

Project Violet Requests for Change – R40

Short title	More opportunities for collaborative and flexible ministry
Identifying number	R40
Request for action by	Ministries Team; Associations
Text of request	<p>It is now common to offer flexible patterns of working in most professional occupations.</p> <p>A lone-working model of ministry can stop women flourishing at times when they need accommodations due to menopause, health, caring responsibilities, or other life events. What local churches seek during settlement is inevitably shaped by the ministry they have received in the past. Greater awareness of the forms of ministry available may help churches expand their vision.</p> <p>The requests for change are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministries Team commission a working group to design a system by which Ministers can offer ministry that reflects their particular circumstances and callings, and appropriate ways in which Associations, Moderators, and churches can access it • Ministries Team and Regional Associations to look for opportunities to set up collaborative working between Ministers so that this option is more readily available
Relevant co-researcher reports	<p>Ministering Through the Menopause: A study of the experience of Baptist women ministering through menopause and the support and understanding offered at the Regional Association level in the UK Baptist church</p> <p>How do caring responsibilities, across the life cycle, shape and impact the ministry and experiences of women in Baptist chaplaincy and church ministry roles?</p>
Relevant Theological Reflections	Group 4
Location on Requests Map	Types of ministry - Local church

Agreed at the Project Violet Co-researchers conference on 17 April 2024.