

Transitional Regional Minister (Church Life)

NWBA and the Baptist Denomination as a whole are undergoing a period of radical transformation. As part of this transformation, NWBA is seeking to create more flexible, mission-focused networks and structures, capable of responding to the additional responsibilities being devolved from BUGB.

The Transitional Regional Minister (Church Life) will work within the existing team under the overall leadership of the Regional Minister (Team Leader) to deliver structures of support and governance to enable the association to equip and support local churches in their mission. It is envisaged that this process will be completed within three years, after which this post will come to an end.

The Regional Minister (Church life) will be the first point of contact with local churches and ministers and be responsible for provision of pastoral care.

Regional Minister (Church life) Job Description

Key Responsibilities

1. Work with the association staff team to enable them to work as effectively as possible:
 - 1.1 Co-ordinate day to day activities with staff members to enable them to fulfil their own job descriptions and to meet reasonable expectations of others for responses and resources from the association.
 - 1.2 Ensure the relevant planning and organisation of Association events (as decided by Council) including the Ministers' conference and regional resource and training days, including Regional Forum meetings and AGM.
 - 1.3 Share in the work of Ecumenical Involvement done by Regional Minister (Team Leader).
 - 1.4 Deputise for Regional Minister (Team Leader) when appropriate.
2. Work with churches and ministers.
 - 2.1 Ensuring appropriate systems of Pastoral Care of ministers and churches are in place.
 - 2.2 Working with and developing local networks and clusters of churches.
 - 2.3 In partnership with colleges (especially Northern Baptist Learning Community), Baptist Ministers Fellowship, Local ministers groups and others to support the development of ministers, including Newly Accredited Ministers.
 - 2.4 To be a visible presence among churches to help develop the relational life of the association and provide a pastoral link between the churches and association structures.
3. Work with Council, its officers and the Regional Minister (Team Leader) to develop NWBA structures, implement agreed strategy and support the Association's ongoing vision.
 - 3.1 Taking the lead responsibility for identifying the steps required to respond to the BUGB's Futures process in accordance with the NWBA's existing objectives.
 - 3.2 Supporting Council as it reviews issues of governance and refreshes structures, including work to enable greater transparency and accountability to local churches.
 - 3.3 Review NWBA's Trust work to ensure it is devolved to BUC where possible and provide accountability to Council.
4. Work with other Association and Union partners.
 - 4.1 Work with the Northern Partnership to ensure robust processes for the strategic deployment of Home Mission Resources.
 - 4.2 In partnership with other Associations and the Union's ministries team, oversee the development of processes for ministerial recognition which meet the challenges of current employment legislation.
 - 4.3 Attend appropriate Union and Regional Committees.

Person Specification

1. Committed Christian
2. Clear sense of calling and commitment to the task
3. Experienced Baptist Minister with involvement in inter-church activities
4. Flexibility to work as part of a team and to handle a wide variety of tasks
5. Ability to manage staff within a team structure
6. Experience of leading organisational change
7. Knowledge and understanding of charity law, trusteeship and governance
8. Good communication skills, verbal and in writing
9. An understanding of the needs of ministers and churches
10. Pastoral sensitivity and approachability
11. The ability to foster and maintain good relationships
12. Able to delegate, prioritise and work with others
13. A willingness to work with other denominations
14. A willingness to work out of, and spend regular time in, the Association offices
15. Willingness to travel, sometimes overnight and work a varied time pattern

Terms and conditions

The appointment will be subject to a Disclosing and Barring Service check and other references to determine the suitability of the post holder to work with vulnerable groups.

Applicants will need to show they are entitled to live and work in the United Kingdom and will be required to produce evidence of this at interview.

The position is on a full time basis for a three year period. Due to the nature of the work it is not possible to specify the hours of normal working and an amount of evening and weekend working will be required. A significant amount of working time will be spent at the Association Offices in Wigan.

A stipend will be paid based on 120% of the Baptist Union's standard stipend. In addition the Association will work with the candidate to provide appropriate housing. There are sick pay provisions and a paid holiday entitlement of 25 days per calendar year in addition to statutory bank holidays.