

Ecumenical Partnerships, Sharing Agreements, and Ecumenical Areas

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Standing Order (SO) 334(5) requires all new schemes approved by the Synods under SO 412(2) and all Sharing Agreements authorised by the Ecumenical Officer (EO) to be reported to the Methodist Council.

A: SCHEMES APPROVED BY THE DISTRICT SYNODS UNDER SO 412(2)

1 Ecumenical Partnerships in Extended Areas

The Ecumenical Officer has not received any reports of Synods establishing ecumenical partnerships in extended areas since the March 2020 Methodist Council.

2 Local Ecumenical Partnerships

The following list records those schemes approved by the Synods and reported to the Ecumenical Officer between March and December 2020. It indicates which other Churches are involved and the nature of the Partnership. It also records those Partnerships in which a new constitution has been adopted and current information as to whether the Synod has issued or revoked a direction under SO 611.

Circuit No	Trustee Body	Other Church(es)	Single Congregation Partnership (SCP) or Congregations in Covenanted Partnership (CCP)	New Partnership (NP) or New Constitution (NC)	Direction issued (DI) or revoked (DR) under SO 611
28/5	United Church Lye (Methodist Church Council (MCC) Lye)	URC	SCP	NC	DI
14/5	Loddon MCC	C of E	SCP	NC	DI
23/9	St Andrew's CC Leicester Forest East MCC	C of E	SCP	NC	DI
26/7	East Solent and Downs Circuit Meeting and The Diocese of Guilford	C of E	Mission Initiative (Not an LEP)	Mission partnership working – Constitution on its way	N/A

***RESOLUTION

26/1. The Council adopts the report.

B: SHARING AGREEMENTS

The consent of the Ecumenical Officer is required for the making or amendment of any Sharing Agreement (SA) under the Sharing of Church Buildings Acts 1969 and to its termination (SO 334(3)).

Since not all Sharing Agreements so authorised come into effect, and some of those that do take a considerable time to reach that stage, as indicated to the Council in March 2020, Sharing Agreements will be notified to the Council only when the process is complete and they have been registered.

The list in Section 2 reports those Sharing Agreements to whose termination the Ecumenical Officer has given consent since the Council in March 2020 or where notice of termination has been received.

1 Consents

Nothing to report.

2 Terminations of and Retirements from Sharing Agreements

Circuit No	Local or Circuit Trustee Body	Building(s) shared and other details (including owner)	Other Church/es party to the SA	Date of notice given by EO	Date of SA	Registered number	Date of termination
9/16	South West Cumbria United Area Circuit	Manse 9 Park Drive Barrow-in-Furness (MC)	URC	13/3/2020	1993		tbc
13/3	St Andrew Hardwick Rd MCC	St Andrew's Hardwick Road Methodist Church	C of E	2014	19/12/2007		Reported here as closing the matter
20/6	SENEA – South East Northumberland Area	Manse 113 Elsdon Avenue Seaton Delaval (MC)	URC	9/7/2020	21/1/2001	39/094	Ended with Immediate effect
25/17	Rotherham and Dearne Valley	Greasbrough Church SCLEP (MC premises)	URC	10/11/2020	16/4/2000	39/079	tbc
36/4	Colnbrook Methodist CC	Methodist Chapel (Legal Charge re. URC Capital Contribution)	URC	8/7/2020 (Served by the URC Synod)	15/2/1993	38/920	Predicted: at the of termination notice period – 15/2/2021
2/9	Christchurch Fairwater MCC	Christchurch Fairwater SCLEP (MC premises)	URC	5/2/2020	20/4/1983	38/297	Ended with immediate effect

***RESOLUTION

26/2. The Council adopts the report.