

EXTRACT FROM:

“COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE IN THE METHODIST CHURCH
A STEP BY STEP GUIDE TO THE STANDING ORDERS ON
COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE [THIRD EDITION]
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13.14 What are the limits to a District Chair’s entitlements?

Although a District Chair is entitled to be informed of the decision made at each stage of the complaints and discipline process he or she is not entitled to participate in the process. In particular:

(a) A District Chair is not entitled to communicate with members of a connexional complaints team appointed to investigate a complaint.⁶⁴ Although it is open to a connexional complaints team to decide that it wishes to meet with the District Chair⁶⁵ it is not obliged to do so.

(b) A District Chair is not entitled to communicate with the Chair of a connexional Discipline Committee.

(c) A District Chair is not entitled to attend either the preliminary hearing⁶⁷ or the final hearing unless he or she is acting either as the complainant’s or respondent’s friend⁶⁹ or representative⁷⁰ or he or she is called to give evidence either by the connexional Presenting Officer⁷¹ or by the respondent.