

**BASIS OF LINKING**  
**Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend Church and Stepps Parish Church**

The congregation of Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend Church of Scotland (SC016862) (“Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend”) and the congregation of Stepps Parish Church of Scotland, Stepps, (SC014212) (“Stepps”) shall be linked as from 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024 and that on the following terms and conditions:

1. **Transference of Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of each congregation shall remain the property and funds of each congregation as at present.
2. **Places of Worship:** Both churches at present used and occupied by the congregations shall be the places of worship of the linked congregations. Services shall be conducted in Stepps at 10.00am and in Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend church at 11.30am each Sunday.
3. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the linked charge shall be the parishes of Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend and Stepps or as the Presbytery shall determine.
4. **Kirk Session:** The Minister of the linked charge shall be the Moderator of each Kirk Session. The Kirk Sessions will meet together at least once each year.
5. **Congregational Management:** The temporal affairs of each congregation shall be administered as at present. The office-bearers of the congregations shall meet annually to decide on their portion of the contribution to stipend and related expenses, listed expenses and maintenance of the manse, as may be agreed from time to time by the office-bearers and subject to the approval of the Presbytery.
6. **Minister:** The charge presently being vacant shall call a minister in the usual manner.
7. **Manse:** The manse of Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend shall be the manse of the linked congregations. The free proceeds of the sale of the former Ruchazie manse falling within the scope of The Church of Scotland General Trustees (Properties, Funds And Endowments) Act (Act V) 2024 shall (a) be set against all shortfalls in contributions by the congregation of Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend to central funds to the extent that these are, or shall be, declared by the Presbytery to be unjustified in terms of Schedule 3 Section 19, (b) be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund or (c) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of Garthamlock, Ruchazie and Craigend congregation.
8. **Ministerial Support:** The stipend of the minister shall be payable in terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
9. **Power to Readjust:** While these articles and terms shall form the Basis of Linking for the congregations now linking, the linked congregations shall be free like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under the authority of Presbytery as need may arise.