

Process for appointing the next Chair of the Council

Contact Name and Details	The Revd Canon Gareth J Powell, Secretary of the Conference soc@methodistchurch.org.uk
Resolutions	<p>9/1. The Council receives the report.</p> <p>9/2. The Council adopts the process for identifying a nominee as Chair of the Council as set out in in paragraph 2 of the report.</p> <p>9/3. The Council appoints the following as members of the nomination panel: Mr David S Walton (Chair) The Revd Alison F Tomlin The Revd Canon Gareth J Powell Mrs Carolyn Lawrence Mrs Idy Osibodu</p>

1. The Council, at its meeting in October 2017, agreed the following resolutions:

86/1. *The Council received the report.*

86/2. *The Council directed that a nomination panel be established with the responsibility of bringing a nomination of the next Chair of the Council to the Council in April 2018.*

86/3. *The Council agreed to recommend to the Conference that the Chair of the Council should serve for a period of four years, and directed that amendments to Standing Orders are prepared to effect this change.*

The Council also requested a more detailed paper setting out the composition of the panel and the process the panel would follow in order to bring a name to the Council. The Secretary of the Conference undertook to bring such information to the January Council, and asked members of the Council to contact him with any additional comments about this.

2. **Suggested Process**

It is proposed that those who are eligible are invited to register their interest by means of a pro forma (by the end of February). Those who have expressed an interest will then be invited to meet with a nomination panel, who will have a discernment conversation with them, exploring with them in depth the skills and experience they would bring to the role. The conversation will also consider the nature of the challenges which are inherent to the role (during March). The panel would then make a single nomination to the Council when it meets in April.

3. **Composition of the panel**

It is proposed that the panel is made up as follows:

A past President and a past Vice-President, one of whom should be a former Chair of the Council who will chair the panel;
 The Secretary of the Conference;
 Two members of the Council.

***RESOLUTIONS

9/1. The Council receives the report.

9/2. The Council adopts the process for identifying a nominee as Chair of the Council as set out in in paragraph 2 of the report.

9/3. The Council appoints the following as members of the nomination panel:

Mr David S Walton (Chair)
The Revd Alison F Tomlin
The Revd Canon Gareth J Powell
Mrs Carolyn Lawrence
Mrs Idy Osibodu

REASOND STATEMENTS

Mr David S Walton (Chair)	Past Vice-President and former Chair of the Council.
The Revd Alison F Tomlin	Past President of the Conference
The Revd Canon Gareth J Powell	Secretary of the Conference.
Mrs Carolyn Lawrence	Member of the Council, representing the Plymouth and Exeter District.
Mrs Idy Osibodu	Member of the Council representing the Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire District.

ROLE DESCRIPTION OF THE CHAIR OF THE METHODIST COUNCIL

Appointed by the Conference for a ~~three~~ four year term, and is not eligible for reappointment

Main responsibilities

Chairing the meetings of the Council (a minimum of three per year)
Acting on behalf of the Council in between meetings, on the advice of the Secretary
Presenting the reports of the Council to the Conference
Working with the Secretary and staff in the Conference Office to determine the agenda for the meetings of the Council

The Chair of the Council represents and embodies the authority of the Council and undertakes certain tasks on behalf of the Council (largely as the employing body of the Team) between meetings of the Council.

The Chair of the Council represents the Council at meetings of the Conference and the Connexional Leaders' Forum, and presents the reports of the Council to the Conference, responding to questions and comments as appropriate.

Standing Order 210

210 The Methodist Council.

(1) There shall be a Methodist Council appointed annually by the Conference which in addition to the ex-officio members shall consist of:

- (i) the chair of the council appointed in accordance with clause (2)(d) below;
- (iA) the assistant secretary of the Conference appointed under Standing Order 116A;
- (iB) the Conference officer for legal and constitutional practice appointed under Standing Order 116C;
- (ii) the lead connexional Treasurer appointed under Standing Order 311(1);
- (iii) four district Chairs nominated by the Chairs' Meeting with a view to meeting the needs of the Council and reflecting the varying experience of the Chairs across the Connexion;
- (iv) one representative of each home District, being either a lay person or a minister (other than a district Chair), appointed in accordance with clause (2)(a) below;
- (v) the Connexional Secretaries or their representatives;
- (vi) the chair and two of the members of the Strategy and Resources Committee appointed under Standing Order 213(1)(iA), nominated by the committee;

(viA) the chair or deputy chair of the Ministries Committee in accordance with Standing Order 32A2(2);

(vii) a representative of the Methodist Diaconal Order, nominated by the Convocation of the Order;

(viii) two representatives nominated by the Methodist Children and Youth Assembly;

(ix) two representatives, not being members of the Connexional Team, representing the concerns of racial justice;

(x) up to four other persons appointed by the Conference in accordance with clause (2)(c) below, so as to ensure that appropriate areas of skill and experience are available to the council.

(2) (a) The persons appointed under head (iv) of clause (1) above shall be nominated by their respective Synods for a period of four years, being in each case a person who 356 The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church 2017 would be entitled under Standing Order 417(1) to be a representative of that District to the Conference. If a person ceases to be so qualified, the Synod shall make a new nomination for the remainder of the term. The Conference shall periodically approve a rota for the purpose of determining from year to year which Districts shall be represented by lay persons and which by ministers.

(b) The persons appointed under heads (iii) and (vi) to (ix) of clause (1) above shall each be nominated for a period of four years by the body concerned.

(c) Where the council proposes that an appointment be made under head (x) of clause (1) above, the council shall be responsible for publicising the vacancy, inviting suggestions for possible nominees and bringing a nomination to the Conference. Any appointment shall be for a period of four years.

(d) The chair of the council shall be appointed upon nomination by the council for a period of three years, subject to Standing Order 316, and shall not be eligible for reappointment. He or she shall be chosen from amongst those persons, not being members of the Connexional Team, who took office as President or Vice-President during any of the five Conferences preceding the appointing Conference.

(3) The Secretary of the Conference shall be the secretary of the council. He or she shall be responsible in conjunction with the assistant secretary, the chair of the council and the chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee for preparing the agenda of the meeting.

(4) The council shall meet not less than three times in each year.

(5) The council may invite observers from other churches and Christian bodies.

(6) Only persons who are eligible under the Deed of Union to be members of the Conference and members of the Connexional Team who are members of another communion shall be eligible to be appointed as members of the council.

(7) The chair of the connexional Audit Committee appointed under Standing Order 213A, the secretary of the Faith and Order Committee, the Youth President elected under Standing Order 250(10) and the members of the senior leadership group as defined in Standing Order 304 not appointed as members of the council under clause (1) above shall have the right to attend and speak at meetings of the council, but shall not be voting members.