

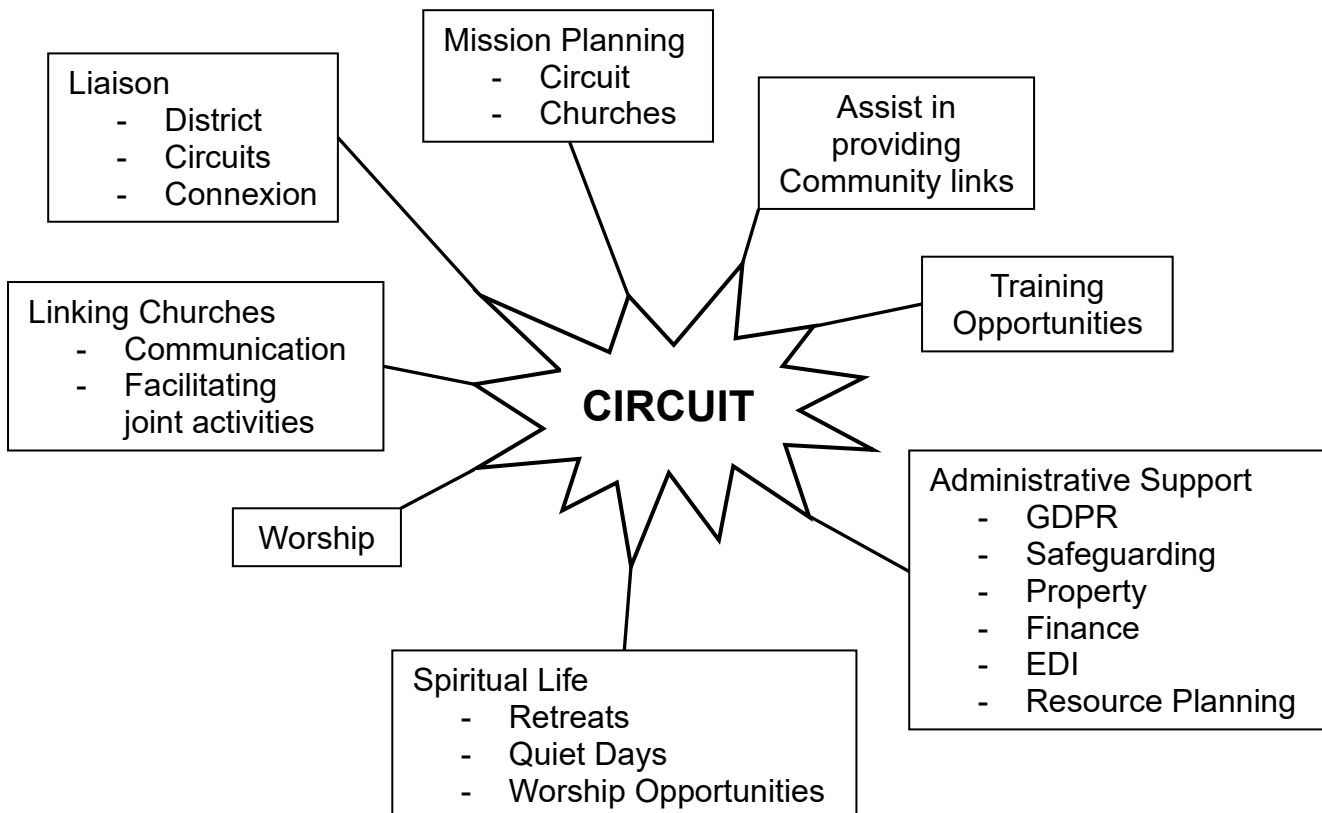
## **BORDERS MISSION CIRCUIT**

### **5 Year Plan – Proposal**

*(to be read in conjunction with the document 'What can Circuit be?'  
issued at the September 2023 Circuit Meeting)*

Following the two rounds of conversations with all of the Circuit churches over the past 12 months, the Circuit Leadership Team propose that the Circuit Meeting adopt the Circuit 5 Year Plan as shown below.

It is proposed that the Circuit should act as a hub to provide practical support to churches. The responsibilities of the Circuit are shown in the diagram below.



The 5 Year Plan for the Circuit will be:

Year 1	2023 - 2024	Present planned proposals to churches during the second round of conversations. Present final proposals for agreement at March 2024 Circuit Meeting.
Year 2	2024 – 2025	Develop the planned working of the Circuit and introduce changes to Circuit; prepare Circuit Mission Plan; look at the on-going strategic operation of the churches and Circuit; identify any additional resources to support work of churches and Circuit.
Year 3	2025 – 2026	Monitor the operation of the new ways of providing support to churches and modify as required.
Years 4 & 5	2026 – 2028	Begin to explore the new form of Circuit by encouraging closer co-operation and working between churches and review church mission plans.

Whilst looking to enable the Circuit to take on the role of being a hub to support the churches, it is also important to recognise that there may be changes in the circumstances of some of our churches. As a consequence of this, the proposed plan must be flexible and be able to be modified in response to any Connexional, District or Circuit changes.

The Circuit is to concentrate on the following supporting activities:

***Spiritual Development*** - develop activities across the Circuit that will provide opportunities for our people to engage with their spiritual lives. This may include quiet days, training, retreat opportunities, etc

***Property*** - liaise with churches to provide support (where requested) in managing church properties, responding to Quinquennial actions, support with documentation and annual returns, etc.

***Administration*** - work with churches to assist in the necessary administrative requirements placed upon churches. This may include such areas as finance, safeguarding, EDI, GDPR, communication, etc.

It is not intended that responsibility for this work can be taken off the churches as there will still need to be reporting lines back to relevant Church Councils and the necessity for local church members to hold specific roles, but it is hoped that procedures and common ways of working can be implemented to ease the overall burden and release people to explore using their gifts and skills in mission and ministry in their churches and communities.

The Borders Mission Circuit 5 Year Plan is Proposed by: .....

Seconded by: .....

Those in Favour: .....

Those Against: .....

Not Voting: .....