

(For all those wishing to serve as a Local Preacher or whom the Methodist Conference has otherwise directed to complete this declaration)

Declaration in relation to sexual offences against children and young people

The Methodist Conference has directed that in accordance with Standing Order 010, that all those who wish to serve as Local Preachers (or who have been asked to undertake certain specified responsibilities) should complete a declaration concerning certain offences against children and young people under the age of 18.

Because of the nature of the church community, in which children and young people are often present and always welcome, the provisions of Section 4(2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 do not apply by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975 as amended by the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) (Amendments) Order 1986. Office holders are therefore not entitled to withhold information about convictions or cautions which for other purposes are considered 'spent'.

The relevant offences fall into the following categories:

- Sexual offences against a child or young person
- Taking or possession of indecent photographs of children or young people
- Possession or distribution of pornographic material involving children

A list of the offences covered is in Safeguarding (see page 35) and a copy is held by the circuit superintendent. (The new Schedule 4 of the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 applies here - details on the website.)

Anyone wishing to serve as a local preacher (or who has been asked to undertake one of the specified responsibilities) who is unable to make this declaration and who would like a pastoral conversation should contact their superintendent minister.

Office	Home address
Term of office	
Circuit	
Full name	Postcode
	Date of birth

Declaration	
I have never been convicted of a sexual offence against a child or young person, nor have I ever received a police caution concerning such an offence.	
Signed	Date