allocation: 8.5 FTE (inc 0.5 MDS)

Priority Areas within Cluster

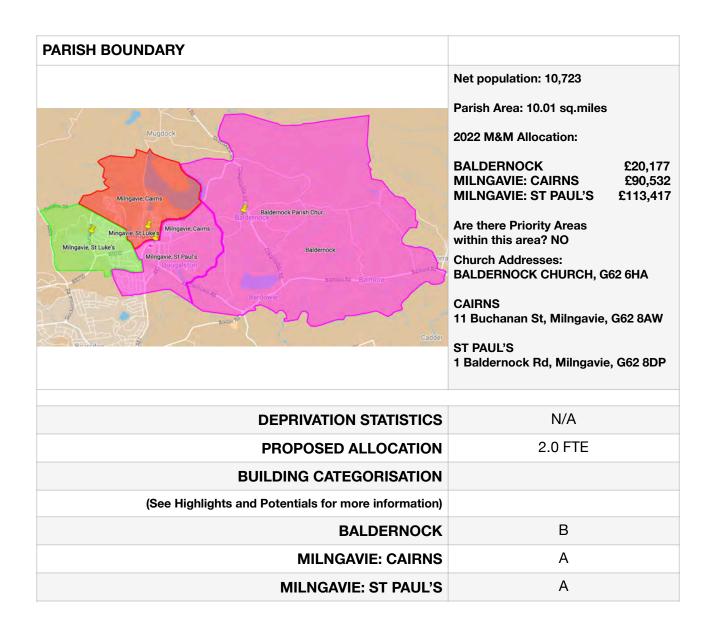
Clydebank: Faifley • Clydebank: Kilbowie St Andrew's Clydebank: Radnor Park* Dalmuir: Barclay*

Denotes transitioning off Priority Areas List in 2023
 * Denotes Supplementary List

D1 - Bearsden



D2 - Baldernock and Milngavie



HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS - BALDERNOCK, BEARSDEN AND MILNGAVIE (D1 and D2)

Bearsden and Milngavie are two suburban areas on the north-west of Glasgow. The adjusted population of the area is just under 31,000. One of the charges in this area is currently vacant.

The congregations exhibit a variety of theological and liturgical outlooks but share a mutual respect*

These churches are strong in resources and some employ additional staff to support youth work and outreach. The church buildings are generally in good condition. In Bearsden they are located either in the heart of their parishes or in easily accessed central locations. In Milngavie one of the congregations has been transported to a newer housing area, one is in a rural location and the other two are quite close to each other and perhaps not ideally situated for mission.

While the long term vision of the Presbytery Mission Plan is for a single church in Milngavie and for three churches in Bearsden, we do not believe that this is feasible in the lifetime of the plan for two reasons:

- 1. The congregations have been used to operating as independent entities and whilst a Local Mission area has been formed in Bearsden this has been slower to happen in Milngavie. There is an emerging sense that a single mission area should be created across both areas which will enable a greater emphasis on working together and sharing in mission.
- 2. These congregations are strong churches which have a developing sense of mission. One of the mission audits reads, "The challenge for the Church of Scotland is to faithfully declare the good news of salvation from sin by our words and actions in a world of change."

All the congregations recognise that we need to change but we believe that the way to achieve this at least cost is to allow the congregations to work this out together.

We make the following recommendations as interim steps.

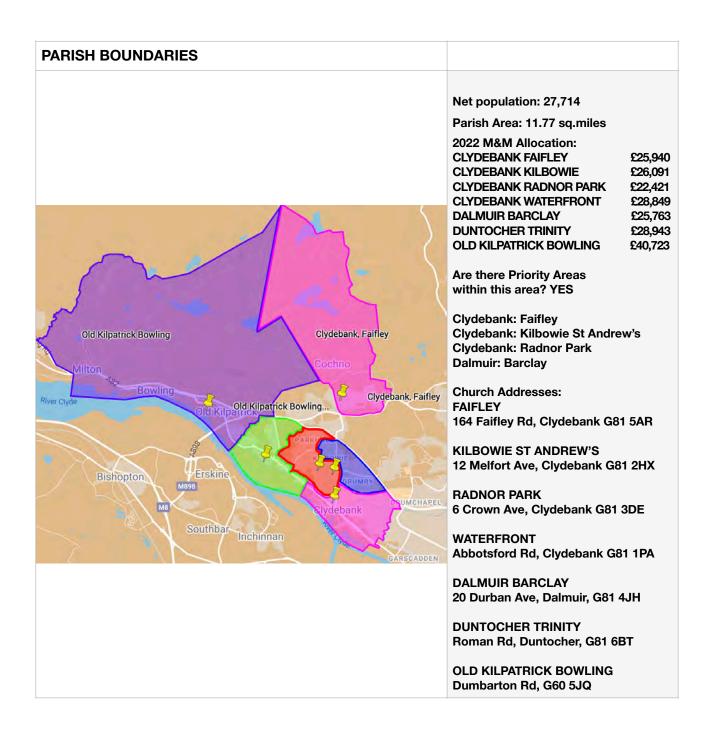
- a. A union between Baldernock and Milngavie: St Paul's in the St Paul's building and that the congregation be allowed to call a minister without restriction.
- b. A union between Milngavie: St Luke's and Bearsden: Baljaffray in the Baljaffray building with the St Luke's parish being redistributed between Milngavie: St Paul's & Baldernock and Milngavie: Cairns.
- c. An eventual union between Bearsden: New Kilpatrick and Bearsden: Cross in a repurposed suite of buildings.
- d. An eventual union between Bearsden: Killermont and Bearsden: Westerton in the Killermont building.

Another writes, that they have "a minister who faithfully preaches the biblical gospel"

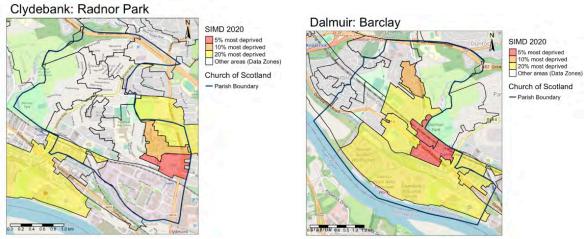
A third writes that they have 'a "simple mission statement, based on the parable of the Good Samaritan-Love God, Love Neighbour" (recognising that) "People doing good in the community are living out many of the characteristics of a good Christian life. As we explore ways of making people more comfortable with doing this with us, we may well win some over to a full faith commitment." The problem is not a lack of mission or mission imperative but rather different understandings of what we mean by mission and how best to do it.

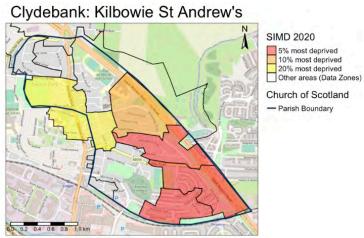
^{*} In the Mission Audits submitted, one of the churches which identifies itself as 'liberal' says this in the mission audit report:
"A liberal church is one that interprets Christian teaching by taking into consideration modern knowledge, science, and ethics. It emphasises the importance of reason and experience over doctrinal authority, and as such distinguishes itself from more traditional and conservative churches."

D3 - Clydebank, Dalmuir, Duntocher, Faifley and Old Kilpatrick



DEPRIVATION STATISTICS





PROPOSED ALLOCATION	3.5 FTE
BUILDING CATEGORISATION	
(See Buildings Rationale in Cluster Appendix for more information)	
CLYDEBANK: FAIFLEY	Α
CLYDEBANK: KILBOWIE ST ANDREW'S	B (Provisional)
CLYDEBANK: RADNOR PARK	В
CLYDEBANK:WATERFRONT	B (Provisional)
DALMUIR: BARCLAY	Α
DUNTOCHER: TRINITY	В
OLD KILPATRICK BOWLING (Church & Halls)	B (Provisional)

HIGHLIGHTS & POTENTIALS · D3

Clydebank is the largest community in West Dunbartonshire Council and sits just to the west of the City of Glasgow. It is synonymous with heavy industry and the industrial decline which took place from the 1970's.

There is only one serving minister in the town (indeed he is the only serving minister in the whole of West Dunbartonshire). In addition, there are two 0.5 MDS workers who currently serve in the linked charges of Clydebank: Waterfront and Dalmuir: Barclay.

The mission audits submitted in January 2022 show that the sense of mission needs to be developed more fully across the town. The audits also reveal that there was a significant amount of congregational focus. At the same time there is an immense amount of work going on especially around Foodbanks and support for the vulnerable.

A local mission group has been formed recently and the indications are that this is working well and generating a positive atmosphere and helping to create a more missional sense across the congregations.

The two 0.5 MDS workers are doing a magnificent job, which is being seen in the community. One of the mission audit reports speaks about the MDS workers being asked to support people in meetings in the job centre and with medical practitioners.

The recurring theme from our visits was of a need for ministers. Many of the congregations feel that the need is first to rebuild what are quite fragile congregations and then to develop the current mission work. We have also found some resistance to change and no one really wants to see their buildings close. We feel, however, that we cannot recommend linkages as this would be an example of maintaining the current declining practice rather than moving forward with a more missional and outward looking focus.

Initially the indicative number was for **3 ministries** in Clydebank for an adjusted population of **27,700.** In the light of our discussions this has been increased to **3.5 posts**. **We also believe** that if posts are to be released in stages that Clydebank should be in the first tranche.

These recommendations can be implemented as soon as the plan has been agreed and approved:

- 1. A union between Clydebank: Kilbowie St. Andrew's, Clydebank: Radnor Park and Clydebank: Waterfront in the Clydebank: Waterfront building.
- 2. A union between Dalmuir Barclay and Old Kilpatrick Bowling in the Dalmuir Barclay Building with the buildings at Old Kilpatrick to be assessed and for the church to maintain a presence there.

Dalmuir Barclay and Old Kilpatrick Bowling should be allowed to call a minister on unrestricted tenure.

- 3. A union between Clydebank: Faifley and Duntocher: Trinity in the Faifley buildings.
- 4. That the two 0.5 MDS workers continue in post with an expanded role to the whole of Clydebank. These posts to continue for at least a year after the last ministerial vacancy is filled and for Clyde Presbytery to have as a priority the funding of the extra 0.5 MDS post.

Cluster D · Supplementary Information

Cluster D1 – BEARSDEN (+ MILNGAVIE: ST LUKE'S CONGREGATION)

Congregation Information

2021 MEMBERSHIP

BEARSDEN: BALJAFFRAY	353
BEARSDEN: CROSS	497
BEARSDEN: KILLERMONT	498
BEARSDEN: NEW KILPATRICK	1081
BEARSDEN: WESTERTON FAIRLIE MEMORIAL	281
MILNGAVIE: ST LUKE'S	318

NUMBER OF FUNERALS (ACCORDING TO 2021 RETURN)

BEARSDEN: BALJAFFRAY	15
BEARSDEN: CROSS	40
BEARSDEN: KILLERMONT	15
BEARSDEN: NEW KILPATRICK	38
BEARSDEN: WESTERTON FAIRLIE MEMORIAL	13
MILNGAVIE: ST LUKE'S	4

LINKS TO STATS FOR MISSION

BEARSDEN: BALJAFFRAY

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/181185.pdf

BEARSDEN: CROSS

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/181184.pdf

BEARSDEN: KILLERMONT

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/181204.pdf

BEARSDEN: NEW KILPATRICK

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/181210.pdf

BEARSDEN: WESTERTON FAIRLIE MEMORIAL

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/181216.pdf

MILNGAVIE: ST LUKE'S

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/181208.pdf

DEPRIVATION STATISTICS

No part of any parish in this cluster includes Scotland's 5%, 10% or 20% most deprived areas.

Cluster D2 - BALDERNOCK & MILNGAVIE

2021 MEMBERSHIP

BALDERNOCK 158
MILNGAVIE: CAIRNS 282
MILNGAVIE: ST PAUL'S 617

NUMBER OF FUNERALS (ACCORDING TO 2021 RETURN)

BALDERNOCK 2
MILNGAVIE: CAIRNS 50
MILNGAVIE: ST PAUL'S 21

LINKS TO STATS FOR MISSION

BALDERNOCK

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/181176.pdf

MILNGAVIE: CAIRNS

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/181207.pdf

MILNGAVIE: ST PAUL'S

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/181209.pdf

MILNGAVIE: ST LUKE'S

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/181208.pdf

NOTE:

ST LUKE'S STATISTICS LINK INCLUDED ONCE AGAIN OWING TO DISTRIBUTION OF PARISH ACROSS NEIGHBOURING MILNGAVIE PARISHES

DEPRIVATION STATISTICS (MOST DEPRIVED 5%)

No part of any parish in this cluster includes Scotland's 5%, 10% or 20% most deprived areas.

Cluster D3 - CLYDEBANK, DALMUIR, DUNTOCHER, FAIFLEY AND OLD KILPATRICK

2021 MEMBERSHIP

CLYDEBANK FAIFLEY	165
CLYDEBANK KILBOWIE ST ANDREW'S	205
CLYDEBANK RADNOR PARK	89
CLYDEBANK WATERFRONT	127
DALMUIR BARCLAY	140
DUNTOCHER TRINITY	160
OLD KILPATRICK BOWLING	186

NUMBER OF FUNERALS (ACCORDING TO 2021 RETURN)

CLYDEBANK FAIFLEY	45
CLYDEBANK KILBOWIE ST ANDREW'S	0
CLYDEBANK RADNOR PARK	0
CLYDEBANK WATERFRONT	8
DALMUIR BARCLAY	20
DUNTOCHER TRINITY	0
OLD KILPATRICK BOWLING	10

LINKS TO STATS FOR MISSION

CLYDEBANK FAIFLEY

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181182.pdf

CLYDEBANK KILBOWIE ST ANDREW'S

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181183.pdf

CLYDEBANK RADNOR PARK

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181186.pdf

CLYDEBANK WATERFRONT

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181226.pdf

DALMUIR BARCLAY

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181190.pdf

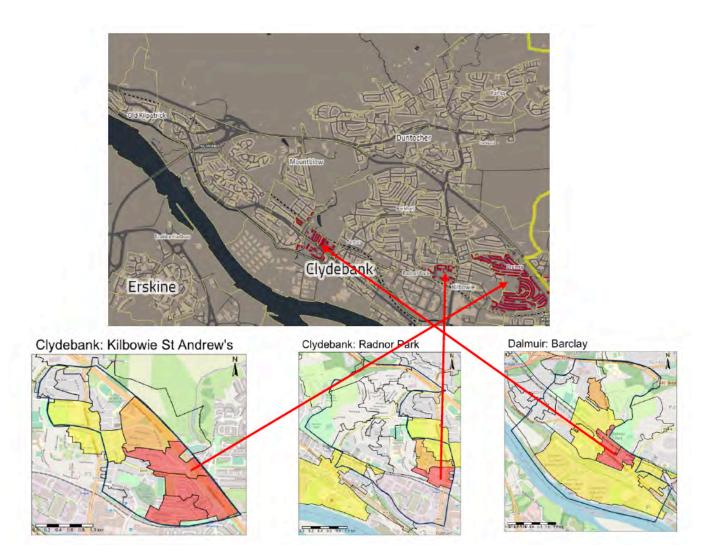
DUNTOCHER TRINITY

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181196.pdf

OLD KILPATRICK BOWLING

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181212.pdf

DEPRIVATION STATISTICS (MOST DEPRIVED 5%):



Buildings Rationale

D1 - Baldernock, Bearsden and Milngavie

Baldernock

The Baldernock building is situated in a rural location a few miles from the centre of Milngavie.

It is surrounded by a graveyard.

It is in good condition and well maintained.

There is provision for a limited amount of parking.

The recommendation to unite Baldernock with Milngavie St Paul's is based on the fact that the congregation who meet there could be accommodated in the St Paul's building, and this would be a better missional solution.

With these points as well as an AMBA score of 50%, making this one of two 'Red' category buildings within the cluster, the Baldernock building has been designated as Category B.

Milngavie: St Luke's

The St Luke's building is a modern building which was constructed as a relocation to an expanding part of the town. It offers a range of flexible accommodation and has abundant car parking.

It is located near to the local primary and secondary schools.

It requires some repair and with the end point being a desire for a single building in MIIngavie it would not be the best location for this.

The congregation has much in common with Bearsden: Baljaffray and the proposal is for a union in the Baljaffray building, hence a Category B designation.

Bearsden: Baljaffray

This is a modern building which was built in the 1980's to meet the needs of an expanding population in the area. It is located adjacent to the local shops and primary school.

It has a large car park and a flexible set of halls and rooms.

It is excellent condition and will be needed beyond the life of the current plan

Bearsden: Cross

The Bearsden: Cross building sits on one of the main roads through Bearsden and was constructed in the 1950's.

It has a small parking area and a suite of halls which have been refurbished recently. It is suitable for mission.

The plan envisages a reconfiguring of the buildings in the centre of Bearsden.

With a high score in the AMBA audit, a B (Provisional) designation is recommended.

Westerton: Fairlie Memorial

The building sits in a commanding position in the heart of its parish on the southwest of Bearsden.

There is no car park and there is on street parking.

The building has been adapted so that it no longer has fixed seating and so there is flexibility as to use.

The AMBA score of 79 is one of the lower in the area.

With the longer-term intention to create 3 congregations in Bearsden it is envisaged that the Westerton building will be surplus to requirements, hence its B category.

D3 - Clydebank, Dalmuir, Duntocher, Faifley and Old Kilpatrick

Duntocher Trinity

The building was rebuilt in the 1950's after the original was destroyed by bombing in WWII. It sits overlooking the local park and has a small car park and on-street parking is available. There is a good range of halls as well as a large sanctuary with fixed seating. There are stairs at the entrance and to the entrance of the halls as well as a sloping driveway to the front and side. Based on the AMBA score of 57%, making this one of two 'Red' category buildings within the cluster, the Duntocher Trinity building has been designated as Category B.

Old Kilpatrick Bowling

The church sits on a prominent site within a graveyard in the centre of Old Kilpatrick. The halls are across the road.

The halls are a modern prefabricated building the church is a Victorian building.

We would like to maintain a church presence in these communities but are aware that the maintenance of the buildings is a challenge for the congregation.

They are therefore designated as Category B Provisional.

Kilbowie St Andrew's

The buildings are situated on one of the main roads in Clydebank on a prominent site. The church is a Victorian sandstone building, the hall a modern building. There is a car park and on street parking.

The building also houses a memorial to those lost in the Clydebank Blitz.

There is a need for major works to be carried out on the building which are projected to be over £ 250,000.

In the light of that the recommendation is that the buildings are designated Category B

Radnor Park

The buildings are a combination of a modern church building and an older suite of halls. The buildings are well maintained and there is a small car park and on-street parking available.

They are located a little way from a main road, and it is felt that this makes them less suitable for the purpose of mission.

Radnor Park is designated Category B.

Waterfront

This is a modern building which sits near Clydebank Railway station and the bus station. There is a plan for major redevelopment in the vicinity of the church building which is likely to make this a hub for the town.

There will be an adequate car park as part of the redevelopment, and we expect this to become an ideal location for mission.

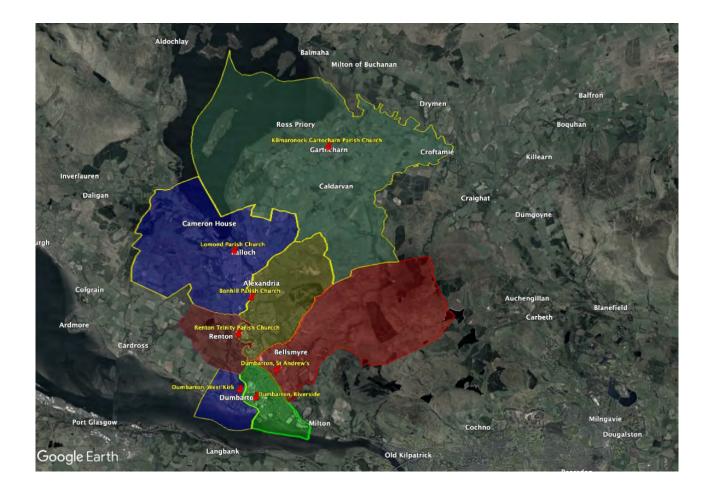
This building is designated Category B

Cluster AMBA Scores

Building; Church only or Church With Adjoining Hall	Minimum Standards Church Score	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	Location Assessment Score	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	TOTAL	As a Percentage of Total Available Score
Bearsden Killermont Parish Church	58	89%	45	87%	103	88%
Bearsden Cross Parish Church	57	88%	44	85%	101	86%
Milngavie St Pauls Parish Church	58	89%	42	81%	100	85%
Cairns Church Milngavie	57	88%	43	83%	100	85%
Bearsden Baljaffray	59	91%	38	73%	97	83%
Clydebank Waterfront	57	88%	37	71%	94	80%
Dalmuir Barclay	57	88%	36	69%	93	79%
Bearsden Westerton	54	83%	38	73%	92	79%
Milngavie: St Luke's	52	80%	40	77%	92	79%
Radnor Park Church, Clydebank	51	78%	37	71%	88	75%
Bearsden: New Kilpatrick Church	46	71%	40	77%	86	74%
Faifley Parish Church	44	68%	39	75%	83	71%
Kilbowie St. Andrews	41	63%	41	79%	82	70%
Old Kilpatrick and Bowling Parish Church.	42	65%	32	62%	74	63%
Duntocher Trinity	37	57%	30	58%	67	57%
Baldernock Parish Church	35	54%	23	44%	58	50%

Cluster E

Bonhill, Dumbarton, Kilmaronock Gartocharn, Lomond, Renton



Net Population: 23,183

Parish Area: 63.58 sq. miles

Current Allocation: 4.5 FTE (inc 1.0 MDS for Dumbarton) Proposed Allocation: 3.6 FTE (inc 0.6 MDS for Dumbarton)

Priority Areas within Cluster

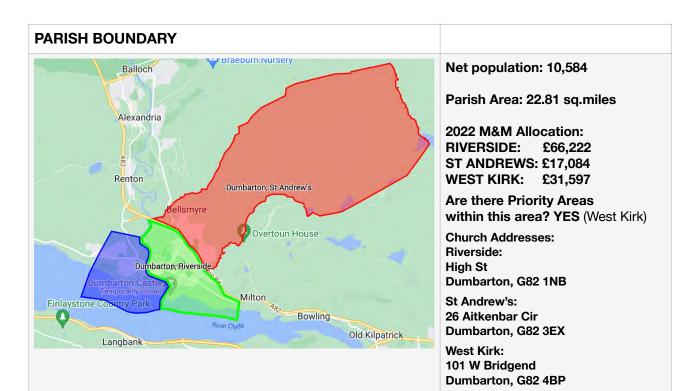
Dumbarton: West Kirk

Lomond*

Renton: Trinity

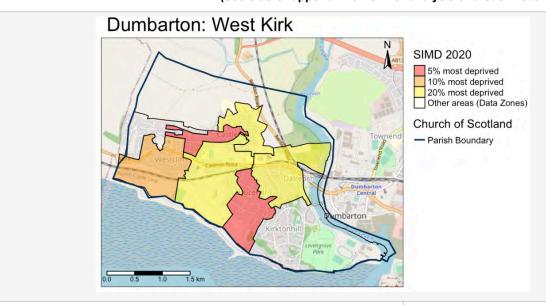
* Denotes Supplementary List

E1 - Dumbarton



DEPRIVATION STATISTICS

(See cluster appendix for further analysis of areas in 5% most deprived)



PROPOSED ALLOCATION	1.6 FTE
BUILDING CATEGORISATION	
(See Highlights and Potentials for more information)	
RIVERSIDE	B (Provisional)
ST ANDREW'S	B (Provisional)
WEST KIRK	B (Provisional)

HIGHLIGHTS AND POTENTIALS

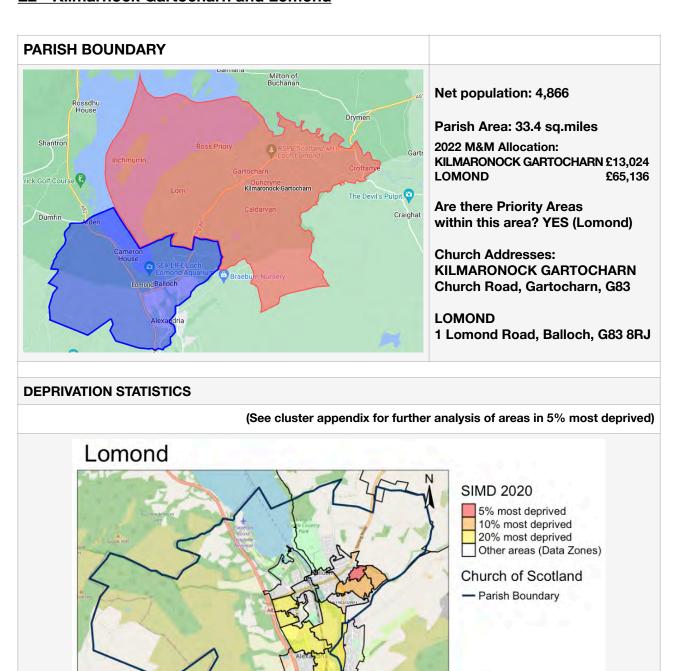
In common with much of West Dunbartonshire, Dumbarton has a high level of deprivation, particularly in the parishes of Riverside and Bellsmyre, which is served by St Andrew's congregation. There is great potential for work among young people with the current Riverside parish including the schools of Dumbarton Academy, Braehead Primary and Knoxland Primary, St. Andrew's including Aitkenbar Primary School and West Kirk including Dalreoch Primary. However, there is also a feeling that so much time and energy is taken up with 'administration'. It would make life easier for everyone if the load could be lightened. It is believed that this could be achieved through a union of the three congregations.

It is believed that the mission to the town of Dumbarton would be better served by one congregation. The Kirk Sessions of the three existing congregations are agreeable to entering into a triple union.

This would be served by one full-time Minister of Word and Sacrament and one part-time Ministries Development Staff, the equivalent of a 0.6 FTE post.

The issue of buildings is yet to be resolved, but it is anticipated that no more than two will be retained.

E2 - Kilmarnock Gartocharn and Lomond



PROPOSED ALLOCATION	1.0 FTE	
BUILDING CATEGORISATION		
(See Cluster Appendix for more info)		
KILMARONOCK GARTOCHARN	В	
LOMOND	Α	

Both these parishes lie at the heart of a tourism hub, within the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park. Lomond has hosted an event in their halls to allow developers and members of the community to meet and discuss how sustainable tourism may be developed without unduly impacting local residents. This is in keeping with their desire to become increasingly community focused. This strong community focus should be encouraged and may best be done by the efforts of a single united congregation.

The ultimate goal is to see one congregation in the Vale of Leven area (along with Bonhill and Renton: Trinity), served by two full-time Ministers of Word and Sacrament. It is not believed, however, that this would be achievable in the lifetime of this plan. The two joint parishes include Vale of Leven Academy and four primary schools, with the current Interim Moderator serving as chaplain in all but one of these.

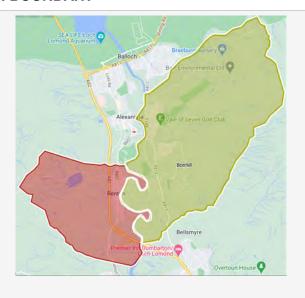
As an interim step, it is intended to create a union between Kilmaronock Gartocharn and Lomond, a proposal which is supported by both Kirk Sessions.

The united congregation would be served by one full-time Minister of Word and Sacrament.

One building would be retained and that would be Lomond. This view is supported by the AMBA scoring, which places the Gartocharn building in the red category.

E3 - Bonhill and Renton

PARISH BOUNDARY



Net population: 7,733

Parish Area: 7.37 sq.miles

2022 M&M Allocation: BONHILL £40,995 RENTON TRINITY £19,208

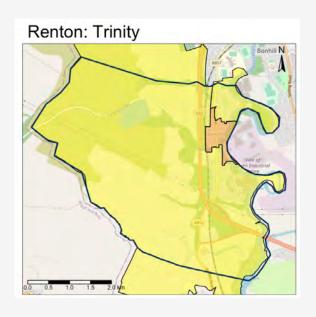
Are there Priority Areas within this area? YES (Renton Trinity)

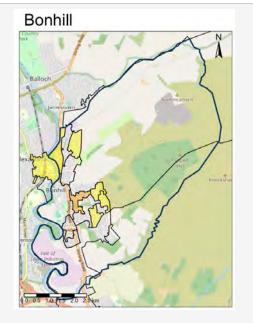
Church Addresses: BONHILL Main St, Bonhill, G83 9HR

RENTON TRINITY
33 Alexander Street, Renton, G82 4LT

DEPRIVATION STATISTICS

NOTE: NEITHER PARISH HAVE AREAS IN THE 5% MOST DEPRIVED. MOST OF RENTON IS IN THE 10% CATEGORY.





PROPOSED ALLOCATION	1.0 FTE
BUILDING CATEGORISATION (See Highlights and Potentials Section for more info)	
BONHILL	B (Provisional)
RENTON	B (Provisional)

Both congregations are keen to show compassion and give whatever practical help they can, whilst engaging with their communities. The previous minister was a chaplain to the two local primary schools, through which members of Renton: Trinity have engaged in intergenerational learning with pupils, such as planting seeds and building bug hotels in the church grounds.

Both congregations hold community events, Renton with events such as Easter Egg Hunts, Cherry Blossom Festival and Christmas Tree Festivals and Bonhill with 43 events over the last five years, but especially their Festival of Light.

Bonhill also hold a 'Spring Forward' Event for local children during the Easter break with four days of themed activities for 4 to 11 year olds. Such outreach and missional activities need to be encouraged and so the plan envisages a continuation of the life of both congregations.

The Kirk Sessions of Bonhill and Renton Trinity disagree as to the way forward, the former wanting a union, the latter wanting to maintain the current linkage.

The interim step proposed in this locality is a transition ministry post* within a linkage, helping the two congregations to work more closely together and at the same time leading them towards an ultimate union with their neighbours in Kilmaronock Gartocharn and Lomond (See E2).

NOTE: Both Bonhill and Renton Trinity church buildings would be retained during the transition phase.

* A detailed job description will be produced for the potential transition ministry post.

Cluster E Appendix - Supplementary Data

E1 - Dumbarton

2021 MEMBERSHIP

DUMBARTON RIVERSIDE420DUMBARTON ST ANDREWS90DUMBARTON WEST KIRK129

NUMBER OF FUNERALS (ACCORDING TO 2021 RETURN)

DUMBARTON RIVERSIDE 10
DUMBARTON ST ANDREWS 2
DUMBARTON WEST KIRK 5

Parish Statistics:

DUMBARTON RIVERSIDE

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181194.pdf

DUMBARTON ST ANDREWS

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181195.pdf

DUMBARTON WEST KIRK

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181219.pdf

<u>Deprivation Statistics (Most deprived 5%):</u>



E2 - Kilmaronock Gartocharn and Lomond

2021 MEMBERSHIP

KILMARONOCK GARTOCHARN 165 LOMOND 320

NUMBER OF FUNERALS (ACCORDING TO 2021 RETURN)

KILMARONOCK GARTOCHARN 8 LOMOND 0

Parish Statistics:

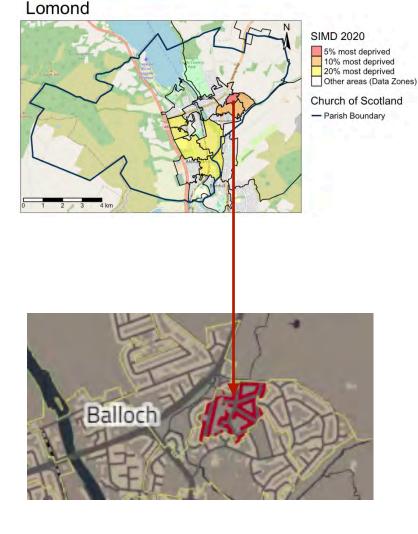
Kilmaronock Gartocharn

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/181205.pdf

Lomond

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/181227.pdf

Deprivation Statistics (Most deprived 5%):





E3 - Bonhill and Renton Trinity

2021 MEMBERSHIP

BONHILL 334 RENTON TRINITY 130

NUMBER OF FUNERALS (ACCORDING TO 2021 RETURN)

BONHILL 14
RENTON TRINITY 8

Parish Statistics:

Bonhill

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/181179.pdf

Renton Trinity

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parishprofiles/181213.pdf

Buildings Rationale

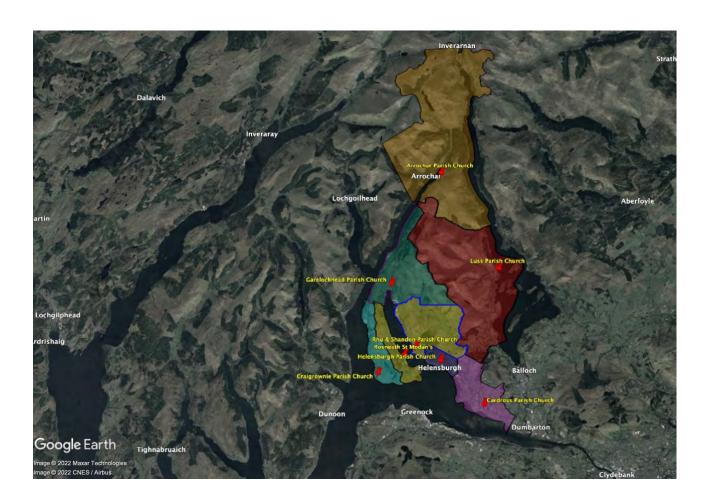
Comments and suggestions have been included in the Highlights and Potentials section of this cluster.

AMBA Scores

Building; Church only or Church With Adjoining Hall	Minimum Standards Church Score	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	Location Assessment Score	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	TOTAL	As a Percentage of Total Available Score
Lomond Parish Church	54	83%	44	85%	98	84%
Dumbarton Riverside	53	82%	39	75%	92	79%
Bonhill	46	71%	42	81%	88	75%
Renton Trinity	48	74%	39	75%	87	74%
Dumbarton St Andrew's	54	83%	29	56%	83	71%
Dumbarton West Kirk	47	72%	36	69%	83	71%
Gartocharn Parish Church	40	62%	29	56%	69	59%

Cluster F

Arrochar, Cardross, Craigrownie, Garelochhead, Helensburgh, Luss, Rosneath, Rhu and Shandon



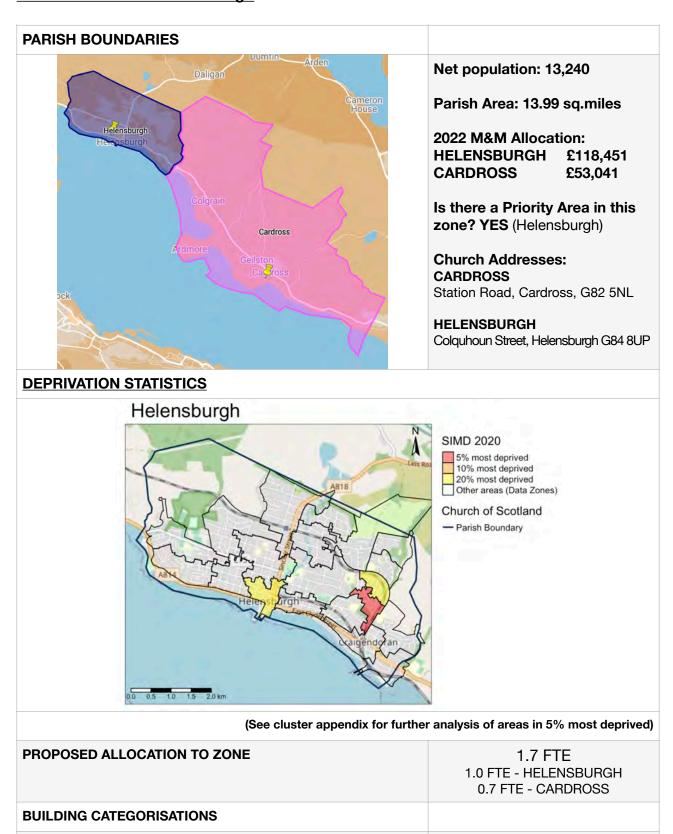
Net Population: 20,174

Parish Area: 160.55 sq. miles Current Allocation: 4.4 FTE Proposed Allocation: 3.4 FTE

Priority Areas within Cluster

Helensburgh*
* Denotes Supplementary List

F1 - Cardross and Helensburgh



CARDROSS

HELENSBURGH

Α

Α

(See cluster appendix for buildings rationale)

Cardross

The facilitators were very impressed with the congregation's desire to: LOOK UP (Worship), LOOK IN (Nurture) and LOOK OUT (Mission and Outreach).

The congregation of Cardross have made strong and meaningful connections with the local schools and a number of local community groups as well as maintaining ecumenical relationships.

Their Mission Audit clearly demonstrates a concern for the community and the planet as well as the centrality of Worship through a variety of initiatives.

It was very clear from our conversations that the Minister of Cardross offers a lot more than the time to be expected of a 0.7 FTE and is happy to do so. We were pleased to note that this is recognised and greatly appreciated by Cardross office bearers.

The congregation of Cardross acknowledge humbly recognise that there is always work to be done, but they have clearly demonstrated a willingness and determination to grow Christ's Kingdom in this locale.

Helensburgh

Since 2015, Helensburgh Parish Church has been the sole Church of Scotland congregation in the town following a series of unions. It is currently linked with Rhu & Shandon Parish Church, with whom they have shared a Ministry Team until the recent demission of Rev David Young and the retirement of Rev Tina Kemp.

Helensburgh Parish Church have dedicated a lot of energy and resources into providing an array of opportunities to welcome people into their very impressive suite of buildings. With committed teams and staff, Helensburgh offer a plethora of worship styles, outreach initiatives and opportunities for Christian education as well as a variety of social/fundraising events.

In the course our discussions, it was brought to our attention that Rhu and Shandon saw the linkage with Helensburgh more as 'a marriage of convenience' and felt that they would be better suited working closer with the Lochside congregations. It is for this reason that an alternative configuration has been explored in F3.

Recommendations

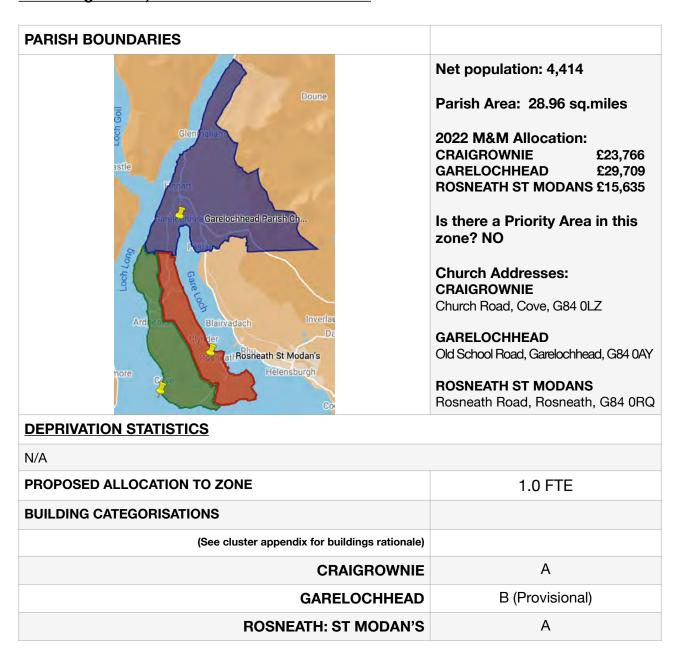
It is the view of the committee that Cardross should retain a 0.7 FTE allocation.

We propose that the linkage between Helensburgh and Rhu & Shandon be severed to allow Rhu & Shandon to form a union with Arrochar and Luss and call a Minister on a 0.7 FTE basis (see F3).

We recommend that Helensburgh's current allocation of 2.0 FTE be reduced to 1.0 FTE.

While there will be an understandable disappointment in the reduction of Ministry allocation from 2 to 1 in Helensburgh, we have every confidence that locally appointed and financed staffing would be possible if required. We also hope that the opportunity to 'focus' on Helensburgh without the additional administration and Parish commitments of a linkage will counter some of this disappointment.

F2 - Craigrownie, Garelochhead and Rosneath



The sacrificial giving of the congregations which make up the Lochside Churches, coupled with support from Presbytery allows them to employ a full time Family Worker, whose work underpins a lot of the mission work that goes on in this area.

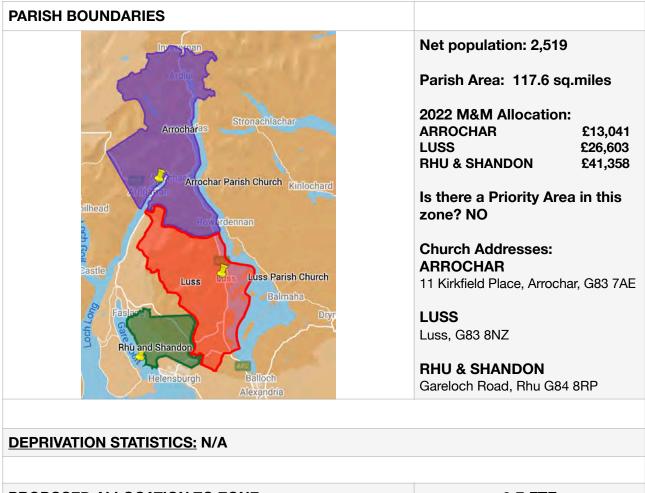
The committee were delighted to read of the initiatives that are underway and wish the congregations every blessing in their work that they continue to undertake alongside the work that goes into Worship and Christian education.

It is proposed that a union between Garelochhead, Craigrownie and Rosneath should proceed to reduce the administration of three Kirk Sessions with an allocation of 1.0 FTE, which all three Kirk Sessions are in full agreement with.

This process may not be completed until after essential repair works are costed at Garelochhead. Our Presbytery Buildings Officer met with a consultant on 24th Oct to progress a tendering exercise in order to determine a cost effective solution. It is for this reason that Garelochhead has been categorised as B (Provisional).

The committee also affirms the work of the Family Worker, Rhona Knight, as well as the support given by the congregations and Presbytery to make Rhona's role possible.

F3 - Arrochar, Luss and Rhu & Shandon



PROPOSED ALLOCATION TO ZONE	0.7 FTE
BUILDING CATEGORISATIONS	
(See cluster appendix for buildings rationale)	
ARROCHAR	Α
LUSS (CHURCH BUILDING ONLY)	А
LUSS BUILDINGS (ALL EXCLUDING CHURCH)	В
RHU & SHANDON	А

It is proposed that these three congregations should work towards a union and to call a Minister on a 0.7 FTE basis.

With support, a basis of union will need to be prepared that allows for the village identities to be maintained and for the missional opportunities afforded to Arrochar and Luss owing to their Lochside location to be discerned and designed.

With a similar population size to Cardross, we feel that this is a fair distribution of Ministry. While we acknowledge that Arrochar and Luss have a different 'identity' to Rhu & Shandon owing to their rural locations, we feel that this is an opportunity to undertake mission across three communities with a collective will to enter into a new future. With close relationships to local schools, we feel that a 'critical mass' amongst the three congregations as well as the resources available will allow for many new mission initiatives to bud and bloom.

We would encourage the congregations to welcome the services of Rev Ian Millar, OLM to the Arrochar area, in order that the parish area can be covered more effectively as well as making use of the Worship leaders from within the congregations. We feel that this additional support will be of great interest to a prospective minister who may wish to discern a call to this area.

Buildings

Although Arrochar has scored as '**red**' in AMBA (by 1%), our Presbytery Buildings Officer describes the building to be in generally good condition. He has since engaged with a consultant to review works needed for Arrochar and to price an initial tender exercise.

NOTE: Accessible toilet facilities is an issue that needs to be addressed.

With Luss scoring as 'red' in AMBA for both the sanctuary and halls (55% and 56% respectively), it is recommended that only the Sanctuary remains category A with all other buildings (including the Beadle's Cottage) to be designated as Category B.

It is anticipated that the proceeds of the disposal of Luss' Manse, Glebe and Halls would be used (in the first instance) to contribute to the purchase a new Manse for the united congregation in a location to be determined by the united charge with the residue being used to make sensitive alterations to the Luss Sanctuary in order that it may be a more accessible and flexible space to welcome tourists and pilgrims throughout the week and not just on a Sunday.

Note: Accessible toilet facilities is an issue that needs to be addressed.

Cluster F Appendix - Supplementary Data

F1 - Cardross and Helensburgh

2021 MEMBERSHIP

CARDROSS 333 HELENSBURGH 731

NUMBER OF FUNERALS (ACCORDING TO 2021 RETURN)

CARDROSS 31 HELENSBURGH 7

LINKS TO STATS FOR MISSION

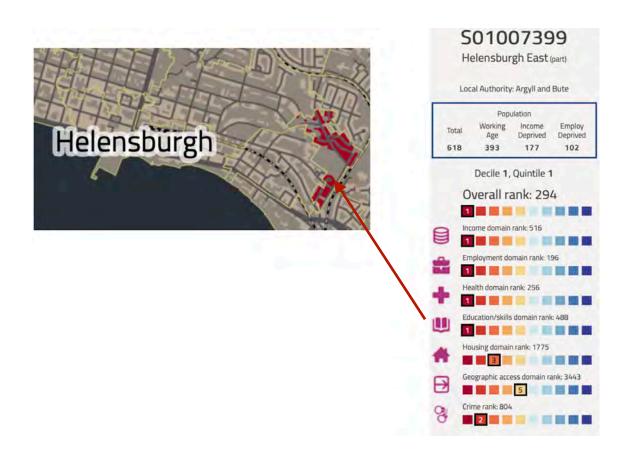
CARDROSS

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181180.pdf

HELENSBURGH

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181225.pdf

DEPRIVATION STATISTICS (Most Deprived 5%)



F2 - Craigrownie, Garelochhead, Rosneath: St Modans'

2021 MEMBERSHIP

CRAIGROWNIE 129
GARELOCHHEAD 118
ROSNEATH: ST MODAN'S 76

NUMBER OF FUNERALS (ACCORDING TO 2021 RETURN)

CRAIGROWNIE 5
GARELOCHHEAD 7
ROSNEATH: ST MODAN'S 6

LINKS TO STATS FOR MISSION

CRAIGROWNIE

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181188.pdf

GARELOCHHEAD

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181198.pdf

ROSNEATH ST MODAN'S

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181215.pdf

F2 - Arrochar, Luss and Rhu & Shandon

2021 MEMBERSHIP

ARROCHAR 53 LUSS 79 RHU & SHANDON 149

NUMBER OF FUNERALS (ACCORDING TO 2021 RETURN)

ARROCHAR 4 LUSS 4 RHU & SHANDON 1

LINKS TO STATS FOR MISSION

ARROCHAR

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181175.pdf

LUSS

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181206.pdf

RHU & SHANDON

https://cos.churchofscotland.org.uk/church-finder/data/statistics/parish-profiles/181214.pdf

Cluster AMBA Scores

Building; Church only or Church With Adjoining Hall	Minimum Standards Church Score	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	Location Assessment Score	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	TOTAL	As a Percentage of Total Available Score
Helensburgh Parish Church	57	88%	39	75%	96	82%
Craigrownie Parish Church	47	72%	42	81%	89	76%
Garelochhead Church	50	77%	35	67%	85	73%
Rhu & Shandon	48	74%	36	69%	84	72%
Rosneath St Modans Church	45	69%	37	71%	82	70%
Cardross	43	66%	32	62%	75	64%
Arrochar Parish Church	38	58%	31	60%	69	59%
Luss Parish Church	36	55%	28	54%	64	55%
Building; Separate Hall on Same Site as Church	Minimum Standards Hall Score (Same Site)	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	Location Assessment Hall (Same Site)	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	TOTAL	As a Percentage of Total Available Score
Rosneath St Modans Hall	49	75%	37	71%	86	74%
Luss Parish Church Hall	37	57%	28	54%	65	56%
Building; Separate Hall on Separate Site	Minimum Standards Hall Score (Separate Site)	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	Location Assessment Hall (Separate Site)	As a Percentage of Total Available Score	TOTAL	As a Percentage of Total Available Score
Cardross Hall	50	79%	22	71%	72	77%

<u>Summary of Proposed Ministry Allocations and Building Determinations</u>

Α

CLUSTER A: 6.0 FTE MWS

A1 Port Glasgow

1.0 FTE MWS

Port Glasgow New Church

A2 Greenock: Wellpark Mid Kirk, and Mount Kirk, Port Glasgow: Bardrainney

2.0 FTE MWS

Wellpark Mid Kirk A

Hamilton Bardrainney B Provisional

Mount Kirk linked with East End A

East End RENTED (N/A)

Linkage to be formed between Greenock: Wellpark Mid Kirk and Port Glasgow: Bardrainney

A3 Greenock: Westburn, Lyle Kirk, and St Margaret's

1.0 FTE MWS

Westburn B
Lyle Kirk (Union St) A
St Margaret's A
Lyle Kirk (Newark St) B
Lyle Kirk (Esplanade) B

Union of 3 charges with 2 buildings between Westburn, Lyle Kirk and St Margaret's

A4 Greenock: St Ninian's, Gourock: Old Gourock and Ashton, St John's, Inverkip, Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay

2.0 FTE MWS

Old Gourock & Ashton A
St Ninians B
Gourock St John's A
Inverkip A
Skelmorlie & Wemyss Bay A

The long term proposal is for a single congregation in Gourock and one ministry to the villages.

Greenock: St Ninian's: Possibly a Local Mission Church through union with Old Gourock and Ashton (if General Trustees were to assume responsibility of the buildings), otherwise dissolution is recommended.

CLUSTER B: 12.0 FTE MWS

B1 Bishopton, Erskine, Inchinnan and Renfrew

4.0 FTE MWS

Bishopton (Church)

Bishopton (Cornerstone Centre)

A

Erskine

A

Inchinnan

A

Renfrew North

B

Renfrew Trinity

A

Parish boundaries are adjusted so that the whole of Erskine becomes the parish of Erskine. Union between Inchinnan and Renfrew North.

Parish of Renfrew: Trinity extended to take North of M8 from Paisley North (Gallowhill).

B2 Houston, Bridge of Weir, Kilmacolm, Langbank

3.0 FTE MWS

Houston and Killellan Church and Halls
Langbank Church and Halls
A
BoW: Freeland Church and Halls
BoW: St Machar's Ranfurly Church
B
Kilmacolm: Old Church and Halls
Kilmacolm St Columba Church and Halls
B

Houston & Killellan: Union with Langbank (Langbank becomes Local Mission Church)

Bridge of Weir: Union of Freeland and St Machar's Ranfurly

Kilmacolm: Union of Old and St Columba

B3 Kilbarchan & Howwood

1.0 FTE MWS

Kilbarchan A Howwood A

Linkage in first instance.

Deferred union upon translation, demission, or retirement of Kilbarchan minister. Both buildings to be retained.

B4 Elderslie & Johnstone

2.0 FTE MWS

Elderslie A
Johnstone High B
St Pauls A
St Andrew's Trinity A

Union between Elderslie & Johnstone: High Union between St Paul's and St Andrew's Trinity,

St Andrew's Trinity building to be retained but reviewed at end of plan life.

B5 Barrhead: Bourock, Barrhead: St Andrews and Neilston 2.0 FTE MWS Barrhead: Bourock **B** Provisional **B** Provisional Barrhead: St Andrew's Neilson (Church) B Provisional **B** Provisional Neilson (Halls) Union of all 3 charges retaining one building in Barrhead and one building in Neilston. **C CLUSTER:** 5.5 FTE MWS (inc. 1.5 FTE Transition Ministry Posts) + 1.0 FTE MDS Pioneer Ministry C1 & C2 Paisley: Abbey, Paisley: North and Paisley: Oakshaw Trinity 1.5 FTE MWS (1.0 MWS + 0.5 Transition) + 1.0 FTE MDS (Pioneer) Abbey Α Α Oakshaw Trinity В Paisley North Abbey: 0.5 FTE Transition Ministry Discussions with GTs, Renfrewshire Council, Historic Scotland etc to determine best way North and Oakshaw Trinity (Local Ecumenical Partnership): Union with Paisley: North. Parish boundaries to be re-evaluated. 1.0 FTE MWS (Minister of Oakshaw Trinity) to manage 1.0 FTE MDS (Pioneer Ministry Post) for Ferguslie Park. C3 Paisley South 1.0 FTE MWS Paisley South Α C4 Paisley St Georges 1.0 FTE MWS Paisley: St George's (Stow Brae) Glenburn Church and Halls (Community Outreach) B (Provisional) C5 Sherwood Greenlaw & St Marks Oldhall 1.0 FTE MWS St Mark's Oldhall **B** Provisional **B** Provisional Sherwood Greenlaw **Deferred Union** Upon re-evaluation of parish boundaries, Sherwood Greenlaw may be asked to absorb

Gallowhill area (Currently in Paisley: North [East of Renfrew Road])

C6 Linwood and Paisley West

1.0 FTE Transition Ministry

Paisley West (Previously Martyrs Church) **B** Provisional Paisley West (St Columba's Foxbar Halls) **B** Provisional

Linwood

Paisley West and Linwood: Union with Linwood becoming Local Mission Church

CLUSTER D: 8 FTE MWS + 0.5 FTE MDS

D1 Bearsden

3.0 MWS

Killermont A Westerton B

New Kilpatrick A
Bearsden Cross B

Baljaffray A St Luke's B

Union between Killermont and Westerton.

Union between Bearsden Cross and New Kilpatrick.

Baljaffray and St Luke's congregation. Parish redistributed to keep St Luke's parish in town of Milngavie (to be divided between Cairns and St Paul's)

D2 Milngavie

2.0 FTE MWS

Cairns A

St Pauls A
Baldernock B

Union between St Paul's and Baldernock.

Note: Long term plan is single ministry and one single site in Milngavie

D3 Faifley, Duntocher, Clydebank and Dalmuir

3.0 FTE MWS + 0.5 FTE MDS

Faifley A Duntocher Trinity B

Waterfront B Provisional

Radnor Park B

Kilbowie St Andrew's B Provisional

Dalmuir Barclay A

Old Kilpatrick Bowling B Provisional

Union between Kilbowie: St. Andrew's, Radnor Park and Clydebank: Waterfront

(Union to call a minister on unrestricted tenure)

Union between Duntocher Trinity and Clydebank: Faifley Union between Dalmuir: Barclay and Old Kilpatrick Bowling

(Dalmuir Barclay and Old Kilpatrick Bowling should be allowed to call a minister on unrestricted tenure)

The current two 50% MDS posts are to continue until all 3 of the new charges are filled **and** for at least a year after that point.

These posts to be expanded to include people from across Clydebank.

A single 0.5 MDS is to remain as part of plan with Presbytery to prioritise available funds where possible to funding an additional 0.5 post.

CLUSTER E:

3 FTE MWS (inc. 1 Transition Ministry Post) + 0.6 FTE MDS Children & Family Worker

E1 Dumbarton

1.0 FTE MWS and 0.6 FTE MDS Children & Family worker

Riverside B Provisional West Kirk B Provisional St Andrew's B Provisional

Union between all three congregations

E2 - Bonhill, Renton, Lomond and Kilmaronock Gartocharn

1.0 FTE MWS, 1.0 FTE Transitional Minister.

Lomond A Kilmaronock Gartocharn B

Bonhill B Provisional B Provisional B Provisional

Union between Lomond and Kilmaronock Gartocharn

Bonhill and Renton – Linkage with Transition Ministry post with a long-term view to creating one church with two ministers in the Vale of Leven.

A detailed job description to be created for Transition Ministry post.

CLUSTER F: 3.4 FTE MWS

F1 Helensburgh, and Cardross

1.7 FTE MDS

Helensburgh 1.0 FTE A
Cardross 0.7 FTE A

Helensburgh to reduce from 2.0 to 1.0 FTE. Cardross to remain 0.7 FTE MWS.

F2 - Garelochhead, Craigrownie, St Modan's, Arrochar Rhu, Shandon, and Luss

1.7 FTE MWS

Garelochhead B Provisional

Rosneath St Modan's A
Craigrownie A

Arrochar A
Rhu & Shandon A
Luss (Church) A
Remainder of Luss Estate (inc. Beadle's Cottage) B

Union of Garelochhead, Craigrownie & Rosneath: St Modan's to form Lochside Union with locally funded family worker to remain (maintaining financial support from Presbytery). Union of Arrochar, Rhu & Shandon and Luss with 0.7 FTE (+ support from local OLM)

