

Liverpool City Council Unites Behind Manifesto for Hope Through Cross Party Motion Resolution

Church Leaders behind the *Manifesto for Hope in our City Region* have welcomed the Liverpool City Council's resolution supporting the initiative, describing it as an important step in strengthening the city's long tradition of partnership, social justice and commitment to the common good.

The motion, marking the 40th anniversary of the landmark *Faith in the City* report, was proposed by Councillor Liam Robinson and seconded by Councillor Jane Corbett. Presented to Liverpool City Council on 29 July 2026, it welcomes the nine priorities set out in the *Manifesto for Hope*.

Delivered by Churches Together in Merseyside in partnership with Together Liverpool, the *Faith in the City* project developed the *Manifesto for Hope*, a document shaped by voices from across the region and setting out shared priorities for a fairer, more compassionate Liverpool City Region.

The Manifesto builds on decades of collaboration between church leaders, community organisations and civic partners. Its development was also inspired by a challenge from Liverpool's Members of Parliament for the Christian community to speak more boldly on issues of social justice and community wellbeing.

Responding to that challenge, church and community leaders came together to create a vision that seeks to engage people from all backgrounds, faiths and sectors. At its heart is the belief that building a cohesive, healthy and thriving society requires participation and responsibility from everyone who is part of it.

The motion comes at a significant moment, with the Manifesto challenging individuals and organisations in positions of influence to place the common good at the centre of decision making.

Leaders involved in the initiative expressed appreciation for Liverpool City Council's willingness not only to support the vision, but also to examine its own activities through the lens of the Manifesto's principles.

The Revd Dr Philip Anderson, Rector of Liverpool Parish Church and Chair of Liverpool's Interfaith Network, addressed councillors and highlighted three of the Manifesto's nine priorities: true equality, faith in business and renewed hope. He welcomed the practical opportunities created by the motion, particularly through the establishment of a working group and wider interfaith dialogue.

Revd Phil Jump, Chair of Churches Together in Merseyside, said,

‘We are delighted and humbled that our City Council is leading the way, not simply in supporting this vision, but evaluating its own activities in the light of it. This offers a tangible and influential example to stakeholders across our city.’

James Green, CEO of Together Liverpool said,

‘This cross party support is a significant moment for the Manifesto for Hope. It shows a shared commitment to putting the common good, social justice and the wellbeing of communities at the heart of decision-making. We look forward to working with the Council, churches and partners across the city to turn these priorities into practical action.’

Image 1 (left to right):

- Fran D’Arcy – Churches Together in Merseyside Region/Together Liverpool – Faith in the City Lead Development Officer
- Revd Dr Philip Anderson – Rector at Liverpool Parish Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas
- James Green – CEO of Together Liverpool
- Rev Canon Seán Riley - Chancellor & Judicial Vicar at The Archdiocese of Liverpool
- Revd Dr Ellen Loudon – Director of Social Justice at The Diocese of Liverpool
- Cllr Sam Gorst – Garston/Deputy Leader of Your Party Liverpool
- Cllr Alan Gibbons – Orrell Park/Leader of Your Party Liverpool
- Cllr Richard Clein – Grassendale & Cressington/Chair of Audit Committee
- Cllr Carl Cashman – Church/Leader of Liverpool Liberal Democrats
- Lucy Rauer - Catholic Social Action Coordinator at The Archdiocese of Liverpool
- Cllr Liam Robinson – Kensington & Fairfield/Leader of Liverpool City Council and Cabinet Member for Public Service Innovation
- Cllr Jane Corbett - Everton West/Chair, Fairer Healthier Liverpool Partnership Group/Deputy Chair, Liverpool Health & Wellbeing Board

Image 2 (left to right):

- Fran D’Arcy – Churches Together in Merseyside Region/Together Liverpool – Faith in the City Lead Development Officer
- Rev Canon Seán Riley - Chancellor & Judicial Vicar at The Archdiocese of Liverpool
- Revd Dr Ellen Loudon – Director of Social Justice at The Diocese of Liverpool
- Cllr Jane Corbett - Everton West/Chair, Fairer Healthier Liverpool Partnership Group/Deputy Chair, Liverpool Health & Wellbeing Board
- Cllr Rahima Farah – Toxteth/Assistant Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing & Culture (Health)
- Lucy Rauer - Catholic Social Action Coordinator at The Archdiocese of Liverpool
- Revd Dr Philip Anderson – Rector at Liverpool Parish Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas
- James Green – CEO of Together Liverpool

Notes to Editors:

- For more information on the Faith in the City project and to download the Manifesto for Hope in our City Region, please visit:
https://www.ctmr.org.uk/Groups/441130/Faith_in_the.aspx
- To access the Council Motion (Motion Number 24), please visit:
<https://councillors.liverpool.gov.uk/documents/g20876/Agenda%20frontsheet%2029th-Jul-2026%2017.00%20City%20Council%20Meeting.pdf?T=0>
- Please see link below and you can fast forward to two sections where the Manifesto is addressed/mentioned as follows:
<https://aisapps.mediasite.com/AuditelScheduler/Player/Index/?id=8ee5ec99-f11c-4bf9-ae73-68c38e6e8412&presID=adc050eb1ba24e5397910d22cb5bf37d1d>
 - 18 minutes, 30 seconds – Motion 24 and Rev Philip Anderson's address
 - 31 minutes, 5 seconds – you will hear the cross party motions being put forward being agreed
- **For further details:**

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