

Insurance arrangements for staff, office holders and volunteers travelling overseas

Contact Name and Details	Tony Tidey, Wellbeing Officer 0207 467 5192 tideyt@methodistchurch.org.uk
Status of Paper	Final

Summary of Content

Subject and Aims	A review of arrangements for obtaining suitable insurance cover for trips overseas.
-------------------------	---

Summary of Impact

Financial	Within existing provision for insurance costs.
Personnel	The proposed changes represent a commitment to our duty of care to those travelling overseas on connexional business.
Wider Connexional	The insurance arrangements will apply to anyone travelling on behalf of the Methodist Council on connexional business.

Clarification has been sought about the adequacy of the Council's insurance cover for employees, ministers and volunteers travelling overseas on connexional business (excluding Mission Partners, for whom other arrangements would apply). A review of current arrangements has taken place, including extensive contact with the Council's insurer, Methodist Insurance.

The review looked at the following issues:

1. Cover for pre-existing medical conditions;
2. How the insurer should be informed about travel arrangements and those participating;
3. Issues concerning travel to areas where there may be concerns for safety, or hostility to Christians is experienced; and
4. Travel to areas where medical assistance may not be available.

As a result of the review clarity has been obtained about all the above points and the current level of cover is considered appropriate. In addition, a proforma for the medical declaration of pre-existing conditions has been drawn up and this is now being piloted.

It is essential that details of all those travelling abroad on connexional business are notified to the Connexional Team in good time, so that the insurer can be consulted and appropriate cover arranged.

*****RESOLUTION**

49/1. The Council notes the outcomes of this review.