

Person Specification for Chair of District

From 1st September 2025

The South East District of the Methodist Church seeks a presbyter to serve full-time as District Chair for an initial period of six years from 1st September 2025.

Alongside the connexion-wide expectations around the [role](#) and [competencies](#) of a District Chair, we seek a presbyter who:

- Is passionate about God
- Naturally inspires, enables and encourages God's people in discipleship, mission and ministry
- Thrives in, and enjoys, opportunities for collaborative leadership in varying forms
- Has experience and confidence as a change leader
- Is enthusiastic about Connexionalism

Personal Attributes

	Essential	Desirable
Open to working within a model of District leadership that is collaborative and shared	✓	
A visionary, wise and strategic leader	✓	
Enthusiastic about ecumenical relationships	✓	
Able and willing to lead others, work alongside others, and delegate to others	✓	
Willingness to engage with the multijurisdictional nature of the District, including travel to Malta and Gibraltar (most recently this has been 2 trips each per year)	✓	
Demonstrated commitment to Justice, Dignity and Solidarity	✓	
A person of resilience, who is able to deal with the various challenges which the role of Chair entails.	✓	
Has a realistic understanding of their personal strengths and weaknesses, leadership style and vulnerabilities	✓	
Able to model a healthy work-life balance	✓	
Committed to continued theological growth and personal development	✓	

Experience

	Essential	Desirable
Managing change and as a change leader	✓	
The role of superintendent	✓	
Experience of mission and ministry in a variety of contexts	✓	
Line managing others		✓
Working with a personal assistant		✓
Facing difficult decisions and supporting people through the impact of such decisions	✓	
Engaging with managing conflict in a timely and effective way	✓	
Working with refugees, asylum seekers, migrants		✓
Being in a representative role in the community and ecumenically	✓	
Attending Methodist Conference		✓
Undertaking a District or Connexional role		✓
Dealing with the media		✓

Skills and Knowledge

	Essential	Desirable
Inspiring preacher and worship leader	✓	
Ability to develop and articulate a strategic vision	✓	
Can bring energy and insight to lead the District in reviewing and reshaping our existing District structures, and discerning future priorities.	✓	
Can support others (especially ministers and circuits) in discerning priorities		✓
Has courage to take risks, and come alongside others in doing so		✓
Ability to balance the demands of Connexion and District and represent both in context	✓	
Ability to communicate with a variety of individuals and groups using a variety of media	✓	
Has a pastoral heart, able to come alongside churches, local leaders, ministers and their families in the highs and lows of life and ministry, responding quickly and appropriately to their needs	✓	
A natural and patient enabler, valuing the gifts of others and empowering them to utilise them in the work of God	✓	
Has skills in building and nurturing teams	✓	
Ability to encourage and inspire people quickly given the limited opportunities to meet people given the large size of the District.		✓
Can chair meetings with grace, ensuring meetings are efficient and deliver effectively	✓	
An understanding of charity law and Methodist governance (and an ability to deliver in these areas) appropriate to the role of Chair.	✓	
Proven knowledge and experience of Safeguarding practice in the Methodist Church and a commitment to be an active part of the District Safeguarding Group and work with the District Safeguarding Officer	✓	