

Greater Glengormley Community Churches Forum

Strategy 2011/2012

Purpose

To build bridges for a more inclusive, cohesive and peaceful community in the Greater Glengormley area.

Strategic Aims

- 1) To build contact, relationships and understanding between local churches.
- 2) To work together to identify and address wider community needs.
- 3) To develop participative activities to bring the whole community together.
- 4) To develop links and communication between churches and the Council and other groups/organisations on community issues.

Strategic Objectives

Aim 1: To build contact, relationships and understanding between local churches.

Objectives

- 1.1 To organise a series of visits to local churches to build relationships and understanding across the denominations.
- 1.2 To regularly share information among local churches.
- 1.3 To organise regular Forum meetings to share information, plan for action and review progress.
- 1.4 To maintain good links and communication with Glengormley Clergy Fellowship.

Aim 2: To work together to identify and address wider community needs.

Objectives

- 2.1 To increase the churches' understanding of local community needs.
- 2.2 To identify areas for joint initiatives to address community needs.
- 2.3 To develop and resource joint initiatives (such as a church-led community tidy-up, community safety projects and outreach to the parks at night).
- 2.4 To challenge church communities to engage with non-church goers.
- 2.5 To access or provide appropriate training to support community initiatives developed.

Aim 3: To develop participative activities to bring the whole community together.

Objectives

- 3.1 To organise activities that increase cross community contact, cross cultural and intergenerational understanding (such as shared celebrations or a community festival)
- 3.2 To enable church leaders and members to be role models for good community relations in the Borough.

Aim 4: To develop links and good communication between churches and the Council and other groups/organisations on community issues.

Objectives

- 4.1 To appoint a Church Liaison Officer to liaise between local churches, the Council and community.
- 4.2 To encourage greater co-operation with community groups and increase the use of church facilities for community activities.
- 4.3 To continually encourage all local churches to participate in the Forum
- 4.4 To encourage and develop local churches' participation in local community structures