

# District Development

## Discerning a New Vision for the Methodist Church in Scotland

### **Aim:**

To work out a realistic new vision for the Methodist Church in Scotland and agree practical ways forward that can be voted on by Spring Synod 2011.

### **Outline Timetable:**

#### **Already undertaken:**

Initial Circuit Review (2009-10 and work undertaken by DR previous to this)

Superintendents Forum – and input from 2 day leadership

Connexional work undertaken relating to Regrouping for Mission: Mapping a Way Forward

#### **Spring Synod 2010**

Formal establishment of the District Development Group

Initial input into process by members of Synod.

Connx input from Martyn Atkins

#### **By end of May**

To produce a first paper for consultation paper with the indentified stakeholders (as identified in proposal to DPC) based on the above inputs.

#### **By end of August**

Comments and submissions to District Development Group

#### **September 11<sup>th</sup> Synod**

Presentation on initial findings and outline options for discussion and debate with Autumn Synod

#### **Nov 13<sup>th</sup> DPC**

Fully worked through option(s) to DPC

#### **Nov – Feb**

Further consultation on option(s) including at circuit meetings

#### **March DPC**

Approval of paper to go to Synod

#### **Spring Synod**

Synod discusses and votes on proposal.

#### **Post-Synod**

Implementation of the Process including liaison with conference if necessary.

**Management:**

**Project Sponsor:** Lily Twist on behalf of Synod & DPC

Role: Oversight and Support

To establish the project group and agree the project manager. Ensure clarity in aims and objectives of team. Agree key milestones for reporting purposes; ensure the appropriate and adequate resources are available to the team. Receive regular updates and briefings. To champion the aims of the project group with the connexion and external stakeholders as appropriate.

**Project Team:** Bob Kelley; David Rogerson; Andrew Letby & Allan Anderson

Executive Support: Sally Robertson; Gary Williams; Helen Wareing

Role: Management of Project:

To convene the project group; to agree allocation of tasks within the projects and implement and monitor the project; to ensure agreed timetable is kept to; to be responsible for reporting to sponsor at agreed milestones; to manage budget;

**Resources**

£5,000 from DAF for external facilitator.

£1,000 from district funds for expenses of the team

## **Spring Synod: Initial Consultation with Synod Members**

### **An Afternoon of seeking answers to four questions:**

'Where are we now and where do you see us in 2015?

'How do we close the Gap?'

'What issues do you think are most important for us to address'.

Where do we go from here'

Opening of Afternoon Session (15 – 30 minutes)

Welcome & Introduction to the Project Team (Lily)

Welcome and Introductions

Project Team introduce themselves using 2 pictures to illustrate: (Bob; David; Andrew & Allan)

1: How they see the church now

2: Where do they see us in 2015

3: Why they have decided to volunteer for the team

Outline timetable explained and opportunities for further inputs into the process (Sally)

First Session 'Where are we now and where do you see us in 2015?' (30 minutes)

Members invited to choose 2 pictures. On the back write a few adjectives / words / phrases that explain why they have chosen these pictures

Get into groups of 6 and share why they have chosen these pictures

Second Session 'How do we close the Gap?' (30-45 minutes – leading to tea)

What are the challenges; obstacles things we need to do to get us from where we are now to where we would like to be and suggestions for how we deal with those challenges

Synod split into 3 groups. Each group set to work on a wall writing up their ideas and suggestions.

Clustering into groups / themes

Distribution of red & green stickers – to place on ideas strongly agree with or disagree with

Tea :

### **Starting to draw out the key themes**

Introduce next part of the process (Sally)

Distribution of 3 gold stars to each member

Session with Roving Mike. Martyn Atkins moves around each of the walls in turn. He draws out a few comments on the wall and invites members who feel strongly about an issue to comment. Comments of Ecumenical Partners / Young People especially welcomed. (Martyn)

Once all 3 walls have been visited members asked to stick their 3 gold stars on 'What issues they think are the most important?'

**Conclusions (Bob / David)**

Project Team conclude with comments on 'Where do we go from here' and how this input will be taken forward into the consultation.

Encourage churches / circuits to organize meetings to discuss the on-going consultation

How people can stay up to date with the developing thinking: (Communications)

Autumn Synod

[www.methodistchurchinscotland.org.uk](http://www.methodistchurchinscotland.org.uk)

Scottish Methodists Together Issue 2 (due out June)