### DRAFT EMBA Nominations Process 2024

### Important information for churches

### EMBA Board of Directors

**At our Association General Meeting on Saturday 29 June 2024, there will be an election of Directors of the Association. This will be the first election held under the revised Articles of Association approved and adopted at the AGM on 24 June 2023.**

**The election of Directors will be by ballot voting on the day. Each member church of the EMBA is entitled to ONE voting Authorised Representative (delegate) at the Association General Meeting. To be elected, nominees must be approved by more than 50% of those present and eligible to vote.**

**Nominations are now invited to fill up to SIX vacancies out of the maximum of EIGHT Elected Director positions on the Board.**

**TWO** of the current Elected Directors of the Association will continue to serve as they are part way through their 3-year term of office:

* Revd David Harvey, member at Belper Baptist Church, Derbyshire
* Mrs Kay McManus, member at New Day Baptist Church, Morton, Lincolnshire

**FOUR** of the current Elected Directors of the Association will complete their first 3-year term of office in June 2024. All four are eligible for nomination for a further 3-year term.

* Revd Hannah Colk, minister at Robert Hall Memorial Baptist Church, Leicestershire
* Mrs Ellie Cox, member at Oadby Baptist Church, Leicestershire
* Revd Martin Hills, minister at Oundle Baptist Church, Peterborough
* Revd Matt Jones, member at Westdale Lane Baptist Church, Mapperley, Nottinghamshire

There are currently TWO vacancies carried forward from previous years.

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE ROLE OF ‘EMBA ELECTED DIRECTOR’:**

* The Board of Directors has the power to manage and exercise all the powers of the Association. Alongside the Regional Team Leader and Association Treasurer who are Directors by virtue of office, Elected Directors are Trustees of the East Midland Baptist Association.
* The Association is seeking prayerful, mission minded women and men who can think broadly and strategically; have an eye for the detail and concern necessary for good governance; are experienced in leadership (not necessarily church leadership); and have time and energy to give to the role.
* Directors will be expected to be enthusiastic about God’s work in the region; have an interest in the wider church; and want to help the Association develop its vision of serving East Midland Baptists in mission, through growing healthy churches, by inspiring, equipping, pioneering, caring and partnering.
* The Board of Directors is responsible for the recruitment and employment of Association staff, and for ensuring that they have the support and resources to fulfil their roles.
* This is a voluntary position with out-of-pocket expenses including mileage being paid. The Board of Directors meets 5 times a year. These meetings are currently held at the EMBA offices at West Bridgford Baptist Church, Nottingham mid-week between 11am and 2pm. Provision is made in the Articles for meetings to be held on-line at the discretion of the Board. Depending on the preferences of those elected to the Board, there is some scope for reviewing the timing and mechanism of meetings bearing in mind the constraints of long distance travelling that might be involved and the importance of building relationships through in-person meetings. Directors are encouraged to attend as many of the meetings as possible each year.

**Matters discussed at meetings include:**

* Looking at medium and long-term strategies;
* Overseeing the EMBA budget;
* Development and adoption of policies related to the work of the Association;
* Receiving reports on the money that has been given to Home Mission by the churches and how it is being used;
* Employer responsibilities including the recruitment and development of employees;
* Hearing news from the Regional Ministers about the churches and ministers in their area;
* Making appointments to groups such as the East Midland Baptist Trust Company
* Receiving reports from the various Association working groups.

All discussions are set in the context of worship and prayer.

**In addition to attending five business meetings per year, Directors are encouraged to be involved in other aspects of Association life and attend Association Gatherings and General Meetings;**

* Support conferences and training events whenever possible:
* Contribute to subgroups dealing with specific matters as determined by the needs of the Association and the interests, skills, experience and knowledge of individual Directors.

**Training:** Directors will receive an introduction as appropriate.

**Notes on the Nomination Process**

1. Anyone who is a member ‘in good standing’ of an EMBA Church can be nominated for the position of EMBA Director. To achieve a good balance, not more than one person from any EMBA church can be an elected Director.
2. On all national and association groups the aim is to have a wide variety of people in terms of age, gender, ethnic background, experience, location, and a good balance of lay and ordained people.
3. Nominations can only come from churches – not individuals or other groups. However, they can come from a Church Meeting or from a Deacons/Elders/Leadership meeting.
4. Use the attached nomination form to nominate someone from your own, or any other EMBA Church, but please obtain their consent first.
5. Please note that all completed forms (nomination form + profile form) **need to be signed and** **emailed** to Becky Nicholls at [becky.nicholls@embaptists.org.uk](mailto:becky.nicholls@embaptists.org.uk) Scanned signatures are acceptable. Alternatively, unsigned forms can be emailed by a representative from the nominating church, confirming that they support the nomination of the named person.
6. The deadline for all nominations to the EMBA Office is **Friday 19 April 2024.**

**Who cannot be a charity trustee?**

**Age limitations**

You must be at least 18 years old to be a charity trustee.

**Automatic disqualification**

Some people are disqualified by law from acting as charity trustees, subject to waiver provisions. You can find out about automatic disqualification rules in the Charity Commission guidance [here](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/automatic-disqualification-rules-for-charity-trustees-and-charity-senior-positions).

It is normally an offence to act as a trustee while disqualified unless the Charity Commission has given a waiver. In brief, the disqualification reasons are:

Unspent conviction for: an offence involving dishonesty or deception; a specified terrorism, money laundering or bribery offence; contravening an Order of the Charity Commission; misconduct in public office/perjury/ perverting the course of justice. Unspent conviction for aiding, attempting or abetting any of these convictions.

Other legal disqualifying reasons: being on the sex offender register; having an unspent sanction for contempt of Court; disobeying a Commission order; being a designated person under terrorism or asset freezing law; being someone who has been removed from a relevant office e.g. charity trustee or employee of a charity on the grounds of misconduct; being disqualified from serving as a company director.

Insolvency: where you are an undischarged bankrupt, subject to any of a number of financial orders or have made a composition with or granted a trust deed for your creditors and not been discharged.

**Disqualification by the Charity Commission**

The Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016 added new sections to the Charities Act 2011, one of which gives the Commission a discretionary power to make a disqualification order where the 3 statutory criteria, set out in section 181 (A) of the 2011 Act, are met.

A disqualification order will state whether the person is disqualified in relation to all charities, specified charities or a class of charities. The period of disqualification depends on the seriousness of the case and can be for a maximum of 15 years, during which time, the person is prevented from being or acting as a charity trustee in relation to the charities specified in the disqualification order. The disqualification may extend to disqualification from holding a position with senior management functions (whether paid or unpaid) in relation to those charities specified in the disqualification order without the permission of the Commission.

Find more information about the [discretionary disqualification power](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-discretionary-disqualification-power)

**IF YOU ARE IN ANY DOUBT, PLEASE CHECK** <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/charity-trustee-disqualification>

There are also rules about who can serve as a Director of a Company here <https://www.gov.uk/company-director-disqualification>

The Company Secretary will check that you have not been disqualified from serving during the recruitment process.

All who are successful in being appointed as an EMBA Director, will then need to complete a ‘Trustee Eligibility Declaration’ (see appendix 1).

**APPENDIX 1 – SAMPLE TRUSTEE ELIGIBILITY DECLARATION**

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