

CANDIDATING FOR ORDAINED MINISTRY

G.20 ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE ON ASSESSED WORSHIP SERVICES IN LIGHT OF COVID19 2020-2021

1. INTRODUCTION

- Document C. 3.1 outlines the requirements for assessed worship services as part of the candidating process
- This guidance in its entirety still stands.
- So all involved in supporting candidates are encouraged to do everything possible to enable them to lead two different acts of public worship in different contexts and for these to be assessed as outlined in C.3.1 and C.3.
- It is however recognised that there is uncertainty in 2020 about when public worship in churches will be back to normal. Candidates and circuits are therefore advised not to try to hold these services too soon, because it would be preferable for them to be public worship in physical form.

2. ADJUSTMENTS WHICH MAY BE NECESSARY FOR 2020-2021

- If it becomes apparent that it will be absolutely impossible for physical services of public worship to be held and assessed by the deadline date, then circuits need to find other ways for candidates to lead a service and to preach (as appropriate), and ways for this to be assessed.
- It is recommended that this is done in churches which are already experienced in virtual ways of worshipping.
- Please ensure that the team of assessors are given opportunities to become familiar with the technology well in advance of the service.
- Candidates also need to be helped to become familiar with the technology and to know what is possible for them to do.
- Assessors are asked to think as widely as possible to make the assessment as full as it can possibly be. So, for example, they may need to identify congregation members who are part of the service in advance so that they can arrange to speak to them after the service to gain their reactions.
- There still need to be two acts of worship in two different contexts, one of which should be outside the circuit or at least in a context that is not familiar to the candidate.

3. REPORTING

- Assessors are asked to indicate what discussions were held in the circuit around preparing for the assessed services and how the decisions were made to identify the actual services to be led by the candidate.
- Please ensure that a full description of the situation and context of the service is included on form C.3. Please make sure that this includes a description of any limitations.

- If areas of assessment have been impossible to judge because of the virtual nature of the service, please explain this clearly on the form. District and Connexional committees will need to know if an area was missed by the candidate or whether it was simply impossible for it to be judged due to the circumstances.
- Superintendents, those assessing the services and candidates who are unclear about any aspect of the setting up of assessed services are asked to contact the District Candidates' Secretary.