

District Mission Enabler and New Places for New People (NPNP) Lead

Job Description and Person Specification

Job Title

District Mission Enabler and NPNP Lead for the South East District.

About South East District

The South East District covers the counties of Kent, Sussex and the majority of Surrey, the island of Malta, British Overseas Territory of Gibraltar and parts of Berkshire and Hampshire.

Find out more about the District via our website: <https://methodistsoutheast.org.uk/introducing-the-district>

Location

Home based, own transport is essential.

There will be an expectation to attend the District Office in Crawley, Sussex, on occasion, as well as other locations across the South East District.

Responsible to

The District Mission Enabler will be appointed as an employee by the Managing Trustees of the South East District.

The appointee will be line managed by District Chair or a person to whom the Chair delegates this role, on behalf of the South East District alongside being resourced and supported by the Pioneering and Church Planting Officer and Church at the Margins Officer from the Connexional Evangelism and Growth Team.

The appointed person will be required to participate in reflective supervision of their work, with a trained supervisor.

Responsible for

No direct line management expected within this role.

The appointee will offer support, encouragement, direction and oversight to circuits and individuals.

Purpose and Objectives

The District Mission Enabler (DME) is a key leadership role in the development and oversight of mission in the life of the District, including New Places for New People (NPNP). New Places for New People are new forms of church for people with questions about life and faith who struggle to connect with existing forms of

church. This includes a deep commitment to low-income communities, and prioritising new forms of church amongst and led by people experiencing poverty through our Church at the Margins (CAM) programme.

As **District Mission Enabler**, the DME works with churches and circuits to help them reflect on their mission and discipleship in context, while also sharing in the leadership of the District alongside lay and ordained colleagues as we continue to discern our District mission priorities as we *Inspire, Enable and Encourage* the Methodist people across the District.

New Places for New People Lead (NPNP Lead)

The role of the NPNP Lead is to develop the growing movement of NPNPs across the District, accompanying circuits as they discern and establish NPNPs, and as they continue to evolve. The NPNP will be an accompanist to circuits and practitioners (pioneers) as they develop vision for NPNPs, providing the vital support needed in the early stages, continued development, evaluation and sustaining of a new Christian community.

The NPNP lead will work in partnership with the District Chair, District Leadership team, District NPNP team and Connexional NPNP team to provide vital support for new communities and local NPNP teams.

Key Relationships

The Chair of District

Deputy Chairs, District Staff and District Leadership Team

The Pioneering and Church Planting Officer and Church at the Margins Officer in the Connexional Evangelism and Growth Team.

Other Significant Relationships

Connexional Officers aligned to the District

District New Places for New People Team

The circuits and churches of the District, and Pioneers across them

District Grants Committee

The appointee will be a member of a Connexional network of NPNP Leads.

The Faith-Rooted Community Organising Lead (to be appointed)

PLEASE NOTE

Appointment anticipated to begin 1st September 2026.

Applications from Ministers in full Connexion with the Methodist Church in Britain will only be considered if the Minister has permission to serve in an appointment outside of the control of the Church.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS

Friday 29th May, 12 noon

Applications to The District Office: wendy.cory@methodistsoutheast.org

INTERVIEWS

Friday 19th June in Crawley, West Sussex

Main Responsibilities

1. Supporting the circuits and churches of the District, you will:
 - a. Inspire, enable and encourage the people of the District by celebrating the missional activity in which they are already engaged.
 - b. Support churches and circuits in Mission Planning and building confidence in evangelism.
 - c. Support growing churches across the district, and help share their stories, experiences and learning around the district
 - d. Support churches and circuits in reflecting on their mission, and envisioning God's call on them.
 - e. By invitation, work with churches and circuits where Mission Planning would benefit from external facilitation – seeking to collaborate with and complement the resources already available to the district through the Learning Network.
 - f. Be a companion and critical friend for innovative missional projects in the District.

2. Be the lead advocate for the God for All Strategy in and across the District including:
 - a. Keeping God for All in the minds and hearts of the District.
 - b. Being the key link to the Evangelism and Growth Team in the Connexional Team.
 - c. If authorised by a Church body to do so, leading worship and preaching in the circuits of the District (frequency to be agreed on appointment).
 - d. Attending District meetings as required.

3. Leading on NPNP in the life of the District, you will:
 - a. Lead the District NPNP team in creating and facilitating a process to accompany the discernment of a vision for NPNPs in every circuit. Enable the process of creating and facilitating the discernment of a vision for NPNPs across the District.
Further District NPNP information here: <https://methodistsoutheast.org.uk/nnpn>
 - b. Communicate the vision and process for NPNPs across the District, including prioritising new Christian communities amongst people experiencing poverty.
 - c. Work alongside key district colleagues including District Leadership Team, NPNP Team, Faith-Rooted community organiser, Learning Network colleagues and Superintendents to identify specific congregations and communities where a new Christian community could begin.
 - d. Assist in the development and monitoring of budgets for NPNP projects.
 - e. Accompany and support NPNPs as they begin and develop, including facilitating the Pioneer Community of Practice with Learning Network colleagues and visiting new Christian communities.
 - f. Advocate and support good governance within the NPNPs (safeguarding, supporting volunteers etc).
 - g. Provide induction and ongoing opportunities for learning for new pioneers and pioneering stakeholders/leaders within the District. e.g. Beginning a New Place for New People and Beginning a Church at the Margins taster sessions and courses.
 - h. Support the faith formation and discipleship of children, young people and adults within NPNPs.
 - i. Liaise with the Connexional NPNP team, Learning Network and the District to develop a mission strategy to embrace a mixed ecology (beginning new Christian communities alongside growing existing churches within the district).
 - j. Attend the Connexional monthly NPNP district lead network and fully participate in gatherings and training opportunities hosted by the Evangelism and Growth team.
 - k. Contribute to the discernment and appointment of pioneers within the District and connect pioneers to the Methodist Pioneer Pathways.

4. Any other reasonable duties and responsibilities, identified by your Line Manager that are within your capabilities and level of responsibility, in order to meet the missional needs of the South East Methodist District.

Person Specification

Key for Method of Assessment:

A - Application Form

I - Interview

P - Presentation

Q - Proof of qualification (certificates or transcripts)

D - DBS Application

(We reserve the right to assess any other aspects of the role in a format not previously described)

	Essential	Desirable	Method of Assessment
Education & Training			
Able to show a good level of experience and ability in theological thinking, which may be demonstrated through an academic qualification such as a theology degree/diploma or practical experience e.g. local preacher.	X		A, Q
Trained in pioneering and mission strategy (e.g. Cliff College, Church Mission Society).		X	A, Q
Proven Ability			
Experience of pioneering and leading a new Christian community, working alongside unaffiliated people, nurturing faith formation and discipleship.	X		A, I, P
Knowledge and understanding of the need for diverse new forms of Christian communities.	X		A, I, P
Experience in facilitation to develop missional thinking and strategy.	X		A, I, P
Proactive, strategic and creative thinker with the ability to identify opportunities for new Christian communities, creating and implementing processes for vision discernment and decision-making leading to action.	X		A, I
Excellent verbal and written communication skills, with the ability to engage and inspire individuals and groups from various backgrounds.	X		A, I, P
Skills in coaching, mentoring or Line managing others which you can utilise appropriately within this role.		X	A, I
Proven ability to engage with people of all ages and backgrounds, in church, faith and community settings and different cultural contexts, including a sensitivity to, issues of equality, diversity and inclusion.	X		A, I
Ability to manage multiple projects, work independently, manage competing priorities, and meet deadlines whilst paying attention to detail.	X		A, I

A good awareness of the Methodist Church and its systems.	X		A, I
Experience of leading worship.		X	A, I
Authorisation by a Church body to preach.		X	A, I
Knowledge of safeguarding and commitment to creating and sustaining safer spaces.	X		A, I, D
Experience of participating in the leadership of local churches in worship, mission and/or discipleship.	X		A, I
Experience of Budgeting.		X	A, I
Personal Qualities			
The ability to inspire and motivate others.	X		A, I
A passion for supporting new Christian communities amongst people not yet part of the Christian church, including amongst economically marginalised people.	X		A, I,
A passion for the Methodist Church in the South East to flourish as a Growing, Inclusive, Evangelistic and Justice Seeking Church.	X		A, I
A passion for supporting new Christian communities amongst people not yet part of the Christian church, including amongst economically marginalised people.	X		A, I,
Willingness to work flexibly, including occasional irregular hours including some evenings and weekends.	X		A, I
Any Other Requirements			
In agreement with, and keen to advocate for, the Methodist Church's commitment to being an inclusive, evangelistic, justice-seeking church, including the God for All strategy and aims.	X		A, I, P
Able to travel throughout the South East District, including willingness to travel to Malta or Gibraltar if required.	X		A, I
Full clean driving licence and access to own vehicle.	X		A, I
Satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service.	X		D
This post is subject to an occupational requirement that the post-holder is a committed Christian under Part 1 of Schedule 9 to the Equality Act 2010.	X		A, I

Terms and Conditions

Terms of appointment:	<p>Permanent, following the successful completion of a 6-month probationary period. Currently, funding for this role is in place for a fixed term until August 2033.</p> <p>To begin from 1st September 2026 (earlier start date possible via negotiation)</p> <p>Applications from Ministers in full Connexion with the Methodist Church in Britain will only be considered if the Minister has permission to serve in an appointment outside of the control of the Church.</p>
Salary:	£39,188 from 1 st September 2026.
Hours of Work:	Normal working pattern: 37.5 hours per week (or 12 sessions for a minister) to be worked flexibly, Monday to Sunday, in agreement with your Line Manager, including some evenings and weekends. Actual days, start and finish times will be variable in accordance with the needs of the Employer. You will not be expected to work on more than five days in a calendar week.
Expenses:	Authorised expenses will be reimbursed. Car mileage will be paid at HMRC recognised rates.
Pension:	There is a contributory pension scheme to which eligible lay employees will be auto enrolled.
Annual Leave:	In addition to statutory bank holidays, 25 days.
DBS Disclosure:	The Methodist Church has identified this role as one which will require an enhanced criminal record check via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). This role will bring you into direct contact with children and vulnerable adults. It will also give you access to sensitive material or information.
Health and Safety:	The post holder will be subject to the Methodist Church's Health and Safety policy.
Equal Opportunities:	The District is committed to equal opportunities, anti-discrimination and anti-oppressive policy and practice. No one we have contact with may be discriminated against either directly or indirectly on the grounds of gender, race, nationality, religion, cultural group, marital status, sexual orientation, age or impairment. The policies apply to job applicants, employees, volunteers, users and beneficiaries of our services.
Location:	Home based. The post holder must be willing and able to attend meetings in the District Office in Crawley and locations throughout the District therefore own transport is essential.
Right to Work:	The appointment is subject to documentary evidence of the right to live and work in the UK.
Equipment:	A laptop and mobile phone will be provided to be used for this work.