

Assistant Chair of District

The role of Assistant Chairs has evolved since the District was formed in September 2006. The appointments are made under Standing Order 426. Following the recommendations of the District Review that were adopted in April 2010, the appointment of Assistant Chairs is delegated by the Synod to a Invitations Committee consisting of representatives of the District Council and the Circuit in which the Assistant Chair will be stationed.

Outline of the role

Hours of work:	Average 2 days per week including one Sunday a month given to the District.
Duration of Appointment:	For the length of the appointment.
Purpose and Objectives:	<p>In partnership with the District Chair and others within and outside the Methodist Church:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to offer leadership across the District; • to exercise a pastoral role in the Eastern Area of the District, supporting individual presbyters, deacons (including supernumeraries) and lay employees and their families; • to offer support to Local Churches and Circuits in mission and ministry; particularly within the Eastern Area of the District • to preach throughout the Eastern Area • to deputise for the District Chair where necessary.
Responsible to:	The District Synod.
Relationships	
Internal:	<p>The Chair and other Assistant Chairs of the District;</p> <p>the District Leadership Team;</p> <p>members of the District Council ;</p> <p>superintendents and other presbyters and deacons in the District;</p> <p>Circuit Stewards and other office holders;</p> <p>the District Development Enabler;</p>

the Training Officer;

District Ecumenical Officers.

External:

Ecumenical partners in the District and the relevant County Ecumenical Officers;

civic, local government and secular community partners and other agencies.

Main Tasks:

To work with the District Chair, the District Council and other District officers to develop and implement the aims and purposes for the District;

to enable the South-East District, its Circuits and Local Churches to engage with the *Priorities for the Methodist Church* and to organise for mission;

to contribute to the process of enabling Circuit reviews and reconfigurations for mission (e.g. as suggested in *Mapping a Way Forward: Regrouping for Mission*);

to undertake a Pastoral role within the Eastern Area of the District;

to undertake roles deputising for the Chair as required.

Personal Qualities:

Commitment to and experience of working in a team;

ability to manage time well;

good communication skills – written and oral;

knowledge and understanding of current Connexional issues and policies;

experience of working ecumenically;

capacity and willingness to travel around the District.

December 2010