

Role Description: District Probationers' Committee Member

Reports To	District Chair
Location	Home based, but travel for face-to-face meeting around the District may be required.
Remuneration	Voluntary. Reasonable expenses will be reimbursed.
Time Taken	On average, two hours per month with more time required around committee meetings.

Role Purpose and Objectives

The District Probationers' Committee oversees the development of probational presbyters and deacons within the District on behalf of the MCPOC, and reports to them annually. The Probationers' Committee is responsible for both pastoral support and assessment of probationers in the District.

Responsibilities

As part of the committee, members will:

- Oversee the pastoral provision for probationers and their families/households.
- Uphold the probationers and their families/households in prayer.
- Meet with probationers in their first year to gain an understanding of their context.
- Receive and read reports in preparation for meetings with probationers, two or three times per year.
- Interview all probationers at least once a year, usually in February/March for second-year and May for first-year probationers, in order to report to the presbyteral synod (for presbyteral probationers only) and MCPOC.
- Formulate a summary report each year about each probationer together with any recommendations that are appropriate, i.e. to continue probation, not to continue probation or to be put forward for ordination.

Person Specification

- A lay or ordained member of the Methodist Church (if ordained, with a minimum of five years' experience of ordained ministry).
- Demonstrable skills in providing pastoral support.

- An ability to encourage and help others reflect on their ministerial development.
- Good communication skills.
- Commitment to safeguarding and confidentiality.
- Ability to work collaboratively with the other member of the District Probationers' Committee.

We aspire that the probationers' committee membership shows the richness and diversity of the life of the District and seeks representation that includes experience from different walks of life, but also includes gifts and skills in education, HR, counselling, supervision, assessment and interviewing.

The appointment is for three years with the possibility of extension for a further three years.

The appointment will be subject to a satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.