

This appendix formed part of the report of the Training Review Group which was presented to the Council in April 2017. It is referred to on page 172 of the 2018 Conference Agenda. This is a background paper for the Council, and does not form part of the Council's report to the Conference.

Appendix 3 – a possible model for creation of a learning circuit

The model of an intentional learning church which underpins our thinking leads us to conclude that one means for creation of learning circuits (which could be piloted) is as follows:

- a. circuits adopting this model would appoint at least one person (normally a lay volunteer) as circuit learning co-ordinator to take responsibility for the specific task of nurturing and encouraging education, training and formation across the life of the circuit and of the local churches of which the circuit is comprised;
- c. a connexionally led training programme for circuit learning co-ordinators would be developed and implemented with the possibility that this role would over time develop into a connexional accredited role in parallel to that of local preachers. It would include at least as much theology as the local preachers course, and build on the Church's collective knowledge and experience of tutoring, mentoring and spiritual direction. It would also cover an understanding of the different ways in which people learn as well as issues around developing learning outcomes, monitoring and assessing the effectiveness of learning activities;
- d. the key tasks of the circuit learning officer would include assisting people in the circuit to identify and access learning opportunities, ensuring that learning activities and programmes in the circuit operate effectively, signposting to learning opportunities beyond the circuit, assisting in the identification of training and development needs especially for lay volunteers, and seeking ways of meeting those needs;
- e. there would as a result be a greater focus on collective reflection and discernment within the circuit, in line with the recommended agenda for the Circuit Meeting (CPD 2016, page 778) which begins with 'Conversation on the work of God and the development of circuit policy', the Church Council and the General Church Meeting (CPD, pages 780 and 781). The circuit would therefore develop an annual cycle of reflection and discernment applying to all ministers and all those who hold significant voluntary roles across the Connexion. The process would ideally be linked to supervision and should lead to recommendations on future training and development needs for each individual