



Churches Together in Greater Bristol

trading as

Together4Bristol

Registered Charity 1113815

2025 Annual Reports

Trustee Report

Rev Canon Fatima Sibanda, Chair Person

This year was eventful and exciting as we continued in our efforts to collectively build Bristol as a city of hope. We embraced great opportunities to collaborate on different projects across the city which resulted in new relationships being built and old ones being strengthened.

For us to foster unity across the churches one of our aims is to gather. Our gatherings are opportunities for congregations and leaders to get to know each other and to partner for mission. To this effect we had our church leaders breakfast gatherings that were attended by church leaders from different denominations and different areas of the city. The first one was on the 9th of January online here we prayed for each other and put the year in God's hands. On the 11th of February we had a social meal with trustees and enabling team. This social was one of our gatherings aimed at relationship building and encouraging each other in our role.

We also had the opportunity to meet up with the presidents hosted by the Catholic Bishop of Clifton. This again was a gathering where we could hear from the presidents and have lunch together whilst discussing some of the ways to take the Together for Bristol mission forward. On the 19th of May we had a city-wide Pentecost celebration event hosted by Woodlands church. There was a genuine sense of shared faith and values and appreciation of the Holy Spirit's role in the birth and sustaining of the church.

Lucy Burden from Equippers church led a worship team consisting of musicians and vocalists from different churches and this was yet a display of our growing unity in the city. On the 5th of June we had our church leaders breakfast gathering at Hope Chapel which again was a great time of fellowship and relationship building. In September we had another Church leaders breakfast gathering hosted again by Hope chapel. Church leaders continue to meet every Thursday morning online for prayer and inspiration. Some of the youths of our city met at the mix led by Mullers Foundation and Hineni led by a group of young people from various churches held a worship night at the old Vic theatre. This was refreshing as our desire is to have Together for Bristol impacting different generations.

The year's gatherings were concluded by the thanksgiving service which was hosted at God's House International Centre. We had a guest speaker Marc Greene from London Institution of Contemporary Christianity. He shared from his practical and visionary insights about God's passion for churches to engage with people from every sphere of life. The meeting ended with an AGM and refreshments.

Various churches and charities continued to engage with their communities with services as food banks, night shelter, warm spaces, chaplaincy and so much more which will be covered in the spheres report. The prayer wall continued to unite intercessors to pray for different aspects of life in our city and these will be covered in the prayer report. There were no concerns about governance and conflict of interest that were recorded.

Finally, I would like to thank the Lord for all he did in us, for us and through us as a charity in our city. I would like to appreciate our presidents, vice chairs, trustees, enablers, administrator, and all those who contributed to the success of this year. I am grateful for the churches, leaders and volunteers for their continued efforts and time that helps in the execution of our mission as Together For Bristol. May the Lord bless all our efforts to Foster Unity For Kingdom advancement in our city.

Prayer Report

Derick Mulubwa

This report is for the prayer activities conducted across the City of Bristol from November 2024 to October 2025.

Bristol Prayer Wall on WhatsApp

We have continued to post prayer requests for the City daily in the morning for members to pray through during the day. There are about 79 people in the group. This is the schedule for themes of the day:

- Monday – Business and Workplace
- Tuesday – Education and Young people
- Wednesday – Politics and Social Action
- Thursday – Media and Arts
- Friday – Family
- Saturday – Health and Sports
- Sunday – Religion

Church Leaders' Prayer Meetings

We did have 3 quarterly church Leaders prayer breakfast meetings in January , May and September 2025.

We also had the weekly prayer meetings held every Thursday morning on Zoom lead by Bishop Bernard Morris.

Pentecostal Gathering

This year's Pentecostal gathering was held on the 8/6/2025 at the former Lloyds bank building by the harbourside .There were over 30 churches represented with well over 530 people attending .Also in attending was the Metro Mayor of West of England Combined Authority (WECA).

South Korean Prayer Mission

We received a South Korean Prayer Mission Team which came to the City for a week to pray . Hope Chapel hosted the team . We took them around the City and they prayed at strategic places around the City.

Gather Bristol

St Nicholas Church in conjunction with other churches held a praise and worship night where about 200 people attended.

National Week of Prayer

The City participated in the National Week of prayer from the 6/9/25 to 14/09/25.

The Convenor of the National Week of Prayer Kam Flynn was the guest speaker at the gathering at St Nicholas Church.

Monday Prayer Meetings

There are two City wide prayer meetings which are held every week on Monday around lunch time at City road Baptist church and the other one at Trinity Tabernacle.

Spheres Report

Roger Allen

1. Introduction

This has been a busy year for T4B's spheres (sometimes called the 'Whole of Life'), as we help transform Bristol from a tale of two cities, to a City of Hope! Overall, the spheres are the healthiest they have ever been. These spheres are Sport, Health, Education, Family, Politics and Social Action, Arts, Media, and Business and Workplace. Roger Allen is T4B's Spheres Trustee (working on a voluntary basis for one day a week). This is pioneering work within the UK. Below are some highlights!

2. Politics and Social Action

The Politics and Social Action sphere, led by Andy Street, is also known as Christian Action Bristol, or 'CAB'.

It's been another busy and encouraging year for the work of CAB, increasingly working in collaboration with the Good Faith Partnership (GFP), helping the Christian community engage with social action in the Bristol region. The focus has been on working at a more strategic level and increasingly supporting other cities.

Engagement with the city, and also the Region (West of England Combined Authority – WECA) has continued to develop and mature, which is so good to see. This includes:

Meeting between church leaders and the Leader of Bristol City Council, Tony Dyer, in City Hall – over 60 leaders engaged well with Tony. He also responded well and was hugely encouraged by the willingness of the church community to work with and support the council 'to pray for the city and seek the pace and prosperity of the city' (Jeremiah 29 v7).

Meeting between church leaders and the Executive Director of Children and

Education (Bristol CC), Hannah Woodhouse, in City Hall. Again over 60 leaders joined the meeting, with Hannah bringing with her a number of her senior team. We explored ways in which we can engage more effectively in supporting children and families, and there will be further follow-up.

Helping to facilitate a Pentecost Sunday afternoon event at the former Lloyds HQ building that has been acquired for redevelopment by Kinrise. Newly elected Regional Mayor Helen Godwin joined the event in person and set out her key priorities and ways in which the Church can engage more strategically in the coming months and years. Over 600 people were there, and it was an incredible time of church unity and worship together.

The work with GFP has grown, under the Thriving Communities banner, and in May 2025 a report was published (co-produced with CAB) on the work of about 200 churches with over 420 projects, across the city engaging with social need. Click here for the full Report.

Work has also continued on a relaunch of the Bristol Churches City Fund, with the aim from 2026 onwards to significantly increase the scale of funding released to support needy communities across the city.

It has been a joy to work with other cities, such as Brighton, Sheffield and Cardiff, to help the Church communities develop their city transformation, including politics and social action.

A couple of other social action initiatives across the Christian community were: the Bristol Churches Shelter, from November 2024 to March 2025, with about 150 volunteers from 20 churches helping 31 guests; and Noise 365 helping local communities, for example Knowle West, have social action projects and Fun Days at any time of year.

CAB can be engaged with through YouTube, with over 1000 followers, the CAB website and social media (a Facebook page with over 600 followers, X with about 500 and Instagram with over 1000)

3. Arts

The Arts sphere, facilitated by Malcolm Bourne and linked to about 350 creatives, is also known as Kingdom Creatives, or 'KiC'.

KiC has established a working partnership with Joseph Studios which enables KiC artists to have access to its creative work / exhibition spaces. KiC meets once a fortnight over Zoom to welcome artists expressing their faith through their creativity to receive personal prayer and encouragement. The KiC Core Team continue to offer mentoring and coaching to those working in the creative industry based in the UK and Europe. In May this year, KiC was represented at a 2-week vocational artist residential conference in Germany, where Malcolm Bourne presented three lectures on the creative act, including the topic of 'Physical Prayer'. KiC members have taken part in a wide variety of creative projects across the region (see their map at https://together4bristol.org.uk/Articles/724743/Latest_Kic_Projects.aspx).

4. Media

The Media sphere, facilitated by Jolie Greenwood has engaged with Christians in Media, with Bristol Media Hub gatherings. A growing core group has met regularly on Zoom, including to plan, with Wonderborn, an event schedule to invite Christians across the South West to gatherings three times a year where they can network, pray and connect with each other.

Successful networking gatherings were held at Boston Tea Party on Park Street in April and October which were well attended by about 20 guests with great feedback. Christians from all over the media were represented including podcasters, radio, tv, writers and actors. There are nearly 100 on our growing invitation list.

5. Business and Workplace

The Business and Workplace sphere, facilitated by Richard Higginson, has met twice by Zoom and once face-to-face in the last year. The meeting aims to facilitate good communication and effective collaboration between organisations involved in faith and work / business ministry in the Bristol region.

Leadership has now devolved to the Trustees of the Upper Reaches barge, where a group meets weekly to pray for business in the Bristol area. Richard Higginson is one of the four prayer barge trustees, the others being Victor Tettmar, Ryan Munn and Simon Hockett. A group from nearby law firm Burges Salmon regularly meets on the barge.

We continue to hold occasional meetings on Upper Reaches with business leaders for fellowship, mutual support and discussion about how we can best facilitate whole-life discipleship in the workplace. Mal Shaw of Transform Work continues to facilitate about 30 Christian Workplace Groups in the Bristol region. Richard and Lois Evans (Bristol Chaplaincy) connect with about 110 chaplains who have a pastoral role in different workplaces. We are also in touch with Brad Askew whose Spring group brings together about 60 Christian entrepreneurs to share resources and expertise.

6. Education

The Education sphere, facilitated by Jane Gillis, works closely with Bristol Schools Connection and other organisations, encouraging Christians to 'be and do church' in our school communities. A group from the sphere meets about three times a year to pray for a growing number of Christians involved in Education across Bristol. Prayerfully encouraging these Christians in their God given work roles is a key focus.

Jane also works with leaders from other organisations across the city, partnering together to host prayer gatherings for Youth, Children and Schools, which are well attended, with about 60 present – there is a wonderful appetite to join together ecumenically in prayer. For the next academic year there are plans to host 3 more prayer events and an event in June 2026 to encourage and invest in Christian teachers and schools staff from the Bristol region. Churches continue to connect with Transforming Lives for Good (TLG) to provide mentors in deprived schools (about 8 so far).

7. Family

The Family Sphere, also known as Love Family, is co-facilitated by Sarah Abell (The Relationships Academy), Joel Preston (Mullers) and Dave Kingswood (Home for Good and Safe Families).

Love Family is inspired by all things family and our heart is to support, encourage and pray for all those involved in working or supporting marriages, parents and families in our city (or who want to be). In February we joined with Christian Action Bristol and about 60 church leaders and organisations, in City Hall to discuss ways we can expand our work with Bristol City Council to help vulnerable children and families.

As a sphere, we pray monthly together via Zoom. In June we met together with representatives from several family charities and organisations to network and support each other. We would love to hear from anyone who is working with families in the City and who would appreciate our prayers, encouragement and support. Please contact Sarahlouseabell@btinternet.com

8. Health

The Health sphere is co-facilitated by Clare Fleming, Sheena Tranter and Temi Ezobe.

There is a weekly prayer hour, seeking Jesus' wisdom for releasing healing and deliverance across this region. Bristol Healing Rooms (BHR) offer prayer most weeks in-person or online and many have been healed and delivered in healing sessions. There were 6 retreats and a conference on healing, deliverance, prophecy and worship. Teams helped at several overseas conferences. Podcasts have led to people coming for deliverance from across the country. Wildfire meets on 1st and 3rd Fridays every month. Christian Workplace Groups or prayer groups are held in BRI & Southmead hospitals and some community settings. There are close links between the Health and creative Arts spheres.

9. Sport

The Sport sphere is co-facilitated by Akeel Yousaf and Grant Sheppard. It connects several sport charities across Bristol and Bath, such as World Sport Ministries (WSM), Christians in Sport and Christian Surfers and Skaters. Occasional prayer gatherings, such as in the summer, link more widely, for example with the chaplains involved with Bristol Sport. WSM had an amazing summer with 8 sports camps, for 475 children, of whom over 200 made initial responses to Jesus!

10. Together4Bristol

Together4Bristol T4B connects with Gather Movement, which links about 150 "unity for mission movements" in the UK. Roger, with Andy Street and Sheena Tranter, are part of the wider team. A small group (linked to LICC) continued to help church leaders and the spheres work more closely to release everyday Christians in the whole of life.

The Together4Bristol website is updated by Adam Hudson, including events, articles, jobs and volunteering opportunities connected to the spheres. Each sphere has its own page on the website. T4B's monthly newsletter is sent to over 1,700, with over 1,100 members on T4B's Facebook group, about 530 followers on X and over 320 on Instagram. A “100 Friends Appeal” for the website and social media to become financially sustainable raised nearly £5k last year, including through donations for Job Adverts.

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