

Whilst we have currently provided this resource for the Christian Community we hope that it will be of use by other faiths as they too engage with their communities.

For copies of the leaflets and further information please contact:

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The Faith in Partnership Series

Introduction to the Series

No 1.

An Information Resource for People of Faith as they Engage with their Local Communities

This leaflet

- Outlines the series
- Tells you about some of the people who have produced the leaflets
- Identifies contacts who can provide more information

Faith in Partnership - A New Opportunity

"We believe that faith is a powerful motivator and that people of faith, working with an inclusive approach, can make a significant difference to their community."

A new understanding of the valuable role of faith communities is emerging in society. Faith communities are now positively encouraged to participate in partnerships with the statutory and voluntary sectors.

When someone decides to become involved in partnerships they are often faced with a massive amount of new information, produced by a whole range of organisations such as national government agencies, local authorities or voluntary and community groups.

The Faith in Partnership Series (FiP) seeks to introduce this information in a much more accessible way. It is an information resource for people of faith as they engage with their local communities in the new partnership agenda.

We aim to make the process a little easier and encourage faith communities to participate as fully as they can.

Margaret Walsh, Martin Miller, John Devine

We present this information in a variety of ways and hope that the faith communities will widely and freely distribute it

The Leaflets

The main resource is a series of short, inter-locking leaflets which break the information down.

These leaflets are not intended to be a detailed exposition of partnership policies and structures but rather to provide an introduction to the field.

There are three main functions:

- they introduce the main concepts
- they reference other leaflets in the series linking relevant information
- they identify contacts who can provide further and more detailed information

Some of the leaflets introduce general concepts, such as the Government's Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal. Others relate to the specific developments within an area (outlining the City of Manchester's Local Strategic Partnership for example).

A catalogue of these leaflets is available (please see back page) which will be updated as new additions are made to the Series.

The Glossary

A detailed glossary of relevant terms and their associated acronyms is being prepared. This will provide easy reference to supplement the information in the leaflets.

The leaflets, catalogue and glossary will be made available to download from the web sites of the contact organisations shown overleaf.

The Contacts Network

The leaflets provide a brief introduction to the field but there is a need to provide much more detailed information for people. There are contact details on the leaflets for the person who wrote it and they can obviously provide more detail.

We would like to go further. Already, across the faith communities, many people have experience and are knowledgeable in this field. We intend to establish a regional network of these people who will be willing to share their experience and knowledge (by attending and speaking church meetings, local synods etc.) In order to facilitate this, presentation packs, which develop the themes of the leaflets, will be prepared and distributed.

Please contact one of the people shown overleaf for details for the relevant person in your area.

The Partners

The initial leaflets were produced by the Churches' Officer for the North West, The William Temple Foundation and the Diocese of Manchester Board for Ministry and Society, working under the umbrella of the Partnership for Theological Education.

It is intended that we will draw on the knowledge and expertise of as many denominations as possible as the Series grows.