

Building a Politics of Hope:

Exploring the role and impact of faith-based leadership in local communities

February 24th, 2014. London Welsh Centre, Gray's Inn Road, London.

Chair: **Rachel Lampard**, Joint Public Issues Team of the Baptist, Methodist and United Reform Churches in the UK

Facilitator: **Anna Ruddick**, William Temple Foundation

10.30 Registration

11.00 Welcome and aims of the day (Chair: Rachel Lampard)

11.10 Setting the scene: 'Religion and public life in the UK in 2015' – **Prof Chris Baker**, William Temple Foundation

Each case study (25 mins) will be followed by small group discussions responding to what has been heard (25 mins) and a short plenary debrief (10 mins).

11.30 Case Study #1 **Rev. Al Barrett**

Al is a parish priest in Hodge Hill, east Birmingham. With friends and neighbours over the last 5 years he has been engaging in a number of innovative experiments in building local community.

12.30 **Lunch break** (please note that lunch will not be provided. Please bring your own, or alternatively you will find a selection of cafes and shops close to the venue).

13.30 Case Study #2 **Mohammed Mamdani**

Mohammed is the Director of Sufra NW London, a community foodbank and kitchen supporting disadvantaged families. This new and growing charity aims to develop a community hub to provide a front-line support service for local people in crisis.

14.30 Case Study #3 **Chris Sunderland**

Chris is a founding member of the Bristol Pound and the Real Economy project in Bristol. The project has established a number of initiatives designed around ideas of justice/shalom in the city's economy.

15.30 Break (tea and coffee)

15.45 Gathering the threads.

Discussant: **Alison Webster**, Social Responsibility Advisor, Diocese of Oxford

16.30 Break/ networking

17.00 Public lecture: **Rev. Steve Chalke MBE**, Oasis Trust - 'Building a politics of hope: exploring the role and impact of religious political leadership in local communities'.

Followed by a Q&A session chaired by **Paul Hackwood**, Church Urban Fund.

17.45 End.