

60. Process for the appointment of the Warden of the Methodist Diaconal Order

Under Standing Order 754(1B) the Conference, on the recommendation of the Ministries Committee, has responsibility for determining the procedure for the appointment of the Warden of the Methodist Diaconal Order. The Standing Order states that in determining the procedure the Council shall follow as closely as possible the provisions for the appointment of a Chair of District, with the Convocation having the equivalent functions to those of the Synod.

With due reference to the provisions for the appointment of a Chair of District as set out in SO 421A and SO 423B, the Ministries Committee recommends the following procedure:

- 1 The Convocation of the Order appoints a Warden's Nomination Committee of five deacons, including a convenor. It also appoints at least two substitutes having due regard for the diversity of the Order.
- 2 At an appropriate time the Secretary of the Conference (or an appointed representative) along with the convenor of the Committee shall initiate a conversation with the Warden to ascertain if an extension of the initial appointment is being sought. Where an extension is being sought the Warden's Nomination Committee shall undertake a representative consultation to gather views on any extension and bring a recommendation to the Convocation. The Convocation shall subsequently make a recommendation to the Conference.
- 3 The Secretary of the Conference (or an appointed representative) shall act as an advisor to the Committee ensuring that amongst other matters the connexional role of the Warden is taken into account as part of any consultation on an extension, or formulation of a profile for a new appointment.
- 4 Where a new appointment is being made the Nomination Committee members shall be the panel appointed by the Convocation (whether original or substituted), together with the Secretary of the Conference, the Chair of the Methodist Diaconal Order Support and Advisory Group (appointed under SO 755) and one person chosen by the Secretary of the Conference from the District Chairs' Nomination panel. The President or Vice-President, or an Ex-President or Ex Vice-President, shall chair the committee. The Secretary shall ensure that the panel includes a minimum of two lay persons.
- 5 The process for the designation of a new Warden shall follow that of the appointment of a District Chair (ie, the appointment shall be advertised and expressions of interest or nominations invited; the panel shall shortlist and interview as appropriate). A name shall be presented to the Convocation. The Convocation shall subsequently make a recommendation to the Conference.

*****RESOLUTION**

- 60/1. The Conference adopted the procedure for the appointment of the Warden of the Methodist Diaconal Order as laid out in the Report.**