

# **STATIONING REPORT FOR THE DISTRICT LEADING TEAM**

## **Sheffield Circuit, September 2023**

### **Background**

The Sheffield Circuit came into existence in September 2013 when 8 circuits amalgamated. In September 2021 the Circuit Meeting requested a review of the Superintendency which led to the appointment of Revd Romeo Pedro in September 2022 as sole Superintendent. It was strongly felt that he was the right person to lead and re-shape the Circuit to meet the changing needs and patterns of ministry in a post Covid environment.

There has been widespread recognition that the Circuit cannot continue to function sustainably in its current format. The Circuit Meeting has tasked the Leadership Team to balance the Circuit's budget and manage resources efficiently and wisely. The collaborative re-shaping of the Circuit has been actively pursued over the last year with input from Circuit Staff, Stewards and Neil Harland whose objectivity during the careful eliciting of missional aspirations has been invaluable.

Following individual conversations with all ministerial and diaconal staff over the last few months, pastoral charge and pastoral care from September 2023 to August 2024 has been organised.

### **Stationing 2024**

In August 2024 the Circuit will lose 2 ministers who are entering the stationing process. It is recommended that the Circuit will not enter stationing this Autumn for the following reasons:

- 1) Following the sessions held with Neil and discussions that have taken place with Circuit Staff, a document has been produced that will be discussed at all Church Councils this September. The document is called 'Casting the net on the other side' based on the Biblical story in John 21:1-6. In other words, when things are not working productively it's time to be brave and try a different approach. A picture of the Circuit with 4 clusters comprising a team of ministers/deacons and lay staff is emerging.
- 2) The process of re-shaping has so far been a collaborative one. The collaboration will now be extended to local churches so that they understand the need for change in the interests of new missional opportunities and financial stability.
- 3) When feedback is received from the churches, the net can be cast out enabling an innovative re-modelling of the Circuit, its staffing and its financial position.

The Circuit therefore asks the Sheffield District to:

- Approve the Circuit's recommendation not to enter Stationing 2024
- Leave open the possibility of future appointments when the Circuit is re-modelled

Revd Romeo Pedro, Superintendent  
Ann Lyons, Chair of Invitations Committee