



9. Membership of Churches Together in Lancashire

(1) Admission of new members

(a) Eligibility

Membership of Churches Together in Lancashire is open to any Christian individual or group who is interested in furthering its purpose, and who, by applying for membership, had indicated his, her or its agreement to become a member and acceptance of the duty set out in sub-clause (3) of this clause.

A member may be an individual, a corporate body, or [an individual or corporate body representing] an organisation which is not incorporated.

(b) Admission procedure

The charity trustees:

- (i) may require applications for membership to be made in any reasonable way that they decide;
- (ii) shall, if they approve an application for membership, notify the applicant of their decision within 28 days
- (iii) may refuse an application for membership if they believe that it is in the best interests of Churches Together in Lancashire for them to do so;¹
- (iv) shall, if they decide to refuse an application for membership, give the applicant their reasons for doing so, within 28 days of the decision being taken, and give the applicant the opportunity to appeal against the refusal; and
- (v) shall give fair consideration to any such appeal, and shall inform the applicant of their decision, but any decision to confirm refusal of the application for membership shall be final.

(2) Transfer of membership

Membership of Churches Together in Lancashire cannot be transferred to anyone else except in the case of an individual or corporate body representing an organisation which is not incorporated, whose membership may be transferred by unincorporated organisation to a new representative. Such transfer of membership does not take effect until Churches Together in Lancashire has received written notification of the transfer.

¹ Membership cannot be granted to groups or individual whose beliefs and practices are contrary to the Christian Faith and Scriptures.

(3) Duty of members

It is the duty of each member of Churches Together in Lancashire to exercise his or her powers as a member of Churches Together in Lancashire in the way he or she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of Churches Together in Lancashire.

(4) Termination of membership

- (a) Membership of Churches Together in Lancashire comes to an end if:
 - (i) the member dies, or, in the case of an organisation or the representative of an organisation, that organisation ceases to exist; or
 - (ii) the members sends a notice of resignation to the charity trustees; or
 - (iii) any sum of money owed by the member to Churches Together in Lancashire is not paid in full within six months of its falling due; or
 - (iv) the charity trustees decide that it is in the best interests of Churches Together in Lancashire that the member in question should be removed from membership, and pass a resolution to that effect.

- (b) Before the charity trustees take any decision to remove someone from membership of Churches Together in Lancashire they must:
 - (i) inform the member of the reasons why it is proposed to remove him, her or it from membership;
 - (ii) give the member at least 28 clear days' notice in which to make representations to the charity trustees as to why he, she or it should not be removed from membership;
 - (iii) at a duly constituted meeting of the charity trustees, consider whether or not the member should be removed from membership;
 - (iv) consider at that meeting any representations which the members makes as to why the member should not be removed; and
 - (v) allow the member, or the member's representative, to make those representations in person at that meeting, if the member so chooses.

(5) Membership fees

Churches Together in Lancashire may require members to pay reasonable membership fees to Churches Together in Lancashire.