

Issues for Kirk Sessions

In the responses there were repeated suggestions that the following are important:

- The need to be flexible in building provision while recognising the primacy of worship.
- The requirement for technological installation in the same way as electric light and central heating were first introduced.
- The physical environment may act either as a barrier or as a tool to welcome people and engage in mission.
- The spiritual atmosphere of worship must not be lost by creating anonymous 'spaces' rather than places where God's people gather.
- Changes need to be realistic so that the building accommodates appropriate numbers.
- The maintenance cost of a building should figure prominently in any plans for alterations.
- Convenient parking.
- Making the place welcoming to all on more than a Sunday basis.
- The need for flexibility in the sense of providing large and small more intimate spaces for different styles and forms of worship. Making it easier to be inclusive and appealing.
- The fact that there is strong resistance to change and that the alterations have to be supported by the congregation and 'owned by them'.
- The fear of the closure of a building leading to the discouragement of involvement in the church as a whole.

Note CARTA Quick Guides and other information may be obtained from...

<https://www.resourcingmission.org.uk/carta/resources>