

Pre-Shadow Mission Committee

Contact Name and Details	Deacon Myrtle Poxon The Revd Ruth Gee Ms Jude Levermore, Head of Mission levermorej@methodistchurch.org.uk
Background Documents	
Resolutions	42/1. The Council receives the report. 42/2. The Council approves the terms of reference for the Mission Committee as set out in the report.

Introduction

1. At its meeting in January 2021, the Council appointed a pre-shadow Mission Committee (as outlined in paper MC/21/27A), with a view to establishing terms of reference, ways of working, and clarity of reporting and accountability lines with existing committees, including their disestablishment if necessary, for a shadow Mission Committee in order to present these to the 2021 Conference.
2. This pre-shadow committee has met twice. Once for a time of training and induction and once for business.
3. In its training meeting it spent time together in prayer and worship, heard from the Secretary of the Conference and undertook 90 minutes of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training.
4. In its business meeting the Committee considered the draft terms of reference as presented in the October Council paper MC/20/101. It agreed some changes to these and the proposals are set out below.

5. Draft Terms of Reference of the Mission Committee

The Mission Committee will be appointed by the Conference and will usually meet three times per year; one of those meetings will be a two-day meeting.

Purpose

Its primary task will be to ensure the mission and activities of the Methodist Church in Britain are in keeping with the response to Our Calling and agreed priorities. It will enable the Church to take up various aspects of Mission as expressed in Part 10 of Standing Orders. It will explore the challenges and opportunities faced by the Church for mission, local and global, in the multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-faith context that is the society today.

Membership

1. *The Mission Committee will consist of no fewer than 12 and no more than 14 persons, including the Assistant Secretary of the Conference who shall act as convener, and a chair and a deputy chair of the committee. The members of the committee shall comprise both ordained and lay people involved in missional activities in a variety of contexts, with deep consideration given to the diversity of the committee.*
2. *The committee may invite such other observers or consultants, from within and beyond the Connexional Team, as appropriate; for example, Global Relationships Committee (GRC), the Joint Public Issues Team Strategy and Policy Group (JPIT SPG), the Heritage Committee, the Methodist*

Modern Art Collection Management Committee (MMACMC), Fellowship Groups Sub-Committee and, the New Places for New People (NPNP) Guiding Team.

General Responsibilities

3. *In accordance with Standing Orders the Mission Committee shall report to the Methodist Council to enable the Church to develop and maintain a strategic vision for Mission.*
4. *The committee shall be accountable to the Conference through the Council for:*
 - *Overseeing connexional policy regarding mission to ensure the developing and supporting of mission both local and global; challenging the Circuits and Districts to learn from and keep constantly under review the place of One Mission¹; sharing insights and developing vision.*
 - *Setting and overseeing the process for the disbursement of any grants and/or funding as might be available for mission and missional activities, and evaluating the monitoring and learning from this disbursement.*
 - *Developing, supporting and reviewing initiatives for nourishing, equipping, resourcing and accompanying those engaged in the mission of God in the Methodist Church locally and globally.*
5. *The committee may, in consultation with the Methodist Council, report to the Conference on matters of policy or process requiring the attention of the Conference.*
6. *The committee may convene resource groups and may recommend to the Connexional Team or the Methodist Council the establishment of other relevant bodies and consultations. In particular, the committee may receive reports from groups including the Fellowships Subcommittee, the Fresh Expressions Guiding Team, the GRC, the Heritage Committee, the MMAC Management Committee and the NPNP Guiding Team.*
7. *The committee shall keep in view the use of resources that are deployed to deliver prayer, worship, advocacy and learning for mission across the Connexion and make recommendations as appropriate.*
6. The committee discussed membership of the Shadow Mission Committee and reflected that insight and wisdom from a District Chair would be invaluable and an approach has been made to the Chairs' Meeting. It also considered the following names and reasoned statements as presented in appendix 1. The Committee felt that insight from an individual with expertise in heritage for mission would be helpful to the group's thinking and the Chair and Convener were tasked with approaching an appropriate individual and bringing a name to the Council as soon as possible.

*****RESOLUTIONS**

42/1. The Council receives the report.

42/2. The Council approves the terms of reference for the Mission Committee as set out in the report.

¹ Council Paper MC/14/46 - One Mission Working Party: *One Mission should ... recognise that local and global, evangelism and social justice is all one mission, and we are called to serve God in mission where we are, here in Britain, and also across the world. One Mission is not a new creation, but a different perception on the good work that is already happening in different places. Significantly, it is not about eroding the value of the different strands of mission taking part in their various contexts, but about bringing those strands together to form a more unified approach to God's mission.*

Appendix 1

Reasoned statements for the membership of the Shadow Mission Committee

1. Deacon Myrtle Poxon (Chair)

A deacon for over 40 years, with experience of Circuit ministry in Cardiff, Lancashire and London who has served 6 years overseas. She has served the Church as Vice-President of the Conference, Network President, Vice-President of the Methodist Diaconal Order, LWPT Advocate and on various district and connexional committees. She is passionate about enabling the Church to meet the challenges of today and fulfil our mission.

2. Mr Peter Baffoe

Acting director of the South London Mission and has worked as faith and community development officer at the mission since 2010. Member of the Ministries Committee and the Diaconal Order Leadership Group. School Governor of a local primary school and acts as the link governor for diversity and curriculum, as well as being a board member of a housing association and a community foundation.

3. The Revd Anthony J Clowes

Church Planting Officer in the Manchester and Stockport District with a responsibility to develop a district wide 'New Places for New people' project. A Leadership Coach at the Joshua Centre with the Church of England Diocese. A freelance with the United Methodist Church on their Discipleship and Ministries pathway. Previously a Youth Evangelist with the Methodist Church and the Church of England in Liverpool. Former Lead Pastor of the Potters Church in Stoke-on-Trent and was involved with two new local congregations. Has a passion for overseas mission, and through partnership with Compassion UK, led to more than 150 new child sponsorships and two building developments in Ethiopia.

4. The Revd Dr Joanne Cox-Darling

Serving local presbyter, with a strong background in mission and evangelism from both a research and practice basis. Joanne has been involved in grassroots mission, international projects, and national strategic development and oversight. A member of the Methodist Council and a trustee of the Southlands Methodist Trust. Chair of the ecumenical Christian Enquiry Agency.

5. The Revd Dr Laurence Graham

Presbyter in the Methodist Church in Ireland (MCI) and currently stationed as Superintendent of the Dublin Central Mission. General Secretary of World Mission Partnership and Chair of MCI's Pioneer Mission Committee. Member of the Global Relationships Committee and served on the Working Party which led to the 'Future Mission Together' report to the Methodist Conference. A former President of Methodist Church Ireland and a lay agriculturalist Mission Partner in Haiti and Antigua.

6. The Revd Elaine Lindridge

District Evangelism Enabler, who works to support leaders in a wide variety of situations; including rural, inner city, suburban and areas of social deprivation. Elaine has a wealth of experience in encouraging and enabling Mission and Evangelism across the Newcastle upon Tyne District where she serves. She is committed to encouraging Methodists to see evangelism, inclusion, justice and social engagement all as integral parts of the Good News.

7. Mr Isaac Nketiah-Boateng

British Youth Council representative and a member of Longbridge Methodist Church. Isaac is currently studying in Leicester, and his experience of being a young leader will be useful for this role in the Methodist Church.

8. The Revd Rajbharath Patta

Serving in the United Stockport Circuit. Has been involved with Stockport Interfaith engagements, working on programmes like Church at the Marketplace, and in food pantry for schools in addressing holiday

hunger, and working on innovative worships like cafe worships. Has a strong conviction that mission is all about public theological engagements, celebrating Christian presence in the public sphere, in the post-secular British society.

9. Mr Paul Spray

Member of the Global Relationships Committee. A Methodist Local Preacher and a volunteer for the Oxford Winter Night Shelter, so wrestling with issues of mission at a local level. Has worked at a senior level for Christian Aid, the Catholic Institute for International Relations, and the government Department for International Development. Has been awarded a papal knighthood.

10. The Revd Kan Wing-Chit Yu

Being an ordained presbyter with Chinese heritage, Kan serves in the Teddington Circuit and hopes to offer some diversity with her cultural background and make a fruitful contribution to reshape the mission of the Methodist Church, thus making the Jesus' disciples in our multi-ethnic church and beyond. Previously served in the North Kent Circuit for both English and Chinese speaking churches until 2020.

11. Mrs Helen Woodall

Methodist Local preacher. Synod Secretary Birmingham District. Chair of the Connexional Grants Committee 2014-2021. Member Strategy and Resources Committee 2003-2009 and 2014-2021

12. Ms Angela Zamaere Smith

Director of Programmes, and member of the senior leadership team at All We Can. Her role includes setting strategy and developing international development and emergency response programming; leadership of the programmes and partnerships staff team, development of the agency's partnership framework, codifying its approaches, policies and procedures and responsible exiting of some countries/partnerships and scoping, and on-boarding new ones. Member of the Global Relationships Committee.