

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

Our strategy for resourcing your mission 2020-25

LEADING TEAM PROGRESS UPDATE

9 NOVEMBER 2021



Leading Team will this year focus on one strand of our strategy in each meeting. From this we will set related targets and actions for the following 12 months.

This paper sets out progress on key items agreed at previous meetings and other key strategy updates. It only touches on the significant pieces of work with implications across the district or for direction action by Leading Team. Please do say if more (or less) information would be helpful here.

Items for major discussion are set out in separate papers. A full copy of our strategy is available at <https://www.sheffieldmethodist.org/about-us/for-such-a-time-as-this.html>

PASSIONATE CONTEXTUAL WORSHIP

Priorities between now and September 2022 agreed at September 2021 meeting are:

Pooling of WLP tutoring across the district to allow for specialisation, reducing time commitment for tutors, and wider pool of peers and teachers for trainees.	Sean continuing to progress in discussion with Graham Jones (Learning Network) and Bob Bartindale (Connexional WLP Officer). Will take some time to build up and undertake necessary consultations.
Offer recorded online district prayers at moments of significance across the life of the district	A provisional calendar of prayers has been drawn up. Prayers for 3Generate and COP26 have been co-ordinated by Sam, and appear to be generating a strong level of engagement.
Create a hybrid worship community of practice	First gathering not yet arranged – aiming to hold after Christmas given likely seasonal workload for these people.

Recruitment of Worship & Preaching Officer to be discussed separately on agenda.

GROWING DISCIPLES

Victoria Loveday is conducting an audit of children, families and youth work across the district (co-ordinated with an audit being held within Sheffield Circuit), building a more granular understanding of common challenges, opportunities and strengths on planning undertaken for her new role. This will allow us to better tailor support required.

Nurturing leaders has been pencilled in as the theme of our September 2022 synod.

TRANSFORMING MISSION

Following our New Places for New People presentation in September, we have received positive informal feedback from the Evangelism & Growth team, who will be tabling our Connexional funding for approval in November. The project team hope to be in a position to advertise for the pioneer role in December/January.

Invitations have been sent to superintendents to our Mission Forum 10 – 3:30pm on 29 January in Rawmarsh. The purpose of this assembly is to explore the significant positive impact that giving birth to new places for new people could have across our district, what it will take for these to flourish, and to start a conversation about the opportunities before us. Deacon Eunice Attwood from the Connexional Evangelism & Growth team will be joining us to aid our discussions. The forum will comprise District Leading Team, plus at least four leaders from each circuit (including at least one presbyter and one circuit steward).



Outputs from the forum will be discussed at our March meeting.

SIMPLIFYING PROCEDURES

Katrin is making good progress in adding a lay “point of contact” for each church to the new district database. As previously agreed she will next work with these to add people with specific responsibilities to allow for more targeted communications. This is a significant piece of work which will likely take until April to complete, but will give us significantly improved ability to provide relevant information to appropriate people.

PROPERTIES FIT FOR MISSION

Missional Property Enabler – Tom Rattigan has been appointed and started work following a successful recruitment exercise. Tom will continue part time as Building Manager for The Foundry Sheffield alongside this role.

More churches are exploring the Eco Church scheme following September synod, with a good number attending the Eco Church Opening Evening in Sheffield.