## Southampton District Synod

24th April 2021

Matt Finch Pioneering and Church Planting Officer





### **God For All**

#### **Connexional Strategy for Evangelism and Growth**

- Centred in God
- Everyone an Evangelist
- Transformational Leadership
- Young Evangelists, Pioneers and Leaders

- Digital Presence
- New Places for New People

SCAN ME

Church at the Margins

https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/our-work-in-britain/evangelism-growth

## **Exploring New Places for New People**



Core to our strategy for evangelism and growth



# What are they?

New Places for New People are projects whose primary goal is to start, build, and reproduce new Christian communities among unaffiliated people. These include church plants, pioneering communities of faith, fresh expressions, missional communities, and other new faith communities in rural, estate, urban, inner city, suburban, and village contexts.

New Places for New People are the most effective means of connecting new people, new groups, and new residents to Christian exploration and community. In addition, they bring learning from experimental "research and development", identify and strengthen emerging leaders, and help the whole Church reflect on and examine its calling.





## **Two stories**

24th April 2021











### Coffee Shop Sunday



#### Freedom Community Project







# How do they begin?





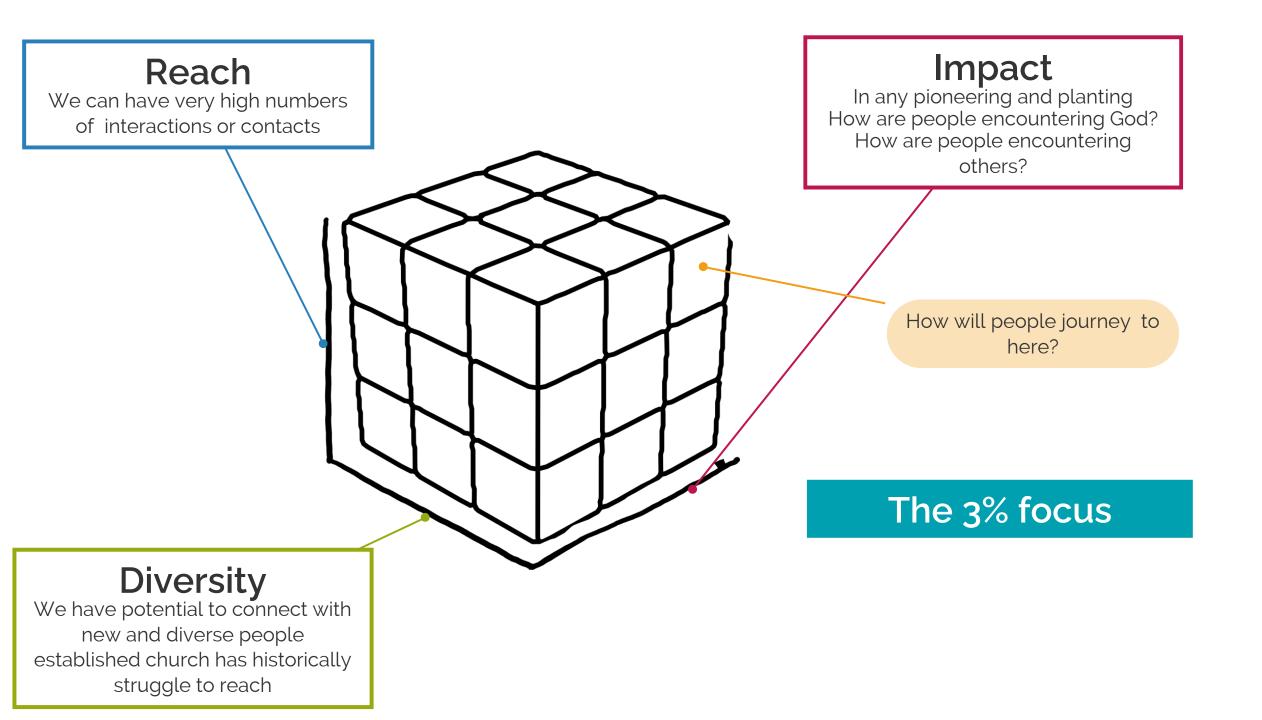
### **Stages of a new place for new people**

The timeline of new place for new people looks like this.



Always listening, praying and pivoting





## **Funding for District Projects**

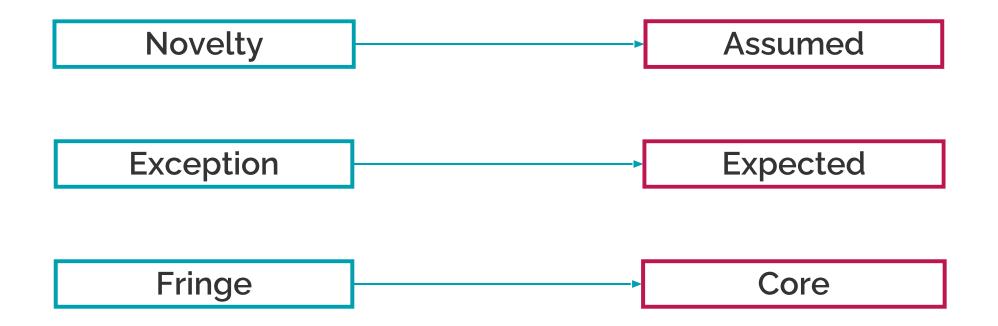




#### Shift in emphasis

From an anomaly we work with to something we all do.

A ministry we all have a part to play in, shaping a structure in which creation happen.



#### Connexion-District-Circuit

		<b>PHASE ONE:</b> A year of conversation and co-creation with the E&G team to shape a project(s) with capacity to influence every circuit in the district to begin visioning their own NPNP/CaM		
	Tranche Project with E&G Team			
	District NPNP/CaM Process	Usir	<b>PHASE TWO:</b> Using the experience of the tranche year, districts now begin a process of discernment, co-creation and funding for the next project(s)	
			PHASE THREE:	
	Established Funding Cycle		shifts t Phase	he launch of more funded projects district missional culture oward the expectation of circuits beginning an NPNP/CaM. one and two projects' seed others, through story telling and rship with other contexts.
			F	PHASE FOUR:
	NPNP in Every Circuit		u c	Vith widespread numbers of NPNPs more Circuits will Inderstand how to begin, fund and sustain new Christian ommunities. NPNP will increasingly be a core part of Circuit nission plans

Wild Swimming: An example of a shift to the ordinary









### Coffee Shop Sunday



#### Freedom Community Project







## Southampton District Project

24th April 2021







#### WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE SOUTHAMPTON DISTRICT

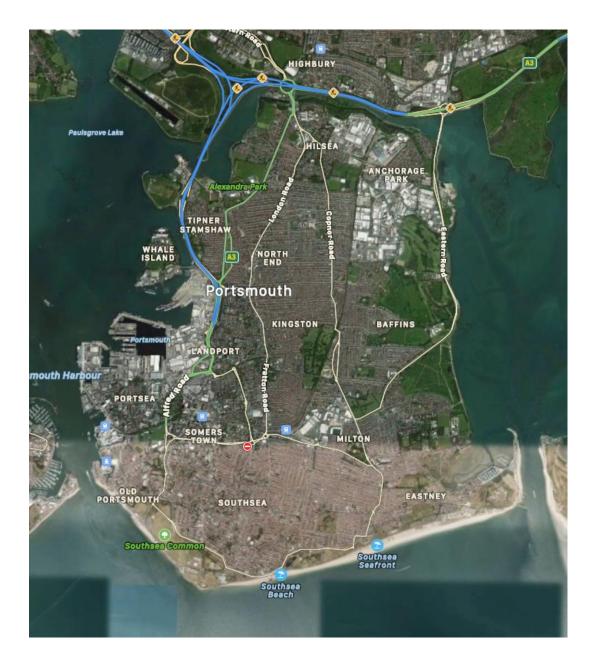
NEW PLACES FOR NEW PEOPLE

### THE JOURNEY SO FAR

#### DREAMING, DISCERNING, DEVELOPING.

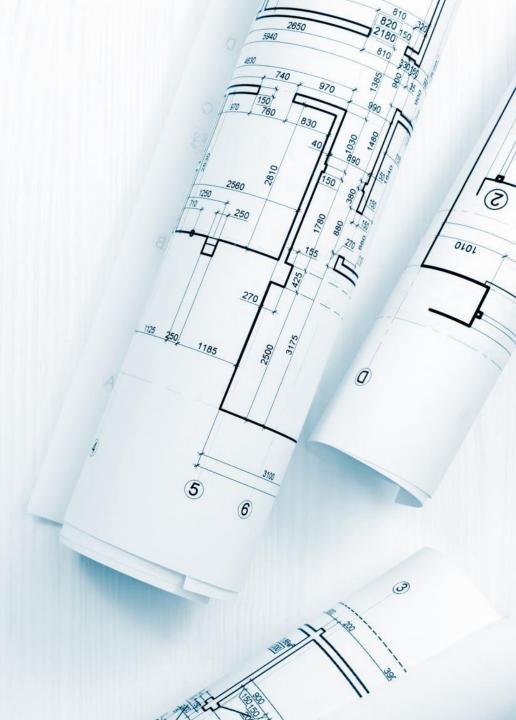
Core team
Circuit team
District team





PORTSMOUTH METHODIST CHURCH Has three sites, Copnor, Southsea and Eastney. We are looking at the South East part of the city

# THE EVOLVING PROJECT



### PROCESS NOT THE OUTCOME

- There is much potential here in the District
- Each circuit can begin to think about a New Place for New People project.
- The Godsend app, the mission planning toolkit and the LN and myself are here to help you.



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### Listening

Every fruitful NPNP begins with listening openly, deeply and widely. It takes time, discipline, and will be both humbling and exciting



To God







### To God

- Make this central before you forget
- Who can pray with and for you?
- Where can you pray?
- A week of prayer
- NPNP is spiritual not programmatic!



### To our community

- Move beyond the safety of facts to relationships
- 1-1s with key leaders
- Become known in new places
- What is digital saying?
- Find new ways of connecting

### Sharing people's world

#### A shepherd smells of the sheep

Key to starting any online community is being with people.

Not **'do to**' people or become service providers

It is unlikely that you would become a committed member of a physical group after one interaction.







### To (y)ourself

- Why do we want an NPNP?
- Don't look at the mirror
- Why am I resistant or enthusiastic?
- What is my role?
- What must we let go of?

## **Breakout Rooms**

- Share **stories** of projects happening in your Circuit and Churches?
- What **opportunities** are there for a New Place for New People (NPNP)?
- As leaders, during the pandemic, what have you **discerned** about where God is leading or challenged you and your churches beyond lockdown?
- Do you have a **potential project/idea** that could be part of the next stage of district funding?

• Who are the **people** that could help shape a vision for a project?



## Reflections or questions from you group

Feel free to post them in the chat





### Shaping and sharing a vision

Flowing from listening, which continues to happen throughout fruitful projects, is the time to shape a vision for your new place for new people.









### Shaping

- Flowing from listening
- Collaborative
- Establish the 'why'
- New voices and faces
- Long-term vision with short term markers

#### DIFFICULT ROADS LEAD TO BEAUTIFUL DESTINATIONS

### Sharing

- You can't share it enough
- Who needs to hear it?
- Share the 'why'
- This is can be tough
- Invite others in



### Honing

- Don't write a document and file it away
- Vision is a living, evolving thing
- Experiment to see if it is right
- Don't build an idol. It is about faith not your project
- Keep on praying

## Your role

The work of the whole church

• Gatekeeper:

I can use the authority I have to enable NPNP

## Advocate:

I can speak up for pioneer and NPNP

## • Pioneer:

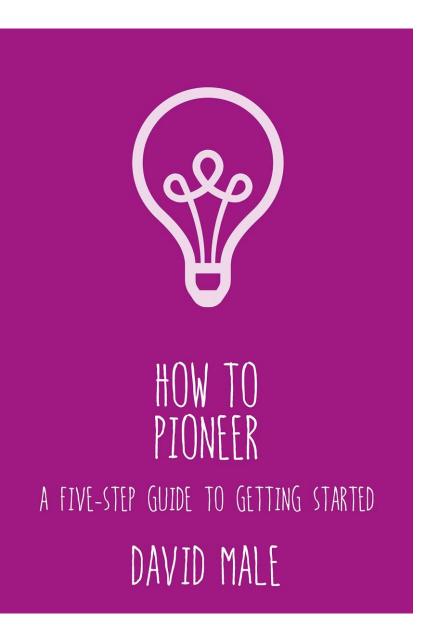
I am called to begin a NPNP





HOW TO PIONEER (EVEN IF YOU HAVEN'T A CLUE)

DAVID MALE



# Next steps

If you feel called to explore a call to pioneer, then maybe Methodist Pioneering Pathways is for you. To find our more about contact James Devenish <u>devenishj@methodistchurch.org.uk</u> your Learning Network Pioneer Lead





### **To download this presentation** https://cutt.ly/UvLNyBG

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New Places for New People

www.methodist.org.uk/npnp

