

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL29 JUNE 2022Report by Director of Business Operations and PartnershipsKIRKING OF THE COUNCIL**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To seek approval of proposals for the Kirking of the Council service.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. It is recommended that:-
  - (a) the Council agree that the service be held in St Andrews Parish Church on 4 September 2022; and
  - (b) delegated authority be granted to the Director of Business Operations and Partnerships to make the appropriate arrangements.

**REPORT**

3. At the meeting of the Council on 11 September 1996, when considering a request from the Eastwood Branch of ACTS (Action of Churches together in Scotland), it was agreed that it would be appropriate to hold a Kirking of the Council service at the outset of each new council hosted by one of the various religions/faiths in the area.
4. Following that decision, multi-denominational services have been held at the Baptist Church in Newton Mearns (1999); the Bourock Church in Barrhead (2003); the synagogue in Giffnock (2007); St John's Parish Church in Barrhead (2012); and St Aidan's Episcopal Church in Clarkston (2017).
5. Taking account of where previous Kirking of the Council services have taken place and following discussions with the Provost, Leader and Deputy Leader and the minister at St Andrews Parish Church, it is proposed that arrangements the kirking service take place on Sunday 4 September. The estimated cost would be £500 which can be met from the civic hospitality budget. If approved, Members Services would work with the church to finalise the arrangements.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

6. It is recommended that:-

- (a) the Council agree that the service be held in St Andrews Parish Church on 4 September 2022; and
- (b) delegated authority be granted to the Director of Business Operations and Partnerships to make the appropriate arrangements.

Local Government (Access to information) Act 1985.

Report Author

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Background papers

none