

Membership of the Ministerial and Diaconal Candidate Selection Committees (MCSC and DCSC).

Basic Information

Contact Name and Details	Howard Mellor, Discernment and Selection Coordinator, mellorh@methodistchurch.org.uk
Status of Paper	Final
Action Required	Decision regarding the joint membership of the two committees
Draft Resolution	The Council co-opts additional members to MCSC and DCSC under SO 320(2A) and SO 325(2A) for the year 2009-10 as set out in the table in paragraph 7 of this report.
Alternative Options	None

Summary of Content

Subject and Aims	To enable the smooth running of both DCSC and MCSC it would be most helpful if the members of the Panels of Reference could be members of both Committees and thereby able to act on behalf of either committee.
Main Points	
Background Context and Relevant Documents (with function)	This is the same request as last year. Standing Orders (320 and 325) require the Committees to operate separately and therefore we have to ask for permission for joint membership if the Panels of reference are to work effectively with both committees.
Consultations	The Warden of the Diaconal Order

Summary of Impact

Standing Orders	None
Financial	No additional implications
Personnel	No additional requirements but the effect of the recommendation is to ensure maximum use of all the Panels of Reference
Legal	None
External	None
Risk	A rejection of this recommendation will undoubtedly make the running of the two Connexional Committees unnecessarily more complex.

Membership of the Ministerial and Diaconal Candidates Selection Committees.

1. The Ministerial Candidates Selection Committee (MCSC) and the Diaconal Candidates Selection Committee (DCSC), will meet this year as last, at the same time and the same place, 22-26 March 2010 at All Saints London Colney.
2. In preparation for MCSC/DCSC last year, among other necessary last minute changes, it was requested that the people who make up the Panels of Reference (those experienced people who act as a 'second opinion' where a Panel is not unanimous, or where an issue needs to be explored further) should be members of both DCSC and MCSC.
3. Though the committees happen at the same time, same place and using the same timetable and similar process, there is clear blue water between them – DCSC only dealing with candidates for the Diaconal Order and MCSC dealing only with candidates for Presbyteral Ministry. When each meets in Full Committee it makes its own decisions as per Standing Orders.
4. This year we expect to have about 90 candidates to interview with 6 Panels for MCSC and 2 for DCSC.
5. To enable the smooth running of both DCSC and MCSC it would be most helpful if the members of the Panels of Reference could be members of both Committees and thereby able to act on behalf of either committee.
6. Members of each Committee are appointed by the preceding Conference. But under SO 320(2A) [for MCSC] and SO 325 (2A) [for DCSC] the Council is able to co-opt additional members for either Committee to ensure the proper conduct of the Committee's business if that is judged necessary. This request falls under that head. I have consulted with Gareth Powell and we have agreed that these additions do not breach the limits on numbers for the Committees set out in SO320(1) and 325(1).
7. The table below indicates the names and the Committee to which, by decision of the Conference, they have already been allocated. Note that Sue Culver is already a member of both.

Name	Role	Presently appointed to:	Co-opt to:
Peter Barber	Chair DCSC and PofR	DCSC	MCSC
Andrew Carter	PofR	DCSC	MCSC
John Cooke	Co-Chair MCSC	MCSC	DCSC
Sue Culver	PofR	DCSC and MCSC	
Alan Eccles	Co-Chair MCSC	MCSC	DCSC
Margaret Jones	PofR	MCSC	DCSC
Howard Mellor	PofR	MCSC	DCSC
Linda Williams	PofR	MCSC	DCSC
Malcolm Peacock	PofR	MCSC	DCSC

For Decision by the Council:

The Council co-opts additional members to MCSC and DCSC under SO 320(2A) and SO 325(2A) for the year 2009-10 as set out in the table in paragraph 7 of this report.