

48. Designations for Appointment of District Chairs

*****RESOLUTIONS**

- 48/1. The Conference designated for appointment the Revd Conrad J Hicks as Chair for the South East District for a period of six years from 1 September 2025.**
- 48/2. The Conference designated for appointment the Revd Dr Rachel Deigh as Chair for the West Midlands District for a period of six years from 1 September 2025.**
- 48/3. The Conference designated for appointment the Revd Faith Nyota as Chair for the London District for a period of two years from 1 September 2025.**
- 48/4. The Conference designated for appointment the Revd Rachel A Bending as Chair for the Channel Islands District, in addition to the Southampton District, for a period of four years from 1 September 2026.**

Reasoned Statements:

The Revd Conrad Hicks

Conrad Hicks is a former Assistant Chair and is currently Superintendent of the Gibraltar Circuit. He therefore brings to the District experience of working in the District and a deep understanding of its missional priorities. He also brings a deep spirituality, an ability to think strategically, more than thirty years of ministerial experience in Circuits in Britain and Ireland, in circuits overseas, and in the Connexional Team. He articulates a future for the District that is informed both by his enthusiasm for God's mission and a profoundly reflective approach to the Methodist tradition of holiness.

The Synod recommends to the Conference that the Revd Conrad Hicks is appointed to serve as Chair for the South East District for a period of six years from September 2025.

The Revd Rachel Deigh

Rachel Deigh is a mission partner in Sierra Leone and offers to the District the experience of 25 years of presbyteral ministry in a wide variety of settings, including as a circuit minister, a Superintendent, and a District Mission and Evangelism Facilitator. She brings an ability to reflect theologically, to articulate a vision for the life of the new District, a collaborative form of leadership, experience in change management, and an understanding of the diversity of the District, all of which are gifts which the committee believes will serve the District well at this critical moment in its life and which will instil confidence and hope into new and emerging arrangements in the District.

The Synods recommend to the Conference that the Revd Dr Rachel Deigh is appointed to serve as Chair for the West Midlands District for a period of six years from September 2025.

The Revd Faith Nyota

Faith Nyota has been Deputy Chair for the London District since 2018 and a Superintendent for 15 years. She offers to the District a clear vision of the needs and opportunities of a complex and diverse District, pastoral sensitivity, a confident handling of the processes of the Church, an ability to work caringly with others, and a model of leadership that is Spirit-led and collaborative. Her ministry is underpinned by a vital spirituality which will enable her to hold the complexities and challenges of an interim role at this point in the District's life.

The Synod recommends to the Conference that the Revd Faith Nyota is appointed to serve as Chair for the London District for a period of two years from September 2025.

The Revd Rachel Bending

The Southampton Synod and Channel Islands Synod recommend to the Conference that the Revd Rachel Bending is appointed Chair for the Channel Islands District, in addition to being Chair for the Southampton District for the remainder of her current invitation as Chair of the Southampton District. The report detailing the arrangement between the two Districts is found elsewhere in the Agenda.