



Faith Sector Audit

Survey of local faith communities and groups

Guidance notes for completing the questionnaire

These notes are intended to assist with the completion of the Audit.

If you are unsure of what a particular question is asking or why it is being asked please refer to these notes.

If you are still unsure as to any questions then please contact Sarah Kerr using the details below.

Faith Communities and Groups are increasingly acknowledged for the strategic role they play in the regeneration of local communities and the impact they have within their neighbourhoods.

The results of this mapping exercise will identify where Faith Communities and Groups within the *Cheshire West and Chester Council* area can work to further impact their neighbourhood and address local and county priorities. Ultimately the project has the potential to help bridge the gap between faith groups and other sectors.

The benefits of recognising and understanding the contribution made by Faith Communities and Groups can include:

- Identifying best practice
- Promoting joined-up thinking
- Signposting
- Networking
- Promotion
- Influencing
- Funding Opportunities

It would be an enormous help and make a significant difference if you could take part in this survey. We would, therefore, be very grateful if you could take the time to fill-in this questionnaire as fully and accurately as possible.

Thank you for your support. For questions regarding the Audit, this questionnaire or more general information, contact **Sarah Kerr** at:

Contact: Sarah Kerr at the Link Up Office, Hoole Lighthouse Centre, Westminster Road, Hoole, Chester CH2 3AU

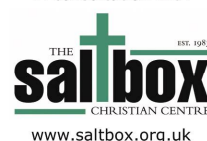
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If, after using these guidance notes, you are still unable or unwilling to answer any particular questions please leave these blank and move onto the next question.

Q1 About Your Place of Worship?

This question will provide us with the basic information necessary to map the results of the survey.

- If you have responsibility for several places of worship, please could you complete a form for each and return them in a single envelope. In doing this there will be no need to duplicate your contact or other generic details.
- If you are completing this questionnaire for a project or initiative rather than a place of worship, then please just complete this form in respect of the project. Once questionnaires are returned, we will look to ensure that no individual initiative is double-counted.

Q1f to Q1k – Please give the total number of members at your place of worship, rather than just the number you may expect at any one time.

Q2 About Your Building?/ Q3 Who Else Uses Your Building?

These questions will allow us to better consider the capacity of your built environment and the current and potential role that it could play in the wider local community.

Q4 About Your Contacts?/ Q5 Making Contacts?

These questions are designed to examine how your faith community is linked in with other local statutory or voluntary agencies. It is hoped that this will allow a consideration of how Faith Communities and Groups can best network with other groups and be part of a more holistic approach to neighbourhood issues. This should ensure that they complement, rather than conflict with existing provision and be better placed to identify possible gaps in local services.

Q6 About Your Activities?/ Q7 About Your Future Plans?

These questions are intended to give us a more in-depth idea of the specific community activities that your faith group is involved with. This will hopefully allow for a clear mapping of which activities are taking place in which areas. This could, in turn, allow for a more systematic level of networking between relevant groups and the pooling of ideas and dissemination of best practice across the county.

Please fill in the boxes, working down the page, for each social activity that your faith community undertakes. This could include lunch clubs, youth groups or any other such initiatives. Please do not include any religious activities, such as prayer groups or primary acts of worship.

There is space for 8 separate activities on pages 4 and 5. If you would like to add any additional information please use the space provided on page 8, or attach a separate sheet but make sure to clearly mark which question this relates to.

In the 'who is this activity for' section please mark one or more of the groups provided.

Q8 About Local Schools?

Education is an area in which Faith Communities and Groups have traditionally made a significant contribution in the past. This question will enable us to consider this specific role in more detail.

Q9 Training Needs?

One of the particular potential outcomes of this survey will be to identify training needs with which we can either support your faith community or provide relevant guidance.

Q10 Languages?

This question will help us to get a clearer picture of the linguistic and cultural mix of your faith community.

Q11 Your Contact Details?

This would be helpful for us should we require, or be able to offer, any follow up on specific issues.

Your data

Link Up will store and maintain the database arising from this Audit.

The report and outcomes will be compiled on a no-names basis by generic Faith Communities and Groups, projects and locations. On this basis data will be fed into a wider Third Sector Audit process.

We will additionally make available a directory of Faith Communities, groups and projects from which you are able to opt out if you would prefer.

Thank you very much for your help. We believe that the findings of this project will give further opportunities for Faith Groups to access greater support, encouragement and resources to continue to impact positively on the whole of Cheshire West and Chester!