candiDating for ordained ministry

CIRCUIT LEADERSHIP TEAM REFERENCE FORM c.4

*This form should be completed by the Superintendent or Acting Superintendent minister of the circuit from which the Candidate is candidating in conjunction with all other members of the Circuit Leadership Team.*

*Please submit the completed reference to* [*candidates@methodistchurch.org.uk*](mailto:candidates@methodistchurch.org.uk) *by the deadline date stated in document G.9.*

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| **Guidance** |

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| Please refer to G.6 Criteria for Candidates for Ministry which is available on the Methodist church website here: [Guidance for candidating (2024-2025) (methodist.org.uk)](https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/ministries/candidating-for-ministry/candidating-process/guidance-for-candidating-2024-2025/) |
| Please do not use font size less than 11-point. Please ensure that the form is typed and submitted in word format. |
| Please write the reference using the nine criteria headings below. The comments you offer will help the discernment processes. |
| Please prepare the reference collaboratively. The reference should be signed by the candidate, and by one of the members of the Circuit Leadership Team and the Superintendent – neither of whom should be related to the candidate.  Please ensure that these are not the people who the candidate has named as their referees. |

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| **Information** |
| **Name of the candidate** |
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| **Order of Ministry** |
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| **Name of the Superintendent** |
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| **Name and number of the circuit** |
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| 1. **Vocation (call and commitment)** |

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| **Questions to consider**   * Is there evidence of an inner sense of call that is confirmed by others? * Is it realistic and transformative of the candidate? * Can the candidate articulate their sense of call? |
| **Comments and evidence** |
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| 1. **Vocation (Ministry in the Methodist Church in Great Britain)** |

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| **Questions to consider**   * Does the candidate have a knowledge and understanding of the British Methodist Church? * What is the evidence that they have an enthusiastic commitment to it? * Are they aware of the distinctiveness of the two (ordained) orders of ministry and of the meaning of lay ministry? * How do they show a willingness to work with diversity in the British Methodist Church? |
| **Comments and evidence** |
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| 1. **Relationship with God** |

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| **Questions to consider**   * Is the candidate grounded in an understanding of God’s loving acceptance of them? * Do they show a personal commitment to Christ? * How does the candidate show a faith which is both mature and child-like, with a capacity to grow? * Is their faith nourished by individual and corporate prayer and worship, and engagement with the means of grace? |
| **Comments and evidence** |
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| 1. **Personality and Character** |

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| **Questions to consider**   * Do you see in the candidate a self-awareness and a self-acceptance? * Does the candidate offer evidence of emotional stability, maturity, honesty and integrity? * Does the candidate show robustness and resilience? * Does the candidate show a potential for self-development and growth? |
| **Comments and evidence** |
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| 1. **Being in Relationship with Others** |

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| **Questions to consider**   * What evidence is there that the candidate has an ability to relate to a variety of people? * How does the candidate demonstrate a potential to exercise effective pastoral care? * Does the candidate show an awareness of safeguarding, the discipline of the Church and a respect for the diversity of views within Methodism? |
| **Comments and evidence** |
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| 1. **The Church’s Ministry in God’s World** |

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| **Questions to consider**   * How does the candidate show a knowledge of, and commitment to, mission and evangelism? * Can the candidate make connections between today’s world and the gospel? * Is the candidate committed to work for change, with a particular attention to people who are marginalised? |
| **Comments and evidence** |
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| 1. **Leadership and Collaboration** |

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| **Questions to consider**   * Has the candidate an ability to exercise leadership in the church community and beyond? * How does the candidate inspire and motivate others? * Does the candidate work collaboratively and exercise appropriate authority? * Is the candidate flexible, adaptable and willing to take risks? |
| **Comments and evidence** |
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| 1. **Learning and Understanding** |

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| **Questions to consider**   * Has the candidate shown an ability to learn and benefit from theological study? * Has the candidate an enthusiasm for lifelong learning? * Does the candidate show an appreciation of the significance of theology to the church? |
| **Comments and evidence** |
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| 1. **Communication** |

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| **Questions to consider**   * Does the candidate express their faith naturally and effectively, using biblical and theological understanding? * Is the candidate careful in their use of language and do they use it appropriately? * Does the candidate have the necessary skills for mission and evangelism? |
| **Comments and evidence** |
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| **Concluding remarks** |

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| **Signature of Superintendent** |  | **Date** |  |
| **Signature of another member of Circuit Leadership Team** |  | **Date** |  |
| **Comments by the Candidate**  ***You are strongly encouraged to add your reflections/comments here*** |  | | |
| **Declaration by the candidate** | I have read this report | | |
| **Signature of candidate** |  | Date |  |
| *When signing please scan in (or add a photograph of) your actual signature. We cannot accept a typed name in place of a signature.* | | | |