



DIOCESE OF BRISTOL



Social Action Audit FAQs

1. What is the purpose of the audit?

The purpose is to demonstrate the breadth and depth of social action being delivered across the Diocese of Bristol. This will be a benefit to local churches and faith groups, to the local and national government and to others with whom you may wish to work.

2. Who should complete our return for the audit?

The person best able to answer questions about the activities your parish does. They should be able to say how many volunteers are involved in each activity and how many people have benefitted from the activity in the last 12 months.

3. I'm part of multi-church benefice, what should I do?

Please complete a separate audit for each parish.

4. What kind of benefits can be expected?

- The main benefit will be for your local area seeing the value of social action activities run by the Diocese of Bristol.
- It will increase your confidence and credibility. The evidence base should help you have better conversations with the local authority, police, funders and other agencies.
- Government, police and other agencies will see the scale of the impact of the Diocese of Bristol.
- The Cinnamon Network will advocate for greater dialogue between the faith sector and the government.
- It will help partners to speak up for national issues concerning those most in need.
- You will receive access to [Cinnamon Connect](#) for your church, where you can find resources, training and the opportunity to apply for microgrants.



DIOCESE OF BRISTOL



- You may be able to access support from other parishes carrying out similar activities and form a network.

5. Why are you doing this survey?

We are not doing this to critique or inspect you. We are doing the survey because we want to celebrate the work that is going on in our Diocese. We also want to know what you are doing so we can support you better, whether that be by providing training, offering networking opportunities or assisting you to find funding.

6. Who are the Cinnamon Network?

The Cinnamon Network is a Christian not-for-profit organisation helping local churches across the UK to run projects for those people most at need in their communities. They provide start-up funding for social action projects implemented through more than 3,500 local churches involving over 50,000 volunteers, benefitting more than 700,000 people.

7. How will the information be used?

Results will be presented to leaders of local authorities, churches, faith groups, charities, businesses and community groups in early 2026.

The Diocese of Bristol will use the information you provide in order to improve our support offerings, including offering more networking opportunities.

8. How do I take part?

People with incumbent status and Church wardens for your parish will receive an email with their login details on your start date. If there is someone else you think would be better equipped to fill out the survey, e.g. a parish administrator, you can forward the login link to them.

9. How long will this take?

The questionnaire takes between 20 and 40 minutes depending on the extent of activity for your organisation.



DIOCESE OF BRISTOL



10. Why has the email come from the Cinnamon Network?

The survey is being facilitated by the Cinnamon Network who are really experienced in delivering faith-based social action audits. Therefore, we are using their system which is why emails have been sent from them. If you have any questions or want to check if the survey is legitimate you can get in touch with Naomi by emailing naomi.jervis@bristoldiocese.org.

11. What kind of questions will I be asked?

You will be asked about the types of projects your organisation undertakes, the types of people helped by them and the number of people who support them. You can find a full list of the questions you will be asked [here](#).

12. What activities are included within the audit?

- projects tackling worklessness, family breakdown, food poverty, debt, illness, education failure, addiction, antisocial behaviour, crime, health inequality, isolation
- outward, community-focussed projects
- projects which benefit the local community as part of the wider community, such as projects relating to the environment, energy and food

13. Why don't you include religious activities (e.g. bible studies)?

While we deeply value religious activities such as bible studies and evangelism, this audit is specifically focused on measuring the social impact of outward-facing community projects. The aim is to highlight how churches are addressing social needs - such as poverty, isolation, and inequality - in ways that benefit the wider community, regardless of faith background.

14. When does the survey need completing by?

The deadline for completing your survey is 31st October. Failure to complete it by that date will mean your results will not be included in the final report.



DIOCESE OF BRISTOL



15. Who can I get in touch with for support?

Naomi Jervis, Partnerships and Campaigns Officer for the Diocese is here to support you every step of the way – whether you need help with logging on, filling in the survey or just want to clarify something, Naomi is here to help! Naomi's email address is naomi.jervis@bristoldiocese.org and her phone number is 0117 454 3993.

16. Can you help me fill in the survey?

You can also book a time for a member of Diocesan Support Services to help you fill in the survey by emailing naomi.jervis@bristoldiocese.org with your availability.