

Circuit Policy

THE VALE OF AYLESBURY CIRCUIT POLICY

Mission Statement

We are a mutually supportive team of churches in and around Aylesbury. We are all committed to a common purpose of channeling God's unchanging love for all people in our constantly changing world.

1. Circuit Leadership

- 1.1 Relationships: To build links with other churches and faiths identifying potential for joint working.
- 1.2 Local support: To support local congregations to identify priorities for mission, develop strategies to pursue these and provide leadership continuity
- 1.3 Resources: To regularly review our Circuit deployment of people, finance and property.
- 1.4 Internal Communications: To constantly consider the communication needs of our churches in relation to Circuit policies and actions.

2. Worship

- 2.1 **Circuit:** To worship together as a Circuit and to foster a sense of Circuit identity.
- 2.2 **Prayer:** To encourage participation in and the development of Circuit Prayer services and events.
- 2.3 **Congregation development:** To provide meaningful weekly worship, to identify and facilitate alternative approaches to worship, the development of local congregations and support of smaller churches. To regularly present the challenge of Christian commitment and church membership to all those associated with the circuit churches.
- 2.4 **Ecumenism:** To encourage local churches to explore shared worship with other churches in their community.

3. Learning and Caring

- 3.1 **Training and Development:** To identify needs and to provide both financial assistance and opportunities for personal and church growth by appropriate events and training for Church Stewards, Youth & Children's workers, Local Preachers, Worship Leaders, Musicians, Pastoral Carers and other identified groups, including ecumenical partners.
- 3.2 **Personal faith:** To encourage people to increase and develop their personal faith through Bible Study, Fellowship and small groups.
- 3.3 **Pastoral:** To ensure appropriate pastoral care for all congregations.

4. Service

- 4.1 **Community needs:** To encourage churches to investigate and respond to the needs of their local community and new housing developments, especially in the use of our buildings.
- 4.2 **Welcome:** To provide a welcoming environment for family occasions. Christian Festivals and other community events.

- 4.3 Issues and Concerns:** To provide a forum for publicising and supporting issues of local or global concern, especially climate change, justice, freedom and humanity.
- 4.4 Fair Trade:** To be a Fair Trade Circuit by all churches maximising their use of fairly traded goods to give a fair return to third world producers.

5. Evangelism

- 5.1 External Communications:** To explore appropriate means of presenting the life changing Good News of Jesus Christ in the local community.
- 5.2 Publicity:** To make best use of available means of publicity including the external image of our churches and the practical Christian love of our members within the community.
- 5.3 Training:** To provide training in personal evangelism to enable all our people to share their faith effectively.
- 5.4 Seekers:** To ensure opportunities regularly exist for people to explore the Christian faith. To develop a church life of wholesome Christian spirituality in our witness to each other, the local community and the world.
- 5.5 Chaplaincy:** To support chaplaincy work in its various forms.

This policy formed the background to group discussions at the Circuit Consultation meeting in June 2014. Feedback report ([...click](#)).