

## **A Model Church Constitution**

1. Objective

The objective of this Constitution is to establish the form and authority of the Governing Body.

2. Governing Body

The Governing Body of the church shall comprise the Pastor, Elders, Departmental Leaders and House Group Leaders, collectively known as 'The Church Council'.

The Pastor and Elders have the overall responsibility for spiritual matters and the Church Trust Deed.

The position of Pastor and Elders are ratified in May of each year by the Council.

The Council shall determine the number of Elders to be appointed to suit the needs of the church.

The appointment of Elders shall be made as and when the Council determines. Those so appointed shall be selected by the Pastor and Elders, approved by the Council and ratified by the Church Membership.

Departmental Leaders, House Group and Womens' Group Leaders or other staff shall be nominated by the Pastor and Elders and approved by the Council. Such appointments are for a period of twelve months, being ratified in December of each year.

The Council can require the resignation of any Governing Body Member in the event of misconduct.

3. Membership

Membership in the church is held by those who have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, have indicated their commitment to the life of the church and are in good fellowship with the leaders and other members.

Decision making members will be aged 18 years and over.

4. Procedure for amending the constitution

A proposed amendment must be submitted to the Church Council in writing and signed by ten members.

The Council has two months in which to consider the amendment. If the amendment is adopted, the Church Membership is to be notified on three consecutive newsletters.

## **Notes**