



## **Equal Opportunities Policy**

We are a denomination of evangelical churches seeking to grow and multiply through effective communication of the gospel in local communities. It follows that the individual churches of the Connexion are committed to providing a vital and practical response to the needs of those we serve, regardless of their race, religion, lifestyle, sex, sexuality, physical or mental disability, offending background or any other factor.

We have a doctrinal statement (the Fifteen Articles) to which all Trustees and Ministers appointed to churches have to assent in writing. Based upon our understanding of biblical truth we have an agreed Connexional policy about those eligible to be appointed as Ministers.

All other leaders within the churches (voluntary or paid) are expected to be in sympathy and general agreement to these beliefs, as these are at the heart of our ministry and values. Within this framework we actively promote equal opportunity for all with the right mix of talent, skills and potential.

We welcome applications from a wide range of candidates, including those with criminal records, and we select candidates for interview based upon their skills, qualifications, experience and commitment to the values of the organisation. We ensure that all those in the Connexion who are involved in the recruitment process have been suitably informed to identify and assess the relevance of circumstances of offences.

Trustees, Ministers and senior leaders and all those who work with children, young people and vulnerable adults will be required to hold an up to date enhanced CRB clearance.

Agreed by Trustees on 14 October 2006.