

# THE METHODIST CHURCH

## BRISTOL DISTRICT

### (The District)

#### JOB DESCRIPTION & PERSON SPECIFICATION

Post

Independent Chair of the Bristol District Safeguarding Group (DSG) of the Methodist Church

Duration

An initial period of 3 years, followed by a review with the option to appoint for a further 3 years

Location

Minimum of three meeting per annum to be held centrally within the District, usually Bristol (or via Zoom/Teams). Attendance at other Safeguarding meetings and/or conferences nationally

Responsible to

The Methodist Church through the Chair of the Bristol District

Responsible for

Chairing of the District Safeguarding Group and ensuring the DSG assists and guides the District and the individual churches within the District on the implementation of The Methodist Church Safeguarding Policy

Compliance with the Church's minimum standards for DSGs

Supporting the District Safeguarding Officer and acting as a critical friend in reviewing district safeguarding action plans

Ensuring the DSG identifies and then implements training needs across the District

To ensure the DSG develops a process of reviewing current practice of safeguarding and becomes a Champion for safeguarding across The District.

To assist in strengthening and broadening the skill and knowledge base of the DSG to include the appointment of Presbyters.

To ensure that the skills base of members of the DSG is maximized to enable the group to carry out its function in an effective manner.

To ensure the DSG supports and implements effective communication with those responsible for safeguarding matters at both Circuit and Church level

To ensure the DSG is conversant with any changes in legislation and/or recommendations from any Public Enquiries or other reviewing bodies.

### **Internal Relationships**

Chair of the Bristol District, DSO, District Policy Committee, Connexional Casework Supervisor and Connexional Safeguarding team.

### **External Relationships**

Safeguarding Agencies in the Public, Private and Voluntary Sectors and other Faith Groups

### **Person Specification**

Independent of the Personnel and Structures of The District

Committed to the principals of implementing an active policy to safeguard both Children and Vulnerable Adults in line with definitions prevailing at any time.

Evidence of current or recent active experience in Safeguarding work ideally within a statutory agency

Sensibility to the challenges of implementing Safeguarding Policies within Faith Communities

Experience of chairing groups of independent professionals

Evidence of good communication skills with a variety of agencies and professionals working in the safeguarding environment

Demonstrate an understanding of people with faith or be a person of faith themselves.

### **Terms and Conditions**

Terms of Appointment – The post is of a self-employed status, the position to be reviewed every three years

### **Remuneration**

A fixed sum of £150 per meeting of The Group, this to cover attendance, pre-reading of papers in advance of meetings, liaison with the District Safeguarding Officer and Chair of District.