



Greater Manchester Churches Together (GMCT)

Churches Together Facilitator Job Description

This is a part-time post (22.5 hours a week)

Job title: Churches Together Facilitator for GMCT

Location: The officer will work from his/her home which will normally be within or close to the boundaries of GMCT

Employer: Greater Manchester Churches Together (registered charity no 503258)

Accountable to: GMCT via its Vice-Chair who will meet with the Facilitator on a regular basis and will put into place effective line management and support for the Facilitator.

Overview

The main purpose of the Churches Together Facilitator role is to facilitate and support the churches of Greater Manchester in their relationships with one another and in their wider mission in the world, by encouraging and developing the principles and practices of Christian Unity throughout the City Region.

In particular, s/he will:

- Work in partnership alongside other colleagues within GMCT.
- Work closely with the Church Leaders, supporting, challenging and facilitating their strategic collaboration and fellowship to enhance the ecumenical life and mission of the Church in Greater Manchester.



- Facilitate, encourage and work with the team of Denominational Ecumenical Officers to encourage and support local unity creativity and proactively through Churches Together Groups, Local Ecumenical Partnerships and in other ways, in their mission to the communities they serve.
- Facilitate the development of collaborative relationships for unity and mission within the whole Christian community in Greater Manchester.

Tasks

First and foremost the task of the Churches Together Facilitator is a ministry of encouragement. The core tasks reflect this emphasis.

The Churches Together Facilitator will:

- 1 Encourage and support the development of relationships between and across the local churches of Greater Manchester and further the missions of the churches as they work together, including an engagement with the Movement for Recovery under the GMCT umbrella. This will include actively seeking to develop ecumenical relationships with Black led churches, Evangelical churches and Orthodox churches currently underrepresented in GMCT.
- 2 Work with the Trustees and provide input, resource and budgetary advice to the group in their capacity as the lead strategy group of GMCT.
- 3 Facilitate, develop and support the work of the Presidents Group and ensure the implementation of their deliberations by bringing these back to the attention of the Trustees.
- 4 Work in conjunction with the Denominational Ecumenical Officers (DEOs) to promote, encourage and advise local ecumenical initiatives, including existing Churches Together groups (CTs) and Local Ecumenical Partnerships (LEPs) and foster the creative development of local ecumenism in their mission to the communities they serve.
- 5 Liaise between the three units of governance in GMCT, supporting, challenging and facilitating their strategic collaboration and fellowship.
- 6 Take the lead in networking and communication both within the church family and with outside bodies, including Greater Manchester Industrial Mission. This will involve: maintaining an up-to-date website, and developing effective channels of communication through modern IT methods e.g. social media.



- 7 Ensure, again in conjunction with the DEOs, that GMCT carries out its Sponsoring Body responsibilities for LEPs, such as advising on constitutions and organising reviews (though not necessarily undertaking such reviews personally).
- 8 Be the point of contact for ecumenical enquiries from churches and individuals, but also refer them on to others as appropriate. Media enquiries would be handled in conjunction with the chair of Trustees (if relating to GMCT) or the appropriate person within a specific denomination.
- 9 Represent GMCT at regional and national levels or ensure it is represented appropriately, building up a network of representation as part of a collaborative style of working.
- 10 Assist in preparations for the Annual Assembly of GMCT.
- 11 The Churches Together Facilitator will bring to the attention of his/her line manager any way in which GMCT does not comply with Charity Commission requirements or any concerns about the sustainability of the budget.
- 12 Any other tasks required by the Strategy and Development Group of GMCT.

The Churches Together Facilitator works in the context of a network of similar officers in the counties of England and is supported by the staff of Churches Together England. As well as attending CTE's training course for new officers in the first year of appointment, the Churches Together Facilitator will also attend annual meetings of Intermediate Ecumenical Officers and will meet with those in his/her region two or three times a year for mutual support, help and collaboration.

Outcomes

As a result of the Churches Together Facilitator work we hope to see, by the grace of God:

- Growing relationships of trust between the Member Churches of GMCT and other Christian groups in the county.
- Imaginative new patterns of ecumenical mission at local level which are light-touch and flexible.
- Encouragement of initiatives in the sharing of buildings and ministry for mission across the city-region.
- Efficient servicing of necessary meetings.
- Excellent outward-facing communications about GMCT and its Member Churches in the media.



Other requirements

This is a half-time post and much of the work involves travelling in the city-region and beyond. The work involves flexible hours, which may vary from week to week, including some evenings and weekends – this is not a ‘fixed hours’ job.

An Occupational Requirement exists for the post-holder to be a Christian in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

26th May 2021