

Person Specification – Key Competencies

The new West Midlands District of the Methodist Church is seeking a full-time District Chair for an initial period of six years from September 2025.

We are looking for someone who

- has a realistic understanding of their own strengths and weaknesses, style of leadership and vulnerabilities and the ability to be aware of one's impact on others
- has a clear understanding of the authority and influence inherent in role of District Chair and the ability to use authority appropriately
- flourishes in new situations or uncharted territory
- has the ability to hear and articulate clearly and understandably the call of God to mission, theological truths and the priorities of the church
- has the ability to recognise the different mission opportunities apparent in the district and see how the Church's personnel and resources in an area might be effectively deployed to serve them
- can model a rhythm of life which enables flourishing: being prayerful and theologically reflective with a good work life balance taking time off, pursuing hobbies and have time for family etc., and encouraging others in the District to do likewise

Attributes	Essential	Desirable
Relevant Experience	Ordained as a Methodist Presbyterian and in the active work	Served in at least two appointments
	Experience of circuit superintendency or an equivalent responsibility	Experience of a connexional or district role
	Experience of leading change in a pro-active way	Experience of bringing organisations together
	Understanding of rural ministry or willingness to listen and learn about it	Ministerial experience within a rural setting and other contexts
	Demonstrated commitment to Justice, Dignity and Solidarity	
	Experience of enabling churches and circuits to grow and flourish	Experience of developing NPNPs or fresh expressions of church
	Experience of facing difficult decisions such as those about church closures or reducing circuit staffing	Experience of dealing with the media
	A demonstrated commitment to addressing eco and other justice concerns	Experience of leading a social justice initiative
	Experience of being in a representative role in the community and ecumenically	Experience of developing interfaith understanding and partnerships

Skills and Knowledge	Pastorally sensitive with excellent pastoral skills	
	Theologically articulate	Degree in theology
	A team builder who invites and enables, nurtures and empowers	
	A creative, strategic leader who works collaboratively	
	Inspiring preacher and worship leader	
	Ability to listen to and engage with a wide variety of views and perspectives	
	Ability to articulate and develop vision	
	Ability to unite diversity across a diverse district but with a good understanding of difference	
	Ability to handle conflict and react to challenges in a timely way	
	Ability to delegate	
	A skilled and reflective supervisor	
	Proven knowledge of safeguarding practice in the Methodist Church	
	Competent at chairing and managing meetings efficiently and effectively	A competent administrator able to deal with an ever full email box
	Approachable and able to build trust	
	Ability to represent the District in the Connexion and to represent the Conference and wider Connexion in the District	