

The Presbytery of Melrose and Peebles

Report of the Presbytery Plan Implementation Committee

4th May 2021

April has been a very busy month for the congregations at Galashiels, Caddonfoot and Stow & Heriot. We have held the congregational voting for the union of the Galashiels churches and the linking of Stow & Heriot with Caddonfoot. The voting from the three Galashiels congregations was overwhelmingly in favour of the union and both Stow & Heriot and Caddonfoot congregations were overwhelmingly in favour of the linking. With this in mind, the implementation committee is bringing these two bases of adjustment for Presbytery approval.

We have also received concurrence from the Presbytery Planning Task Group at 121 with regard to the linking of Ashkirk and Selkirk with Ettrick & Yarrow. We are now in position to intimate concurrence and to set the date of linking which will be today's date namely 4th May 2021.

We are now very close to completing the work on the six bases of adjustment we have underway. The seventh basis of adjustment is the linking of Channelkirk & Lauder with Earlston. We hope that we shall be able to begin this work later this year.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the congregations involved in the six bases of adjustment for their patience in what was a much more time-consuming process and for the high levels of participation in the congregational voting. It was very encouraging to see that people took the time and trouble to vote and had an interest in the future of their local church.

Deliverance:

1. Presbytery receives the report.
2. Presbytery intimates the concurrence from the Presbytery Planning Task Group on the basis of linking of Ashkirk, Ettrick and Yarrow and Selkirk and sets the date of linking to be 4th May 2021.
3. Presbytery receives the report on the congregational votes and approves the linking of Caddonfoot and Stow St Mary of Wedale and Heriot.
4. Presbytery receives the report on the congregational votes and approves the union of Galashiels: Old Parish & St Paul's, Galashiels: St John's and Galashiels: Trinity.

David Brackenridge

Convener, Presbytery Plan Implementation Committee