

39. Second Report of the Conference Business Committee

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En bloc items

The Business Committee proposes the following items to be taken *en bloc*:

3. Connexional Council part one sections A, C, D, E, H
6. Committee on Methodist Law and Polity part one
7. Trustees for Jersey Methodist Church Purposes
8. Trustees for the Bailiwick of Guernsey Methodist Church Purposes
12. Methodist Schools Appointments
19. Connexional Council part two sections K, L, N
20. Relief and Extension Fund for Methodism in Scotland
21. Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
22. John Wesley's New Room
25. Methodist Schools Property Company: Revision of Articles
26. Methodist Independent Schools Trust: Revision of Articles
27. Referred Memorials and Notices of Motion
34. Stationing Committee
35. All We Can
36. Methodist Ministers' Housing Society
37. Committee on Methodist Law and Polity part two, sections K, L, M, O
38. Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme
42. Ecumenical Report
44. Central Finance Board
45. Trustees for Manx Methodist Church Purposes
55. Necessitous Local Preachers' Fund
56. Methodist Diaconal Order General Report
59. Managing Trustees of Central Hall Westminster
60. Process for the appointment of the Warden of the Methodist Diaconal Order

Under the terms of SO 134A, if Notices of Motion are received about items in the *en bloc* list those items will automatically be removed from the list. In addition, by giving notice to the Assistant Secretary of the Conference, any six members of the Conference may, without proposing an amendment, require that an item be removed from the list and debated. Such notice must be given before the close of business on Monday 1 July (SO 134A(1)(c)).

***RESOLUTION

39/1. The Conference adopted the Report of the Business Committee.

THIRD REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

1. The Business Committee updates the Conference in respect of its membership. The Revds Stephen Radford and Mmasape Thathane-Tyolweni are not members of the Conference and are therefore unable to be members of the Committee. Pursuant to SO 136(1C), the Secretary of the Conference has appointed the Revd Naomi Kaiga and the Revd Richard Byass to the Committee for the 2025 Conference.
2. As set out in paragraph 7 of the first report (page 14), the Conference is required to elect one member of the Business Committee, a lay person, to serve on the Committee for three years (the Conferences of 2026, 2027 and 2028). Following the withdrawal of the Revds Stephen Radford and Mmasape Thathane-Tyolweni, the Conference is also required to elect two ministers to the Committee. Nomination forms are available from the Helpdesk; they should be placed in the ballot boxes by 17:30 on Monday 30 June, with voting taking place on Tuesday 1 July.

3. Paragraph 9 of the First Report sets out the criteria and procedure for requesting that a letter be sent on behalf of the Conference. Members of the Conference are asked, if possible, to email conferenceletterwriter@methodistchurch.org.uk with the details of the request. Where that is not possible, please contact the Help Desk for a request form.
4. The schedule of business has been available on the Conference website and regularly updated. It now shows the current situation. Any Conference member wishing to have a hard copy can obtain one from the Helpdesk.
5. The Committee recommends the use of an electronic voting system for any counted votes.
6. The ballots for the President and Vice-President of the Conference of 2026 and members of the Conference Business Committee will be distributed via email and the elections conducted via an online voting system.
7. Nominees for President and Vice-President of the Conference for 2026 are kindly asked to have their photographs taken, for use in the visual projection during breaks. Nominees are asked to see June Howard-Norman in the Conference Arrangements Team office as soon as possible and no later than the closing times for nominations given in the Agenda page 15. In the event that nominees are not present at the Conference, it would be most helpful if those making the nominations could arrange for nominees' photos to be sent electronically to asc@methodistchurch.org.uk.
8. There are two ballot boxes on each side of the hall. These can all be used at any time on Saturday until 19:00 and from Monday morning onwards for all nomination papers, strictly observing the deadlines given on page 15 of the Agenda.
9. Memorials will be taken as shown in the table below:

Number	Title	Business
M1	The proposed cuts to the UK Aid Budget	En bloc
M2	Overseas Budget	En bloc
M3	Housing	En bloc
M4	Housing	En bloc
M5	Housing	En bloc
M6	Housing	En bloc
M7	Tent of Nations	En bloc
M8	Israel/Palestine	En bloc
M9	Christian Zionism	En bloc
M10	Expediting TMCP Procedures for local churches – discretion at auction	En bloc
M11	Expediting TMCP Procedures for local churches – proforma leaseholder agreement	En bloc
M12	Safeguarding	10. Safeguarding Committee
M13	Safeguarding	10. Safeguarding Committee
M14	Delivery of training modules	10. Safeguarding Committee
M15	Training Accreditation	En bloc
M16	Safeguarding Training	10. Safeguarding Committee
M17	Local Preacher Training	19. Connexional Council, part 2 Section I: Ministries Committee

M18	Training of Local Preachers and Worship Leaders	19. Connexional Council, part 2 Section I: Ministries Committee
M19	Local Preacher and Worship Leader Training	19. Connexional Council, part 2 Section I: Ministries Committee
M20	Ministerial Development Review Process	19. Connexional Council, part 2 Section I: Ministries Committee
M21	Resourcing Administration	23. Connexional Central Services Budget 2025/26
M22	'Don't Buy Into' Report	14. Joint Advisory Committee on the Ethics of Investment

Any recommended reply to a memorial which is the subject of an amending notice of motion will automatically be removed from the en bloc list. A memorial can only be removed from the en bloc list if an alternative reply is proposed by way of a notice of motion.

10. The list of en bloc items of business (page 500) is as printed below:
3. Connexional Council part one sections A, C, D, E, H
 6. Committee on Methodist Law and Polity part one
 7. Trustees for the Bailiwick of Guernsey Methodist Church Purposes
 8. Trustees for Jersey Methodist Church Purposes
 12. Methodist Schools Appointments
 19. Connexional Council part two sections K, L, N
 20. Relief and Extension Fund for Methodism in Scotland
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 42. Ecumenical Report
 44. Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
 45. Trustees for Manx Methodist Church Purposes
 55. Necessitous Local Preachers' Fund
 56. Methodist Diaconal Order General Report
 58. Managing Trustees of Central Hall Westminster
- Memorials to the Conference as listed in paragraph 9 above.

Under the terms of SO 134A, if Notices of Motion are received about items in the en bloc list (including memorials), those items will automatically be removed from the above list. In addition, by giving notice to the Secretary of the Conference (via Jane Bates at batesj@methodistchurch.org.uk) any six members of the Conference may, without proposing an amendment, require that any item, except a recommended reply to a memorial, be removed from the list and debated. Such notice must be given before the close of business on Monday 30 June (SO 134A(1)(c)).

11. The 2024 Conference agreed that as part of the Conference's commitment to inclusion and to ensuring accessibility, it would endeavour to make fuller use of the information collected through the anonymised EDI monitoring forms, to monitor the diversity of those contributing to debates in the Conference. It has not proved possible to enable much more to be done in this area for this year's Conference, so those monitoring our debates from an EDI perspective will continue to note when any such information is volunteered and chart that against the baseline which the data provide. The committee is assured that the Director for Inclusion and others are continuing to work on ways in which more statistical information can be made available for this monitoring. The committee hopes that in future years a more comprehensive form of monitoring might prove possible.

12. Members of the Conference also indicate for the purposes of their badges their preferred pronouns. It is therefore possible for the gender diversity of contributors to debates to be monitored. It is also possible to note whether a speaker is lay or ordained. As it did last year, the Business Committee recommends that the Conference authorises this monitoring this year (enabling a pilot for more extensive monitoring in future years) and that a brief statistical report on the previous day's debates be presented to the Conference each morning.

*****RESOLUTIONS**

B/1. The Conference adopted the Report.

B/2. The Conference adopted the recommendation of the Business Committee in paragraph 12.

THE FOURTH REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The Business Committee advises the Conference that, should the business scheduled for Monday proceed more quickly than the timetable anticipates, business scheduled for Tuesday will be brought forward, subject to any notices of motion that have been submitted. Members of the Conference are reminded that the deadlines for notices of motion are as follows:

Relating to Tuesday's business:	Monday 12:30pm
Relating to Wednesday's business:	Monday 4:30pm
Unrelated to business:	Monday 4:30pm

*****RESOLUTION**

B/3. The Conference adopted the Report.

THE FIFTH REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE [Conference amendment]

The Business Committee recommends to the Conference that votes are taken by a show of hands, as this enables the outcome to be seen clearly. The electronic voting system will be used for any votes that need to be counted.

The deadline for nominations for ministerial members of the Conference Business Committee is extended until 1pm on Tuesday.

*****RESOLUTION**

B/4. The Conference received the Report.

THE SIXTH REPORT FROM THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The Business Committee is mindful of the business yet to be done, and recommends that speeches are reduced to one minute. It further recommends that those wishing to speak on particular items should come to the front of the hall as soon as that item of business is called, and that those next to speak wait at the platform where possible.

Statistical report

Monday 30 June 2025

There was a total of 55 speakers throughout the day of whom 11 spoke more than once. There were 38 ordained speakers and 17 lay.

Statistical Summary

Total Number of Speakers: 55

Presbyters: 36

Deacons: 2

Lay: 17

Gender Breakdown:

Female: 30 (9 lay, 21 ordained)

Male: 22 (7 lay, 15 ordained)
Not Stated: 3 (1 lay, 2 ordained)

Tuesday 1 July 2025

There was a total of 63 speakers throughout the day. There was a total of 22 male speakers, 36 female speakers, 2 non-binary speakers and 3 speakers preferred not to state their gender. There was a total of 9 speakers who spoke more than once. Please note these figures do not include speakers during the 'Conferring on the Justice Priorities; Justice for Refugees and Asylum Seekers' conversation.

Statistical Summary

Total Number of Speakers: 63 Presbyters: 33 (52.4%). Deacons: 3 (4.7%), Lay: 27 (42.9%)

Gender Distribution of Speakers

Female: 36 (57%) Male: 22 (35%) Non-Binary: 2 (3%) Prefer Not Say: 3 (5%)

Lay, Deacon and Presbyter Speakers:

Lay:	Total: 27	(Female: 20	Male: 5	Non Binary: 1	Not Stated: 1)
Deacons	Total: 3	(Female: 3	Male: 0	Non Binary: 0	Not Stated: 0)
Presbyters	Total: 33	(Female: 13	Male: 17	Non Binary: 1,	Not Stated: 2)

*****RESOLUTION**

B/5. The Conference received the Report.