**Draft JDS policy for CI District, Guernsey & Jersey Circuits**

The Methodist Church in the CI District aims to be free of all forms of **discrimination**:

It celebrates the rich diversity of humanity and recognises that all people are made in the image of God

It has structures and processes which allow everyone to participate fully.

It has a leadership which reflects the diversity of our membership.

It offers safe spaces for the general public, and for members, to meet with a diversity of people, while still being honestly themselves

It ensures that its leaders are trained to understand issues of diversity and exclusion - *see the Inclusive Language Strategy, Equality Impact Assessment, Personal Responsibility Commitment and User Guide on The Methodist Church website*

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-church/the-inclusive-methodist-church/resources-events-and-support/resources/>

It listens to, takes seriously, and acts upon any reports of discrimination or prejudice – *experiences of discrimination should be reported to: The JDS Officer c/o* circuitoffice.jsy@gmail.com

*‘****Discrimination’*** *is identified in terms of: Age, Disability (including mental health), Gender Reassignment, Marriage and Civil Partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Religion and Belief.*

*These are known as ‘Protected Characteristics’ under the* ***UK’s Equality Act 2010****, most are included within* ***Jersey’s Discrimination Law 2014 with amendments up to 2021,*** *and* ***Guernsey’s draft prevention of discrimination ordinance 2022*** *which is due to be approved 28th September 2022. The protected grounds covered will be race, disability, carers status, religious belief and sexual orientation (phase 1). Phase 2 will be drafted in 2023.*

*For further information please see The Inclusive Church on the Methodist Website*

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-church/the-inclusive-methodist-church/>

Jean Treleven 27th August 2022