

## 45. Designations for Appointment of District Chairs

### \*\*\*RESOLUTIONS

- 45/1. The Conference designates for appointment the Revd Dr Marcus Torchon as Chair for the Bristol District for a period of six years from 1 September 2024.
- 45/2. The Conference designates for appointment the Revd Angela J Long as Chair for the Lincolnshire District for a period of six years from 1 September 2023.
- 45/3. The Conference designates for appointment the Revd Andrew W Fyall as Chair for the Nottingham and Derby District for a period of six years from 1 September 2023.
- 45/4. The Conference designates for appointment the Revd Sonia M Hicks as Chair for the Northampton District for a period of six years from 1 September 2024.

*The following resolutions require a majority of 75%.*

- 45/5. The Conference designates for appointment the Revd Dr Jennifer Hurd as Chair for Wales Synod Cymru for a further period of two years from 1 September 2024.
- 45/6. The Conference designates for appointment the Revd Richard M Andrew as Chair for the Darlington District for a further period of five years from 1 September 2024.
- 45/7. The Conference designates for appointment the Revd Dr Daniel R Haylett as Chair for the Plymouth and Exeter District for a further period of five years from 1 September 2024.

*The following resolutions require a simple majority.*

- 45/8. The Conference designates for appointment the Revd Dr Daniel R Haylett as Chair for the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly District, in addition to the Plymouth and Exeter District, for one year from 1 September 2023.
- 45/9. The Conference designates for appointment the Revd Loraine N Mellor as Chair for the Plymouth and Exeter District, in addition to the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly District, for one year from 1 September 2023.

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### **Reasoned Statements:**

#### **The Revd Andrew Fyall**

Andrew Fyall is Deputy Chair of the Nottingham and Derby District and Team Lead for New Places for New People. Andy previously served as Superintendent Minister of the Stamford Circuit (2017-2022) where he was recognised as a visionary, creative and strategic leader. In his current role and as part of the Regional Working Group, Andy has a good understanding of and commitment to the need for collaboration with neighbouring Districts.

Andy brings a considerable wealth of leadership experience, he is Spirit-led, visionary and pro-active whilst engaging in maximum consultation and collaboration before acting. His passion for making God's love known in any way and every way possible is what Andy lives for! Indeed, he sees every aspect of his ministry, whether strategic planning, administration, or the care of colleagues as an opportunity for furthering this aim.

Andy brings creativity, ability to communicate, and skills in forming and developing positive relationships within the church, with ecumenical partners and beyond to community and civic organisations. He is thoughtful and strategic and has a strong pastoral instinct. Andy is well equipped to deliver the District's Policy to Love God, Love Others and Make Disciples.

The Synod recommends to the Conference that the Revd Andrew W Fyall is appointed to serve as Chair for the Nottingham and Derby District for a period of six years from 1 September 2023.

#### **The Revd Sonia Hicks**

Sonia Hicks brings a wealth of experience of pastoral ministry in the Methodist Church in Britain, in the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and Americas, and in the Methodist Church in Ireland. Sonia has considerable recent experience in connexional leadership, being well known as the President of the Conference in 2021-22, and is currently the Chair of the Methodist Council. The gifts she brings as a risk-taker and inspirational speaker correlate well with the District's statement of needs. The District believes that at this point in the District's life her energy, effervescence and joy in the Lord Jesus will complement the gifts of others in the District Leadership Team, to enable the District to develop in line with its Mission Plan.

The Synod recommends to the Conference that the Revd Sonia Hicks is appointed to serve as Chair for the Northampton District for a period of six years from 1 September 2024.

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### **The Revd Angela Long**

Angela (Angy) Long is the Superintendent Minister of the Epworth and Scunthorpe Circuit, as well as providing cover for the Wolds and Trent Circuit due to long term sick leave of a colleague. Angy has an academic background in law and psychology, as well as theology, and has served in circuits in both Scotland and England, offering experience in rural, urban and industrial contexts. Angy brings creativity, strategic thinking and an ability to reflect theologically and to think on her feet. She is committed to the connexional nature of the Methodist Church and to making links between the decisions of the Conference and the delivery of mission on the ground. Angy is committed to ecumenical working, as well as to using our heritage and Methodist identity as resources for effective mission. She is creative in her leading of worship and in exercising her ministry.

The Synod recommends to the Conference that the Revd Angela Long is appointed to serve as Chair for the Lincolnshire Methodist District for a period of six years from 1 September 2023.

### **The Revd Dr Marcus Torchon**

Marcus Torchon brings a wealth of experience of ministry from diverse contexts in Britain and the Caribbean combined with an openness to learning and underpinned by a deep and disciplined spirituality. He is an inspiring leader who will nurture and develop the gifts of lay people and ordained colleagues. He will offer a strong and strategic understanding of the role of Chair with an imaginative and clear view of missional priorities.

The Synod recommends to the Conference that the Revd Dr Marcus Torchon is appointed to serve as Chair for the Bristol District for a period of six years from 1 September 2024.

### **The Revd Richard Andrew**

The Revd Richard Andrew has served as Chair of the Darlington District since September 2018. His leading of worship has been widely appreciated including when he has introduced members of the District to forms of worship previously unfamiliar to them. He is a careful and widely read preacher who expresses a gentle and confident faith. He has helped the District to embrace the challenges of mission in the contemporary world. His emphasis upon 'every church growing' has given a sense of direction to the District. Ecumenical colleagues and District Officers pay tribute to his leadership skills. Individuals who have approached him for pastoral conversations feel confidence in his

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ability to hold the moment with pastoral sensitivity. At the same time Circuits short in staff have been able to receive considerable support from Richard allowing them to cope better with the problem and sustain their work. It is particularly remarkable that Richard has achieved these results through the period of time he has been in the District as his first year necessitated travel from York and the next two were dominated by COVID. It is clear from the consultations within the District that continuity at the present time would be greatly valued.

The Synod recommends to the Conference that the Revd Richard Andrew is appointed to serve as Chair for the Darlington District for a further period of five years from 1 September 2024.

### **The Revd Dr Jennifer Hurd**

Jennifer Hurd has been Chair of Synod Cymru since 2013 and of Wales Synod Cymru since it was formed in 2022.

Jennie's knowledge and understanding of the Welsh language and culture is very significant, and particularly given the new ways of working adopted since the creation of Wales Synod Cymru. Her experience of working within the former Synod Cymru is important for Cylchdaith Cymru. She brings an incredibly strong contribution to the ecumenical and interdenominational work across Wales, in English and in Welsh and is a very highly respected ecumenical colleague. Her gentle collaborative leadership style is an asset to our Synod. She is a firm and competent chair of meetings. Jennie has a strong pastoral heart, taking an interest in people and their lives, particularly of ministerial colleagues. She is friendly, approachable and supportive, yet gently challenging.

The Synod recommends to the Conference that the Revd Dr Jennifer Hurd is appointed to serve as Chair for Wales Synod Cymru for a further period of two years from 1 September 2024.

### **The Revd Dr Daniel Haylett**

Daniel Haylett has been Chair of the Plymouth and Exeter District since 2022. The District appreciates Dan's gifts and skills and it is obvious that these have been witnessed first hand, despite the short time since he moved to the District. He offers excellent pastoral care, with his willingness to listen particularly appreciated. His leadership of the District is described as empowering, strong, encouraging, positive, empathetic, enabling, helpful and supportive. He is a clear communicator and someone that inspires confidence with an ability to see 'the wider picture'. His leadership of worship is well received, and

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is felt to be engaging, thought provoking and encouraging. Ongoing work in the District and region, such as the discussions with the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly District, the introduction of New Places for New People and other connexional initiatives, will need the leadership that Dan brings.

The Synod recommends to the Conference that the Revd Dr Daniel R Haylett is appointed to serve as Chair for the Plymouth and Exeter District for a further period of five years from 1 September 2024.

### **The Revds Dr Daniel Haylett and Loraine N Mellor**

Loraine and Dan are increasingly working closely together and using their distinctive gifts across both Districts would have advantages for all. This will enable the Districts to continue to imagine, plan and build what is needed to further the mission of the Church across the two Districts, in anticipation of an even closer sharing in the near future. This proposal comes at a time when the wider South West Region continues to consider how best to reshape governance structures to better suit mission and ministry needs and opportunities for today, recognising that current structures were first implemented in 1957. Loraine and Dan along with the wider small group are keen to continue to work out what new structures might be most helpful in focusing on mission, and, whilst recognising that each has a primary concern for their current District, are committed to continue to learn from closer working and greater sharing.

The Plymouth and Exeter Synod and Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Synod recommend to the Conference that the Revd Loraine Mellor and the Revd Dr Dan Haylett work as joint Chairs across the Plymouth and Exeter District and the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Districts, for one year from 1 September 2023.