

# SHEFFIELD METHODIST DISTRICT

## DISTRICT LEADING TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES



### DISTRICT LEADING TEAM MEMBERSHIP

The District Leading Team (“DLT”) exists to serve, guide and co-ordinate the life of the district. Its members are the legal and managing trustees of the district.

Membership of the District Leading Team comprises:

- Members mandated by Methodist Standing Orders
  - Chair of district
  - Synod secretary
  - Representative to Methodist Council
- Other ex-officio members
  - Treasurer
  - Deputy chair of district
- Up to six other members bringing relevant skills and experience

Members of DLT are chosen to meet individually and collectively the person specification below.

### WAYS OF WORKING

We anticipate that DLT will meet six times each year for regular meetings, plus two additional half day gatherings focussed on shaping longer term visions and plans. Members of the DLT are expected to be actively involved in implementing decisions between meetings.

We seek to make DLT membership accessible to people employed other than by churches, and so regular meetings will likely be on weekday evenings and half day meetings at weekends. We anticipate a blend of Zoom and physically gathered meetings to optimise quality of discussion, efficient use of time and minimise environmental impact.

Urgent decisions between meetings, where unavoidable, are made by email correspondence between DLT members.

District staff, district officers, Learning Network officers, circuit officers and others are invited to join part or full DLT meetings as non-voting attendees where their input is required for particular agenda items.

DLT agendas, papers and minutes are circulated to superintendents as a matter of routine, to keep DLT connected to the life of our circuits.

Regular meetings will focus in turn on one of the six For Such A Time As This strategic themes as the biggest part of their agenda, so that each is addressed in detail each year. This focus will involve reviewing progress and setting targets and plans for implementation over the coming year.

DLT members should have completed Advanced Safeguarding training, or complete this promptly after starting in post (usually within six months). We take the safety of everyone within the church very seriously and expect that everyone will work within the District safeguarding policy. In particular, the District expects anyone who becomes aware of a safeguarding risk or of actual abuse, to immediately raise this with the Chair of District or District Safeguarding Officer.

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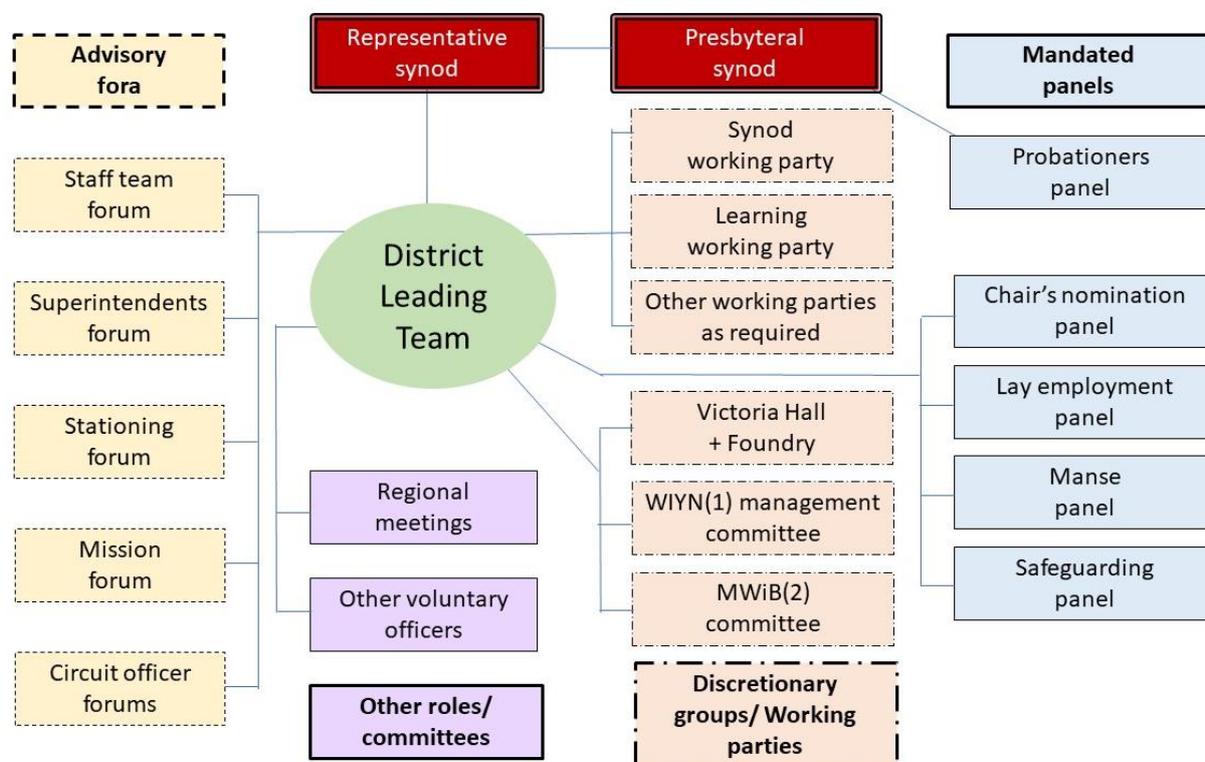
Other recurring DLT responsibilities include:

- Awarding of property and employment grants
- Oversight of district finances
- Responding to requests concerning significant events in the life of our district (e.g. opening/closing of churches, significant property redevelopments, permission for lay members to preside at holy communion)
- Approval of changes to district staffing
- Co-ordination of the work of district panels, discretionary groups, working parties and officers

We aim for district governance which is:

- Lean – reducing time spent on routine matters and removing duplication of effort
- Robust – with a diversity of voices and strong expertise integrated into decision-making
- Focussed on implementing *for such a time as this*
- Dynamic – responsive to changing circumstances

## WIDER DISTRICT GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



(1) Who Is Your Neighbour?

(2) Methodist Women In Britain

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## COLLECTIVE PEOPLE SPECIFICATION FOR DISTRICT LEADING TEAM

Proven ability required within the team (i.e. not from all members):

- Leading and managing change
- Identifying and pursuing continuous improvements in processes and systems
- Practical experience of evangelism in contemporary culture
- Maintaining oversight of strategic or operational changes and their implementation by others
- Intentionally leading growth in depth and numbers of disciples in a church context
- Promoting and sharing best practice in leading of contextual worship

Knowledge & skills required within the team (i.e. not from all members):

- Using detailed understanding of Methodist CPD as a permissive document
- Expertise in discipleship and missional models
- Knowledge of current Connexional priorities and strategies (including Evangelism & Growth strategy) and understanding of how these apply to our context
- Understanding of digital culture and its implications for discipleship, worship and mission

Qualities and aptitudes required within the team (i.e. not from all members):

- Advocacy for the importance of evangelism (inviting new people into relationship with Christ)
- Creative pioneering spirit able to challenge conventional thinking
- Ability to think theologically with regard to property and finance
- Ability to weigh up alternative options and make strategic choices
- Range of group dynamics roles
- Diversity of:
  - theological perspectives
  - lived experiences
  - ordained, employed and lay ministries within the life of our churches
  - networks and geographical locations

Qualities and aptitudes required of all team members:

- Excited by the opportunities before us in *For Such A Time As This*
- Committed to interpreting, promoting and implementing district strategy for resourcing mission
- Willingness to offer and hear dissenting opinions during discussion, but to embrace collective decisions
- Recognition that the primary mission of the district is in enabling and inspiring missional change through the many people of its membership – *learning, changing, and joining in*
- Able to apply own experiences to support and encourage a range of models and approaches
- Ability to work as a geographically dispersed team
- Commitment to being approachable with regard to the work of the district in their other contexts
- Able to hold confidence and manage conflicts of interest within a Connexional church

## **SHEFFIELD METHODIST DISTRICT DISTRICT LEADING TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES**



Key relationships:

- District staff
- Superintendents
- Circuit stewards
- Other district officers
- Each of our circuits

Whilst needing to be in dialogue with these groups, it is recognised that they are not themselves homogenous, but each contain a diversity of perspectives and contexts.