

WHAT IS CHURCH & SOCIETY'S ROLE?

It advises and supports Bishop James, Bishop David, parishes, sector ministers, community projects and others by:

- Promoting and celebrating outstanding examples of community involvement undertaken by parishes, the Mothers' Union and others.
- Commenting on items of sub regional concern especially social and moral issues raised by the Bishop, parishes, and Committees.
- Working collaboratively with key statutory and voluntary agencies.
- Supporting Bishop James on his key priorities of regeneration, racial justice, international Anglican relations and the environment.
- Offering training on issues in its remit in partnership with others in the Department for Lifelong Learning (including the Officers for Post Initial Ministerial Education & Continuing Professional Development).
- Supporting Church Community Projects in collaboration with the Resources Department (who lead on this) on areas including equal opportunities, volunteering and employment.
- Developing Bishop James's & Bishop David's vision of the parishes becoming *Houses of Prayer for all People* by supporting Anglicans from ethnic minority communities, reviewing pastoral care for people in residential institutions and promoting disability awareness.
- Cooperating with Church Growth & Ecumenism on practical ecumenism including Churches Together in the Merseyside Region (CTMR), Mission in the Economy (MitE) and the Churches Officer for the North West.
- Working with sector ministers serving hospitals, prisons and seafarers.
- Promoting justice and fair trade at all levels and celebrating all that parishes achieve by their enthusiastic and dedicated support of mission and development agencies and by buying fairly traded products.

WHAT IS CHURCH & SOCIETY DOING?

Life constantly evolves for Church & Society. Current C&S work includes:

- Producing resource material to assist parishes in the involvement of care of people with learning disabilities in the life of the local church.
- Taking the lead on behalf of Churches Together in the Merseyside Region for engagement with Local Strategic Partnerships notably serving on the Greater Merseyside ChangeUp Consortium (alongside Councils for Voluntary Service, Volunteer Centres, etc). In 2006 C&S produced the first UK handbook for faith projects on volunteering.
- Staging conferences to support parish involvement in pastoral care (e.g. disability awareness and elderly people in residential homes).
- Supporting the ChangeUp Rural Officer based in Church & Society but working for the whole of Greater Merseyside's voluntary sector.
- Strengthening our links with Akure and Virginia Dioceses notably as in 2007 we commemorated the Bi-Centenary of the Wilberforce Bill and the quadricentenary of the Anglican Church in the USA (ECUSA)
- Developing work on women's issues notably women at the margins
- Looking at how to enable churches to link with local statutory and voluntary bodies (complex as our Diocese covers 8 Local Authorities).
- Servicing a Forum with the Resources Dept for lay community workers.
- Promoting Faiths 4 Change (formerly Operation EDEN) which is a major interfaith initiative to promote neighbourhood based involvement in practical environmental action and training volunteers. Key to this is promoting the Diocesan Environmental policy agreed in 2006.
- Offering professional support to the Diocesan Council for Social Aid (DCSA) whose key role is running Adelaide House bail hostel for women and supporting the Hostel's Chaplain. DCSA was established in 1907.

HONORARY OFFICERS

Canon Angela White (Departmental Chair)
Revd Canon Cynthia Dowdle (Chair, Anglican Partnership & Links Forum)
Val Jackson (Chair, Action Group for Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns)
Revd Canon Carol Kidd (Chair, Environmental Group)
Revd Dr Ian Lovett JP (Chair, Ethics Think Tank)
Revd Joan Matthews (Chair, Women's Issues Forum)
Joyce Roberts (Chair, Diocesan Council for Social Aid)
Joe Steen (Chair, Disability Action Group)
Appointment Pending (Rural Issues Forum)

STAFF

Ultan Russell (Senior Officer, Church & Society)
Revd Dr Hannah Lewis (Team Leader Pastoral Services for the Deaf Community)
Chris Leggett (ChangeUp Rural Issues Research & Development Officer)
Barbara Mackie (Secretary, Disability & Access Issues)
Sister Ruth Reed (Disability Awareness Officer)
Irene Summers (Office Administrator)
Hyacinth Sweeney Dixon (Racial Justice Officer, Anglican/Methodist/URC Project)

ADVISERS

Helen Clarey (Adviser on Women's Issues)
Revd Roy Doran (Akure Link Adviser)
Marion Hawley (Penal Affairs Coordinator)
Mary Kessler (Adviser on Older Peoples' Issues)
Revd Pam Lovatt (Mental Health Issues Adviser)
Revd Joyce Weaver (Relationships Adviser)

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*"I have come that they may have life,
and have it to the full."
John 10:10*



Diocese of Liverpool

Church and Society

Promoting Justice, Inclusion and Partnerships

INTRODUCING

THE WORK OF CHURCH AND SOCIETY

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Financial affairs of Church & Society are conducted by Liverpool Diocesan Board of Finance, Charity No. 249740