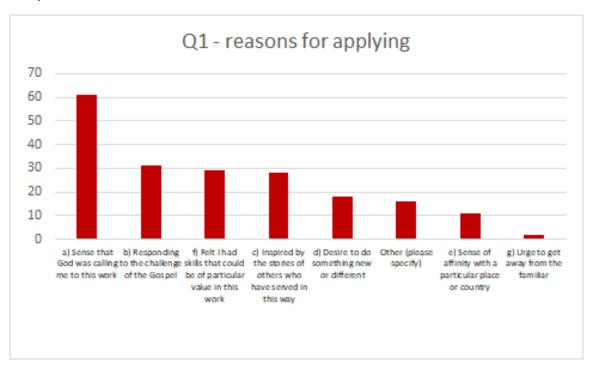
Mission Partner Review – quant analysis of responses to second section (detailed questions for MPs and former MPs)

All respondents who opted to continue to Part Two of the questionnaire (survey ended 24th March 2018)

In all, there were 83 responses to this part of the survey. However, around 20 of the respondents entered little or no data in response to any of the questions in this part so they may simply have been interested to 'see' the full survey. Most questions were answered by 55-60 individuals.

Question 1 of the second section asked respondents why they applied to be a Mission Partner (multiple selections were allowed):



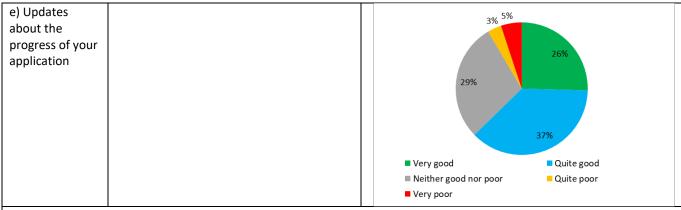
The idea of a 'call' is clearly still very important, being mentioned by almost all of those who actively responded to the questions and twice as often as any other factor.

Among the 'other' reasons mentioned were:

- Being inspired by an individual or speaker, eg at theological college. This was the reason most cited. In one case, being inspired by the procession of overseas partners at the Conference!
- Response to an advertisement
- Family reasons (husband/wife also applied)
- Specific request from overseas to undertake a project
- Specific language skill to offer
- Strong sense of a global Christian community (One Mission)

Several respondents indicated that their calling had been a long process: "My first Sunday School teacher left to work overseas. Many years later I studied at Richmond College, often standing beneath the boards that recalled the service of those who went overseas. It was at the end of my ministry [that] my wife and I offered to serve overseas".

Question 2 asked respondents to rank various aspects of the application process		
a) Information provided about the programme to prospective applicants	Across all these sub-questions in Q2 the response was similar: most MPs found the application process good, with a significant slice (typically 20-25%) rating it as 'neither good nor poor' and a small number (4-10%) rating it as poor.	2% 5% 34% Very good Quite good
		■ Neither good nor poor ■ Quite poor ■ Very poor
b) Application forms and other requirements		2% 2% 21% 34%
		■ Very good ■ Quite good ■ Neither good nor poor ■ Very poor
c) Interview / discernment process	The interview/discernment process received the largest number of 'very poor' responses to Q2, but still only 10% rated it quite or very poor and far more found it good.	7% 3% 15% 39%
		■ Very good ■ Quite good ■ Neither good nor poor ■ Quite poor ■ Very poor
d) Time taken to complete the process	Some of the qualitative comments refer to the lengthy time taken over the process, but most respondents appear to have been happy with it.	2% 8% 30%
[■ Very good ■ Neither good nor poor ■ Very poor



Question 3 invited comments on how the process might be improved – see qualitative results

Question 4 asked for comments in the respondent's own words on how their placement was selected and what say they had in it – see qual results

Question 5 suggested various ways in which the placement process might change

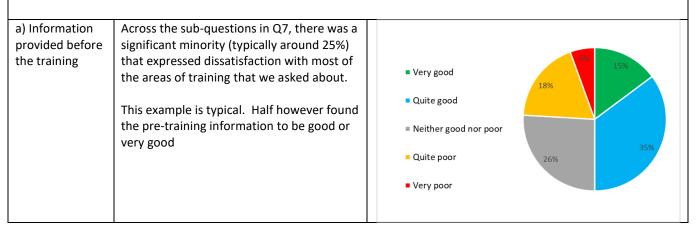
a) More choice for candidates about where they can go	Just under half were in favour of this, only 13% actively against. The largest slice were neither one nor the other.	 Strongly in favour Somewhat in favour Neither in favour nor opposed Somewhat opposed Strongly opposed
b) More information about a prospective post	Very strong endorsement – but what is there not to like about 'more information'?	Somewhat in favour Neither in favour nor opposed Somewhat opposed Strongly opposed Strongly opposed
c) Opportunity to have contact with the host partner before committing to a post	85% in favour, with just a tiny number against.	Strongly in favour Somewhat in favour Neither in favour nor opposed Somewhat opposed Strongly opposed

d) A shortlist of several posts offered to a candidate for consideration	Also supported by three quarters of respondents	Strongly in favour Somewhat in favour Neither in favour nor opposed Somewhat opposed Strongly opposed Strongly opposed
e) Specific posts	Just 12% actively opposed the	
should be advertised for	advertisement of specific posts.	
individual		■ Strongly in favour 5%
applications		■ Somewhat in favour
		■ Neither in favour nor opposed
		■ Somewhat opposed
		■ Strongly opposed
f) Online	Significantly less interest in this, with a third	
"marketplace" or "dating" of	of respondents expressing no view one way or the other	Strongly in favour
candidates and	of the other	■ Strongly in favour
posts		■ Somewhat in favour
		■ Neither in favour nor opposed
		Somewhat opposed
		■ Strongly opposed
<u> </u>	 	

A supplementary (unnumbered) question invited any other comments or ideas about the placement process – see qual results

Question 6 asked (a) where training was carried out and (b) in which year. Responses are shown in the qual results and might be used for deeper analysis of what follows, however this has not yet been attempted.

Question 7 asked respondents to rank various aspects of the training process



b) Quality of the training sessions themselves	Over 60% were appreciative of the quality of the training itself.	 Very good Quite good Neither good nor poor Quite poor Very poor
c) Extent of "Methodist" content in the training	But almost 30% were dissatisfied with the extent (or lack) of 'Methodist' content in the course, or (below) the quality of understanding of Methodist theology and practice.	 Very good Quite good Neither good nor poor Quite poor Very poor
d) Quality of the understanding shown of Methodist theology and practice		 Very good Quite good Neither good nor poor Quite poor Very poor
e) Relevance of the training to your subsequent placement	A significant minority – around a third – of all respondents expressed reservations about the relevance of the training to what they subsequently went on to do	Very good Quite good Neither good nor poor Quite poor Very poor

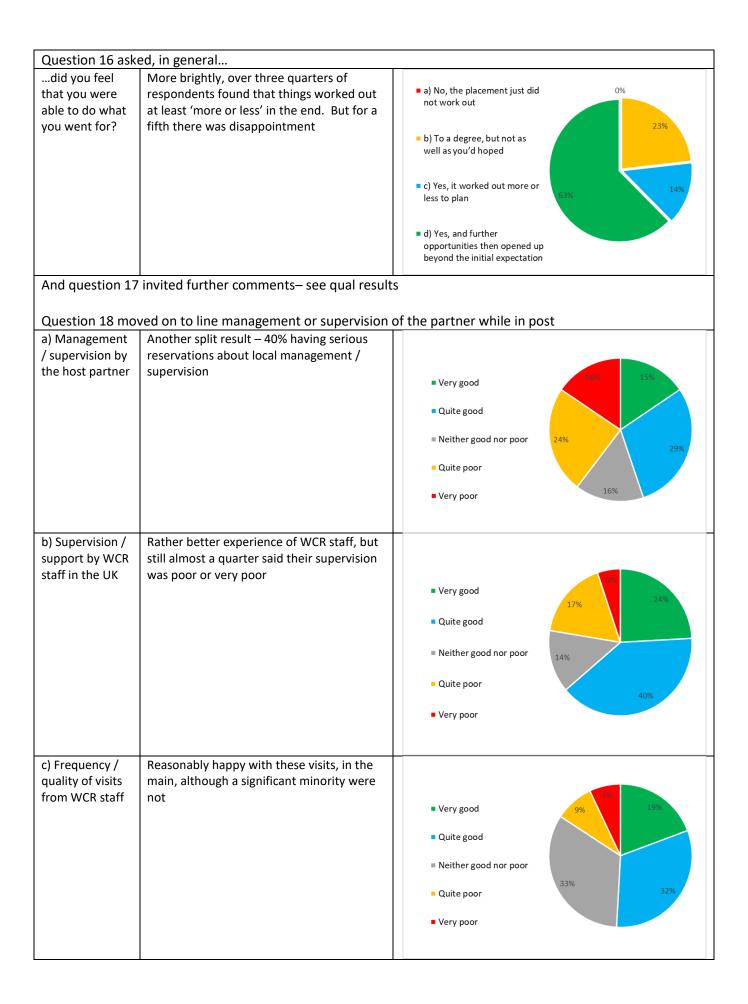
f) Length of the training	But less than a fifth were unhappy with the length of it	
		■ Very good 11%
		■ Quite good
		■ Neither good nor poor
		Quite poor
		■ Very poor
g) Opportunities to interact with	Not surprisingly, perhaps, the interaction with the rest of their cohort was favourably	O% O%
other trainees	received	■ Very good
		■ Quite good
		■ Neither good nor poor
		Quite poor
		■ Very poor
h) Resources to take away from	And most were happy with the resources provided. Some examples are cited in the	0%
the training	qual comments	■ Very good
		32%
		■ Quite good
		■ Neither good nor poor 28%
		• Quite poor
		■ Very poor
Question 8 invite	ed further comments or feedback – see qu	al responses
Question 9 asked	d about the 'preparation' that the respond	ent received before setting out
a) General	The data gathered from Q9 show a much	
information sent to you by the	more divided response. Across the various sub-questions, some were very happy with	7%
host partner or World Church	their preparation but another substantial group was not.	■ Very good
team in advance		■ Quite good
	Respondents were pretty evenly split down the middle in their views of the pre-	■ Neither good nor poor
	placement information provided to them.	Quite poor
		■ Very poor

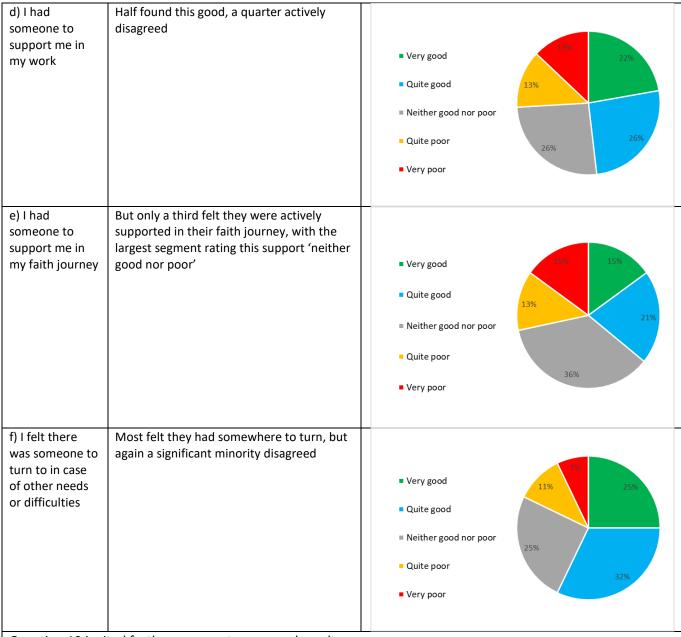
b) Opportunity for dialogue with the host partner, eg by phone or Skype	This was clearly an area of significant dissatisfaction	 Very good Quite good Neither good nor poor Quite poor Very poor
c) Information / briefing about the job you would be doing	Another polarised result, although the largest segment rated such information 'neither good nor poor'	 Very good Quite good Neither good nor poor Quite poor Very poor
d) Information / briefing about where you would be living	Split down the middle again – over 20% responding 'very poor'	 Very good Quite good Neither good nor poor Quite poor Very poor
e) Information / briefing about security and matters of personal health	A more favourable reaction to this but still with almost a quarter of respondents saying it was quite or very poor	 Very good Quite good Neither good nor poor Quite poor Very poor

f) Information / Again, experiences differed quite markedly 0% briefing about other aspects of Very good what to expect Quite good ■ Neither good nor poor Quite poor ■ Very poor Question 10 invited further comments or feedback – see qual responses Question 11 asked how well the respondent was helped to settle in on arrival... ... eg by taking Just 5% were really unhappy with the 'welcome' but for many a degree of selfyou to your accommodation, sufficiency was required! The qualitative introducing you comments indicate that this was not a) No help, or very little help, was provided to colleagues, necessarily a surprise or unwelcome. And etc? half of respondents said they felt welcomed b) I received some help but I and helped on arrival. had to work a lot out for mvself c) I was welcomed and helped very well by local staff Question 12 asked if a specific individual was assigned locally... Split roughly 50:50 over the experience of ...to help you a) No, I had largely to sort through the first the first few weeks things out for myself few weeks b) Yes but this support was not very effective c) Yes, the support was effective to begin with but did not continue for long enough d) Yes and the support was broadly effective and sufficient Question 13 invited further comments on the settling-in experience – see qual results Question 14 asked about the match of expectations: How well did A really interesting result. Only for a a) Expectations seriously your quarter was there an excellent match of mismatched expectations of expectations, although for a further 40% 'what you were there was a reasonable fit. A third of b) Expectations reasonably consistent, but you had to adjust there for' match respondents had difficulties with vour ideas with those of mismatched expectations. c) Expectations reasonably the host partner consistent, but the local partner had to adjust their ideas or colleagues d) Expectations reasonably locally? consistent but we both had to adjust our ideas a bit e) Excellent match of your expectations with those of the

partner

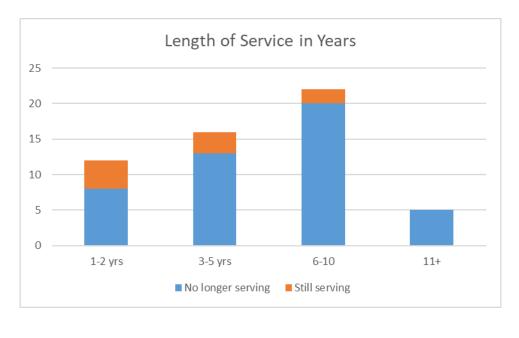
Question 15 invited further comments—see qual results





Question 19 invited further comments – see qual results

Question 20 asked how long the partner stayed in post, with a tick box to indicate if still in post

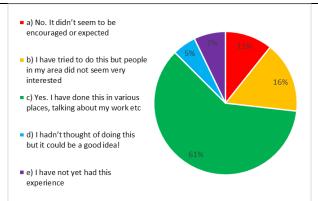


Question 21 asked about the length of placement Too long, too Over 80% felt the placement was about short or about right in length, although 16% would have right? welcomed the chance to stay longer About the right length Too long ■ Too short Question 22 invited further comments- see qual results Question 23 moved on to the level of the stipend: Financially, how Over 40% either struggled or had to chip in 14% a) It is/was inadequate for local does/did your a bit themselves. But for 14% the stipend conditions and I struggled financially stipend work was 'generous'. The result may well reflect b) It is/was sufficient for the basics in part the genuine differences in living out but I had to fund some costs myself costs in different countries. c) It is/was about right to put me The qual comments also indicate how on a par with local staff in similar stipend arrangements have varied over d) It is/was more than local staff time and that this (eg withdrawal of had but about right to put me on a par with other expatriate staff spouse allowance) caused problems for some people e) It is/was generous and I could have managed with less Question 24 invited further comments – see qual results Question 25 was about furloughs: When you came Reasonably encouraging, but it appears a) I received no encouragement or back home on that more could be done to promote this invitations to do this furlough, did and ensure invitations are given b) I did some, and could have done you share your more if there had been more experiences with churches or c) I did some, and would have done more but there was insufficient circuits here d) I visited many churches or circuits to talk to them about my e) I have not yet had a furlough Question 26 invited further comments—see qual results Question 27 was about the eventual return home at the end of the time as an MP: Under 40% felt there had been a good Was there a) No. There was no proper adequate debrief. Almost as many reported either no debriefing at all debrief at all or a 'notional' one at best. opportunity to debrief / discuss b) Not really. A notional debriefing took place but it was insufficient / share concerns Some of the qualitative comments about or learnings with this can reasonably be described as c) It was OK, but I felt I could have WCR staff or 'scathing' helped much more if there had been a better opportunity others? d) Yes. This was done well and I was able to share any concerns e) I have not yet had this experience

Question 28 asked how that might have been improved—see qual results

Question 29 asked whether respondents, since finishing, had tried...

...to promote the idea of Mission Partnership in your home or other areas? What has your experience been of this? As with furloughs, it would appear that much good work goes on but there is still scope for improvement and some disappointment that others in the Church were just 'not interested'

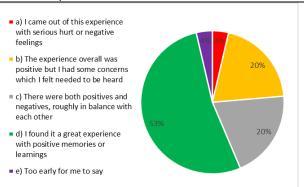


Question 30 invited comments on this – see qual results

Question 31 asked respondents to reflect on the overall experience they had:

What is your assessment of your overall personal experience?

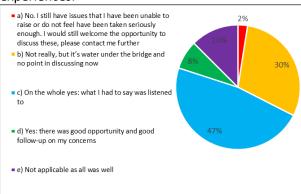
The 'bottom line' question. Rather more than half of Mission Partners came out with positive memories or learnings but almost a quarter had serious concerns or, in the case of two individuals, reported serious hurt or negative feelings.



And question 32 invited further comments – see qual results

Lastly, question 33 asked respondents about potentially bad experiences:

If you came back with concerns over any area of what you experienced, did you get adequate opportunity to feed those in? Combining the level of concerns with the lack of good debriefing opportunities, a third of respondents felt that they were <u>not</u> given adequate opportunity to feed those worries into our process.



Question 32 invited further comments – see qual results – and provided an email address for anyone wanting to make contact about it