

Engage with your District

Amidst the hustle and bustle of GB company life, we may overlook our vital connection to the broader GB family through district and national involvement.

God has called us into this ministry so that we will use our gifts and talents to serve Him. It's our desire to see GB grow across the Province so that many seeds are sown and hearts won for Christ. The future of Girls' Brigade with God's help, depends on its leaders stepping into roles across all levels of GBNI to use their gifts to direct its path for generations to come.

Our gifts come in all shapes and sizes; maybe you are an excellent story-teller, you have good rhythm, you enjoy the outdoors, you are passionate about developing skills, you enjoy seeing girls meet their full potential, you have an eye for detail, you have excellent planning skills, you are a good communicator, and you are approachable etc. The list goes on... whatever your gift, there is a role in your district that would benefit from your service.

How engaged is your GB company in your local district? Does your company take part in district meetings, events, services, and competitions? If not, would you be interested in doing so? Each company has the opportunity to appoint a representative to join the District Executive and attend meetings that occur locally three to four times a year. By participating, you can contribute to the planning of key events in the district calendar, input new ideas and aid efficient communication across all aspects of Girls' Brigade operations, enabling us to effectively serve and meet the needs of our diverse members. Active involvement in the district is highly encouraged for both support and growth of a company.

When a district is under-represented at meetings, GB companies may miss key information, opportunities, and support. This can weaken the district's influence on decisions, limit communication of important updates, training, and shared resources, leading to the district being less connected to wider GB initiatives. As a result, companies may feel isolated or unsupported, which can affect the quality of the programmes they deliver. Girls may also receive a less varied and less engaging GB experience, with fewer opportunities to take part in district or national events.

If you're uncertain, reach out to your Captain to confirm if your company has a presence on the District Executive. Any leader can serve as the Representative, and if they are unavailable to attend a meeting, another leader can step in. If there's no current Representative for your company, now is the time to step out in faith and prayerfully consider volunteering.

"THEREFORE... STAND FIRM, LET NOTHING MOVE YOU. ALWAYS GIVE YOURSELVES FULLY TO THE WORK OF THE LORD, BECAUSE YOUR LABOUR IN HIM IS NOT IN VAIN." I CORINTHIANS 15:58



Role of the District

Each district is governed by a District Executive, made up of one Company Representative from each company within the district and at least one Chaplain with the opportunity for registered Reserve Officers to be co-opted on to the Executive.

District Executives work best when the views of every company in the district are represented. This helps the lines of communication between national, district and company levels, to keep members informed and allows for important issues to be raised. Districts also arrange training for leaders, events and activities for girls and leaders, prayer support, and provides assistance to local companies.

Districts are managed by Office Bearers who are appointed among its members at the District AGM.

They also appoint leaders to represent the district on various GBNI Teams that feed district views into national activities and decision-making.

These key roles assist with the smooth running of the overall organisation and are a valuable support to all companies within the district.

As we approach our District AGMs, this next section contains some information on the various roles within the District Executive and will highlight how you might be able to get involved at district level.



District Opportunities

Remember to reach out to your Captain to confirm if your company has a presence on the District Executive. Any leader can serve as the Representative, and if they are unavailable to attend a meeting, another leader can step in.

Before the District AGM, the District Secretary will inform all companies within the district of any upcoming vacancies for both Office Bearers and GBNI Team Roles. Captains should circulate this information with all eligible leaders and notify the Secretary of any potential nominations for each vacancy before the District AGM. Post-holders can serve a term up to four years, restrictions apply.

After the District AGM, any outgoing post-holders should arrange a handover meeting with the incoming post-holders to ensure a smooth transition for their role starting in September.

Office Bearers



Each year, the newly formed District Executive elects Office Bearers from among its members to fill these roles: Chairperson, Chaplain, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, District Commissioner and Assistant District Commissioner. Commitment is needed for the above roles as they each come with their own level of responsibility.

Your District Secretary will have a copy of the Office Bearer Role Descriptions that can be viewed upon request. Alternatively, download *CP Form 01-2022 GBNI Role Descriptions* from *My Resources* on the GBNI website.

GBNI Teams

GBNI Teams are responsible to the GBNI Board of Trustees, and each one has an important role to fulfil within the life of GBNI. Teams meet four to six times a year at GBHQ and/or online and have opportunities to serve at team events.

GBNI needs gifted, talented people who are willing to represent their district at team meetings and to serve and contribute to the various aspects of each team.

Your district should elect one person to serve on each of the following GBNI Teams:

**Programme • Activities • PE • DofE
Training • Spiritual • Queen's Award**

Team Representatives are required to regularly attend District Executive meetings and provide a written summary report to the District Executive outlining all outcomes from their team meetings.

They should seek members' views and report any responses back to the GBNI Team for further discussion. If a Team Rep is unavailable to attend the team meetings, another rep from the District Executive can attend in their place. The purpose of each team is described overleaf.

A number of the teams are currently under-represented by several districts which means districts are missing out on being part of the decision-making and future planning of Girls' Brigade. Please consider stepping into one of these teams to support the district whilst gaining new personal experiences.

There are also two places available for Youth Representatives to serve per GBNI Team which are currently vacant across most of the GBNI Teams. Please see the 'Youth Reps' section for more details.

Brigade Council

The role of Brigade Council looks at the bigger picture of GBNI, the overall Vision and leadership of the organisation. Council representatives input into major strategic decisions, represent their districts at national level and provide a communication link between districts and the GBNI Board of Trustees.

The GBNI President, Vice-President, Chairperson, Chaplain and Board Representatives are appointed by Council Representatives on behalf of their district. The Council entrusts policy formation and the general management of GBNI Ltd. to the GBNI Board of Trustees.

This is a key body within the structure of GBNI, and your district should elect two Commissioned Officers and/or Chaplains to represent your district on the Council. They meet three times a year at GBHQ and are invited to attend a number of key events in the GBNI calendar.

Council Representatives are required to regularly attend District Executive meetings and provide a written summary report to the District Executive outlining all the outcomes from Council meetings. They should seek members' views and report any responses back to the GBNI Brigade Council for further discussion.

Stewarding

Open to anyone aged 18+ who would be willing to attend and assist at two/three national or district events over the GB session. Duties range from meeting and greeting, registration desk, uniform marking, serving refreshments to managing crowd flow, etc.

Prayer Coordinator

Prayer is vital within Girls' Brigade as it grounds our decisions in God's wisdom, strengthens unity, and guides us as we support and serve our companies.

The intention for this role is to encourage prayer within the district and to support members in need of prayer. They would manage the sharing of prayer requests between district and GBNI, ideally through a WhatsApp group or by email. The Coordinator may be required to attend one/two online prayer meetings with the GBNI Spiritual Officer and may wish to plan a district prayer gathering.

This role can be held by any Captain, Commissioned Officer, Chaplain or Reserve Officer who feels they have gifts in prayer ministry.

Chaplains

At least one company Chaplain should be elected to serve on the District Executive. GBNI values the encouragement, support and pastoral care that our Chaplains bring to GB. We would like to encourage our Chaplains to serve on the District Executive to bring their experience and knowledge to assist GB in its Vision and Strategy.

Chaplains should prayerfully consider this opportunity and the positive contribution they could make to the work of Girls' Brigade.

Please note a company Chaplain may be an ordained minister, deaconess or other person appointed by the church with oversight of the church/mission. They should be registered on *My Brigade* linked to a GB company.

Ideally, the appointed Chaplain would hold the role of either District Chairperson or District Chaplain. Where this is not possible, these roles can be filled by others within the District Executive.

Reserve Officers

Any Commissioned Officer that is not currently serving within a local company must be registered with GBNI as a Reserve Officer for 2025/26 to be eligible to serve on the District Executive.

Reserve Officers, if willing to contribute to the work of the district, may be co-opted onto the District Executive and may also hold a position of office or sit on a GBNI Team under the same conditions as all other post-holders.

Past Members are not eligible to serve on the District Executive.

Youth Reps

Girls' Brigade is full of talented young women aged 18–25, and we are excited to see even more of them step into roles across our District Executives, GBNI Teams and especially our vibrant GBNI Youth Forum. By getting involved, young women have the opportunity to shape the future of our organisation, influence key decisions, and bring fresh ideas and energy to every level of Girls' Brigade. Here is how they can get involved:

GBNI Youth Forum

The GBNI Youth Forum offers amazing opportunities for leadership development, creative projects, national representation and working alongside passionate peers —making it an inspiring space where young women can truly make their voices heard.

District and Team Youth Representatives make up the GBNI Youth Forum. This group is for young women aged 14 - 25 and meet several times a year to share what is happening in each of the teams and districts. There will also be time at these meetings for discussions on appropriate topics that may benefit young women in their spiritual journey and be involved at GBNI events. Plus, it is a great way to meet and make new GB friends. Find out more about the GBNI Youth Forum by visiting <https://gbni.uk/youth-forum>.

District Youth Reps

Our young leaders offer fresh insight and understand what matters most to girls today. Having youth involvement within the District Executive helps shape decision-making, ensures programmes remain relevant and inspiring, and nurtures our young leaders who will shape Girls' Brigade for the future.

Two young women aged 18-25 can represent girls and young women on their District Executive. They should regularly attend meetings to provide feedback and any information from the GBNI Youth Forum.

GBNI Teams Youth Reps

Having youth representation on GBNI Teams provides the perspectives, creativity and experiences of young women and girls today. We desire for our national projects, programmes and initiatives to stay relevant, engaging and firmly rooted in the needs of all our younger members.

There are two Youth Representative positions reserved on each of the GBNI Teams. These can be filled by young women aged 18-25 from any district in GBNI. They can request which GBNI Team to serve on, according to their skills and interests, see overleaf for Team opportunities. GBNI Teams meet four to six times a year at GBHQ and/or online with opportunities to serve at team events.



Opportunities to serve in GBNI

Purpose of Teams in GBNI: To assist in the leadership of GBNI around an agreed Vision, Aim and Values to ensure the organisation fulfils its financial and legal responsibilities and promotes best practice.

TEAM	PURPOSE: TO...	WE NEED PEOPLE WHO ARE/ HAVE...
All Teams	<p>Assist in the leadership and running of GBNI. Ensure GBNI Strategy and plans are effectively implemented. Ensure GBNI provides high-quality services that meet the needs and expectations of all members. Ensure that GBNI's resources are managed prudently and accountably. Ensure GBNI generates sufficient income to achieve its Aim and Objectives. Ensure that GBNI fulfils its responsibilities for the safety, health and welfare of volunteers, staff and visitors. Ensure there are good relationships between the GBNI Board, District Executives, staff and volunteers and other relevant agencies. Team Members are required to report all outcomes from their team meeting to the District Executive. They should seek members' views and report any responses to their Team for further discussion.</p>	<p>A desire to serve God. Passionate for the work of GBNI. Commitment to helping GBNI move forward. The ability to see the 'big picture'. The ability to work to deadlines. Gifts to encourage companies to recognise and embrace the Vision Statement. The ability to work as a team member and/or use own initiative. Excellent organisational and coordination skills. Good communication skills. The ability to make decisions on behalf of others and feedback information. Committed to attending the majority of their team's meetings.</p>
Brigade Council	<p>Vision and leadership. Plan and drive the Strategic Vision of GBNI. Input into the major strategic decisions. Meetings: Three times per year plus attend key events in the GBNI calendar.</p>	<p>Strategic thinker. Able to debate issues effectively. Able to make decisions that will further the Aim and Vision of GBNI. A broad experience of company life, district work etc. European/International focus.</p>
Spiritual	<p>Plan, prepare and deliver the annual Scripture Course. Develop the spiritual aspects of the GBNI calendar. Encourage companies to work towards our Vision Statement. Meeting: approx. four times per year.</p>	<p>Experience in preparing and teaching scripture material for children and teenagers. Passionate about spreading the Gospel, helping girls engage in the Bible and grow as a disciple. New, innovative, creative, relevant ideas to include in the programme e.g. prayer, dramas and music.</p>
Programme	<p>Plan, prepare and deliver the GBNI Programme, including the development of new badgework ideas. Equip companies with materials, helping them to achieve our Vision. Review and revise the programme for each Section. Meetings: approx. four times per year.</p>	<p>Enthusiastic about developing badgework within Girls' Brigade. New, creative, relevant ideas to include within the GBNI Programme.</p>
Activities	<p>Oversee and manage a range of physical, educational and creative events which reach a wide-range of girls within GB. Provide a programme of activities to enhance the all-round development of our members. Look after competitions (other than PE), social events, sporting and creative activities. Develop new activities and partnerships with professional bodies. Meetings: approx. five times per year.</p>	<p>Skilled in any of the following areas: speech and drama, music (instrumental and vocal), sound recordings, arts and crafts, dance, sports etc. Event management experience. The ability to introduce a new skill that could potentially enhance our programme of activities. Able to steward at NI competitions and other events. Ideally, First Aid trained.</p>
PE	<p>Assess and manage dance, PE and fitness within GBNI. Plan and coordinate the annual PE competitions. Assist and support worksetters throughout the year. Meetings: approx. five times per year.</p>	<p>Be able to steward at the various PE competitions. Interested in encouraging and developing PE within Girls' Brigade. Practical dance experience. Be able to attend vetting as part of the worksetters process. Develop new worksetters.</p>
Duke of Ed. Award	<p>Run the Award in Girls' Brigade. Meetings: approx. four times per year.</p>	<p>Knowledge and experience of the Award. Experience in outdoor pursuits.</p>
Training	<p>Responsible for the programme of training offered to new and existing leaders in GB. Meetings: approx. four times per year.</p>	<p>Experience in assessing training needs. Experience in coordinating company/district training.</p>
Queen's Award	<p>Oversee and manage the Queen's Award Programme. To consider new and innovative ways to increase the impact of the Award. Assist with interview and presentation evenings. Meetings: approx. six times per year.</p>	<p>Knowledge and enthusiasm about developing the Award within Girls' Brigade. New, creative, relevant ideas to include within certain elements of the Award. Interview and assessment skills.</p>

Are you ready to serve?

Stepping onto your GB District Executive is an exciting opportunity to use your gifts, share your ideas and help shape the direction of Girls' Brigade in your area. Serving on the district allows you to build on the skills you already have—organisation, communication, teamwork and creativity—while developing new ones that strengthen your leadership journey. It's a space where your voice matters, your perspective brings value, and your contributions help create meaningful opportunities for girls and leaders alike. By being a part of your District Executive, you become part of a supportive team committed to nurturing leadership, encouraging innovation and working together to ensure Girls' Brigade continues to thrive for generations to come.

How to get involved?

In early April, before the District AGM takes place, your District Secretary will notify all Company Captains within the district of upcoming opportunities to serve on the district. Your Captain should let all eligible leaders know what roles are available. Please prayerfully consider each role and if you feel you have the necessary experience, skills, attributes and willingness to serve on the District Executive to fulfil one of these roles, please speak with your Captain.

Your Captain will then inform the District Secretary before the District AGM and your name will be put forward to the District Executive for consideration. They may ask you to complete a Team Service Form which is available to download from *My Resources* on the GBNI website.

GBNI will supply the district with a list of registered Chaplains for each associated GB company for consideration to sit on the District Executive. Any Chaplain who does not want their name to be considered should inform their Captain before the meeting.

USE THE LINK BELOW TO FIND
WHEN AND WHERE
YOUR LOCAL
DISTRICT AGM IS
TAKING PLACE

<https://gbni.co.uk/district-agm>

Who can attend the AGM?

All registered GB leaders are invited to attend their local District AGM which includes Chaplains, Captains, Officers, Sub-Officers, and Associate Leaders. Each company has the right to one vote. For catering purposes, please let your Captain know in good time if you would like to attend your District AGM.

Registered GBNI Reserve Officers are welcome to attend their local District AGM, however, they are not eligible to vote on district decisions but may be co-opted to serve on the District Executive.

Registered Past Members with either Northern and Eastern branches of the Past Members' Association are welcome to attend their local District AGM, however, they are not eligible to vote on district decisions and cannot serve on the District Executive.

Captains *What you need to do!*

- Your District Secretary should inform you of the district's plan to host their AGM.
- Please inform your Chaplain, Officers, Sub-Officers and Associate Leaders in good time regarding the meeting details and encourage them to attend the AGM.
- All companies should appoint **one** leader to represent their company on the District Executive for the next GB Session. The Representative should be either the Captain or a Commissioned Officer.
- Your District Secretary should inform you, before the meeting, of any upcoming role vacancies within the district. Please read through this guidance and share any opportunities with leaders within your company. Ask them to prayerfully consider this opportunity to use their skills to serve GB further by filling the gap within the district.
- Check with your Chaplain to see if they wish for their name to remain on the Chaplain List to be considered to serve on the District Executive.
- If there are any Youth Representative vacancies. Discuss the different opportunities with potential young women in your company and encourage them to consider putting their names forward.
- Confirm your total number of leaders planning to attend the meeting with your District Secretary.
- Notify your District Secretary seven days before the meeting with the name of your Company Representative for the District Executive; to remove your Chaplain's name from the Chaplain list; and if any of your leaders desire to be nominated for upcoming vacancies on the district.