



Cinnamon Faith Action Audit
National Report

CINNAMON FAITH ACTION AUDIT

To serve the nation

2016

INTRODUCTION



I am delighted to share with you the Cinnamon Faith Action Audit 2016. This comprehensive report provides evidence for the social impact and the economic value of all that churches and other faith groups do in communities across the UK.

This second edition has been updated to include 30 additional villages, towns and cities.

The Cinnamon Network believes that faith is a force for good in our society and wants to build confidence in the work carried by faith-based organisations. By producing this report we hope to show real, quantitative evidence that the value of the time given by churches and other faith groups to their communities is worth more than £3 billion each year.

My personal hope is that this fresh confidence will help local churches to develop conversations and form new partnerships across a range of sectors of society. By building stronger relationships with police, local authorities, health services, schools, businesses and other community organisations, the local church can do even more to help those people most at need in our communities.

Matt Bird

Founder of Cinnamon Network
mattbird@cinnamonnetwork.co.uk

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“I am delighted to introduce the latest Cinnamon Faith Action Audit and that it now covers 87 towns and cities across the UK. Policing in this country has always been based on an effective partnership between the public and constabularies. Over many years churches and other faith groups have played an important role in those partnerships and it is great to see the range and extent of the work. In particular, the focus on vulnerable people is a priority which policing shares with churches and other faith groups and which we welcome.”

Sara Thornton, Chair of National Police Chiefs’ Council

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The value that faith groups bring

At a time when budget cuts, changes to benefits and rising housing costs are affecting many communities across the country, there are groups of committed and faith-driven individuals who are stepping into the gap.

The Cinnamon Faith Action Audit approached 6,537 local churches and other faith groups. 3,007 responded saying that they were actively working to support their local community. These 3,007 groups were generating 197,634 volunteer roles and 12,789 paid staff activities to support 5,100,770 beneficiary interactions each year. The time given by churches and other faith groups alone in our survey was worth over £319 million. Nationally this puts the time given by churches and other faith groups into their communities through social action projects at more than £3 billion a year.

We want to see local churches and other faith groups more empowered, more encouraged to take up their place as they serve at the heart of the community. We also want to see their work externally recognised and properly resourced as part of the overall picture of provision in any given community.

22,990

Total Number
of Projects

5,100,770

Total number
of Beneficiary
Interactions

46%

Completion
Rate

12,789

Total Number of
Paid Staff Activities

7,989,548

Total Paid Staff
Hours Per Year

197,634

Total Number
of Volunteer Roles

Local churches and other faith groups work with families, provide debt advice, coach people back into work, offer emergency food parcels and provide a safe place to belong and build friendships. These groups are uniquely positioned to support those in most need on multiple levels and the Cinnamon Network believes that they should be celebrated and encouraged.

To glean a picture of the current level of commitment of local churches and other faith groups, in February 2015 and March 2016 the Cinnamon Network undertook a comprehensive survey of local faithbased social action across the UK. 87 'Local Champion' volunteers worked in their area to create a list of as many faith groups of as many types as possible to invite them to take part in the Cinnamon Faith Action Audit.

The online surveys were undertaken in a wide range of areas across England, into Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland. Urban and rural areas were covered including places with high levels of deprivation and more affluent areas alike. Nationally, 6,537 groups were invited to take part in the Cinnamon Faith Action Audit and 3,007 completed the survey, an impressive response rate of 46.0%.

Cinnamon's aim in undertaking the Cinnamon Faith Action Audit was to take a pragmatic approach and recognise that any government will be facing a challenge in reducing the deficit. There is a very real prospect that statutory provision will be increasingly limited for the foreseeable future, which in turn will create widening gaps in services. Into these gaps, the Cinnamon Network wants to see local churches and other faith groups grow in confidence and capacity in their role at the heart of the community.



CALL TO ACTION

Each Local Champion and Local Sponsor who carried out a Cinnamon Faith Action Audit has been encouraged to hold a launch event in their area to promote their findings. We hope that the results of the Cinnamon Faith Action Audit will build confidence, capacity and connectedness amongst local churches and other faith groups. As such our Call to Action checklist for local Champions using the results following their local launch event includes:

Use this report to begin conversations at every level of the local community, including with the Local Authority, Police and other agencies. See www.cinnamonnetwork.co.uk/cfaa-reports/ for the full list of Cinnamon Faith Action Audit reports

Ask the Local Authority to sign up to the All Party Parliamentary Group Covenant on working with faith groups. www.faithandsociety.org/covenant/

Attend and invite your Member of Parliament to the National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast in 2017 www.christiansinparliament.org.uk

Encourage people of faith to take up roles in civic life such as Councillors, School Governors, Magistrates, Special Constables or Community Champions

Speak to a Cinnamon Advisor and plan for a Civic Prayer Event in your area. See resources available at www.cinnamonnetwork.co.uk/prayer-event/

Start a Cinnamon Recognised Project
www.cinnamonnetwork.co.uk/cinnamon-projects

The National Picture

Out of the 3,007 respondents to the Cinnamon Faith Action Audit we found that each year, on average, each faith group contributed to their local community:

- 8 Social Action projects
- Support for 1,696 beneficiary interactions
- 4 paid staff activities
- 66 volunteer roles
- 2,657 paid staff hours
- 10,037 volunteer hours
- £106,184 worth of support (paid staff hours, plus volunteer hours calculated using the living wage of £7.85, plus management)

There are around 60,761 faith groups in the UK. If only 46% of them (the same percentage that completed our survey) delivered what the Cinnamon Faith Action Audits' average group did, this would mean that collectively the faith sector gives annually:

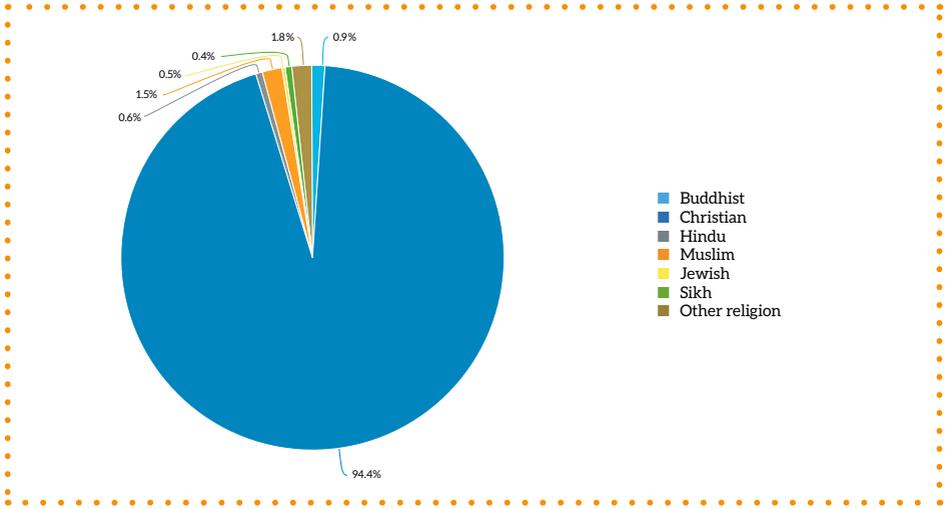
- 213,692 Social Action projects
- Support for **47,411,649 beneficiary interactions**
- 118,874 paid staff activities
- **1,837,008 volunteer roles**
- 74,262,835 paid staff hours
- 280,532,549 volunteer hours
- **More than £3 billion worth of support** (paid staff hours, plus volunteer hours calculated using the living wage of £7.85, plus management)

These figures only count the time that staff and volunteers directly give in the preparation and delivery of social action projects. If the knock-on benefits of all the combined social action projects were added in (for example the savings to Local Authorities, or reduction in benefits claimants as a result of the work of faith groups) then this financial contribution would be considerably larger. Similarly, these figures do not include all the physical resources such as the use of buildings and equipment provided in the delivery of social action projects by local churches and other faith groups.

The 2016 audit gave additional time for quality checking of data and for refining our methodology. The outcome of this investigative process gave us greater confidence in the data and therefore in the presence of the work underlying it.

WHO RESPONDED?

Faith groups

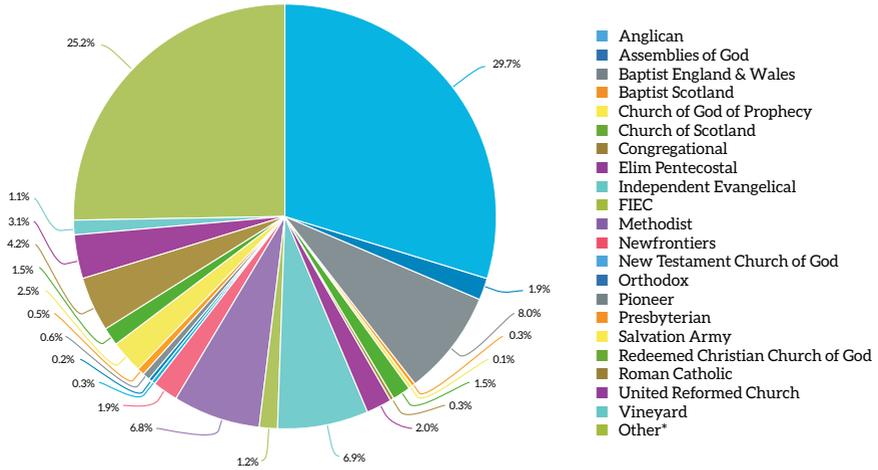


In order to create as full a picture as possible of faith-based social action in the UK, an integral part of the Cinnamon Faith Action Audit's approach was to widen the pool of respondents as far as possible. Local Champions were members of local church networks, chosen for their can-do attitude and outward-facing approach to engaging with all types of faith groups.

For the Cinnamon Faith Action Audit, all Local Champions were encouraged to invite faith-groups of all descriptions to take part. Many Champions went to some lengths to achieve this and build relationships with groups from other faith traditions. One Champion in Birmingham went as far as to drive round the city visiting as many places of worship and faith-based community groups as possible to ensure they were included.

Reflecting the Cinnamon Network's broad network, an extremely diverse cross-section of denominations responded to the survey.

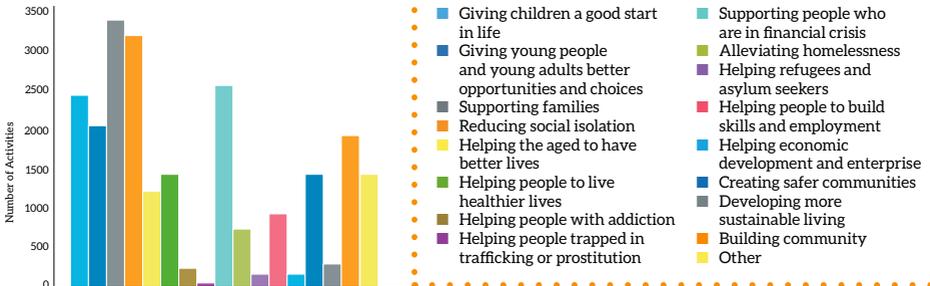
Christian Denominations



*The 'Other' category includes churches which represent more than one denomination, such as multi-church charities or groups and also a range of smaller independent church denominations and streams such as the Seventh Day Adventists, Ichthus, Quakers and Groundlevel.

THE NEEDS BEING MET

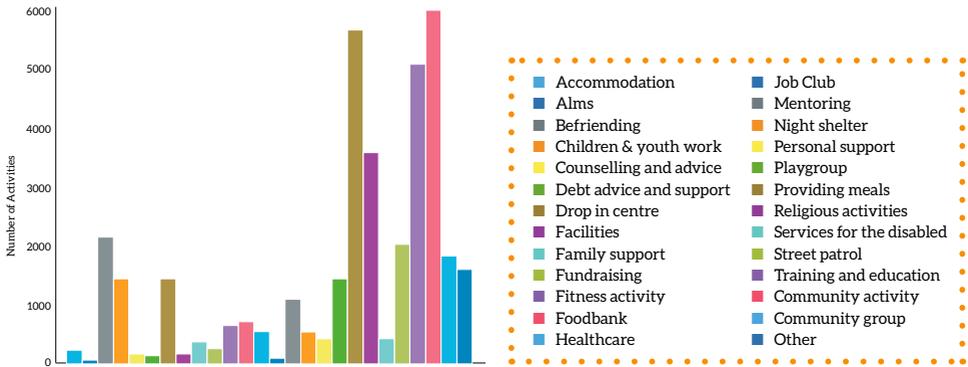
Needs addressed



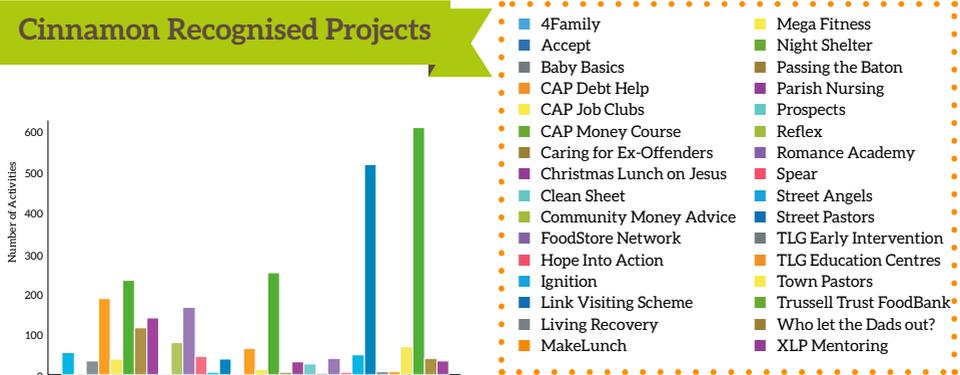
The Cinnamon Faith Action Audit showed that churches and other faith groups were working to meet a wide range of needs in the community. This included supporting families, children and young people and those in crisis. This may reflect the demographics of the members of those faith groups, or the visible needs that volunteers and organisers see around them. There is also a plentiful supply of social action project ideas for initiatives working with these groups, and it may be that projects which target them are simpler to start up. Cinnamon for example has a large proportion of its Recognised Projects targeted at these areas and many of them cost very little to start.

There were comparatively low numbers of churches and other faith groups who were working with people trapped in trafficking or prostitution or with refugees and asylum seekers. There may be many reasons for this and they are highly challenging areas to engage with, but Cinnamon would like to explore this more. As part of this we are currently seeking to engage with established projects working with these target groups to find models of delivery which could be delivered at scale by numerous churches and faith groups.

Types of activity offered



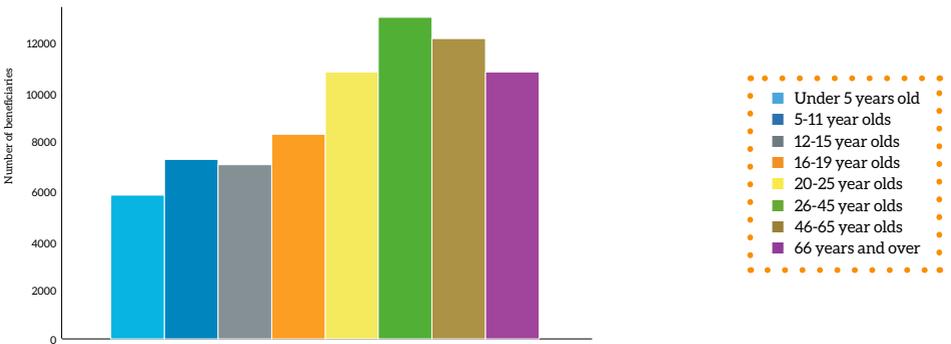
Cinnamon Recognised Projects



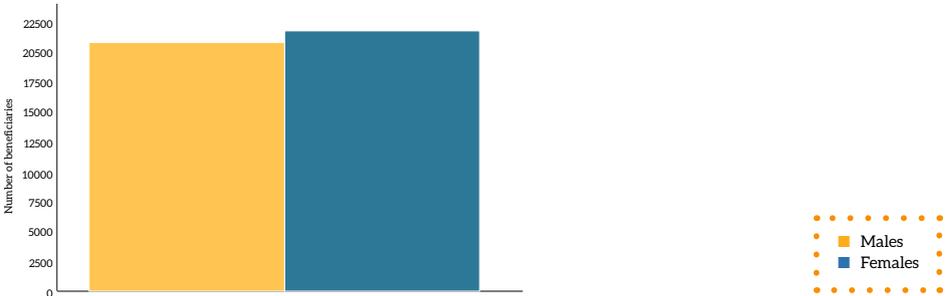
THE BENEFICIARIES

The results of the Cinnamon Faith Action Audit show that local churches and other faith groups work with a vast cross-section of beneficiaries. Rather than being focussed on one particular age group or gender, faith-driven volunteers and paid staff are actively working with people from all ages and with men and women in almost equal measure. This confounds the stereotypical image of a church engaging mostly women and children through a few coffee mornings and parent and toddler groups and gives an insight into the true breadth, value and impact on all sections of the community that local churches and faith groups offer.

The age of people supported in the community



Gender of beneficiaries



CINNAMON STORIES

Out of the 3,007 respondents, we found that 1,507 churches were delivering or helping deliver a Cinnamon Recognised Project as part of their commitment to supporting the local community.

Cinnamon Network enables local churches to transform their communities through social action projects. Using tried and tested, off the shelf projects, local church volunteers can set up and run activities which meet the needs around them without having to start from scratch.

Our current suite of 29 Recognised Projects are grouped into four themes:

1 Enabling children and young people to flourish

2 Supporting safer, stronger families

3 Building safer, stronger communities

4 Fighting poverty



"I fully recommend CAP Job Club. Its accessibility and one to one support was excellent. Far better than the compulsory courses I had attended."
Barnsley

"Since receiving a visitor, I no longer feel trapped inside my house. I feel like I'm living again."

Wokingham Link Visiting Scheme





“Don't assume everyone here has social problems, some are victims of bad luck. I just need a bed and food.”
Bromley Night Shelter



“I thought you just come here, give your voucher in and get your food and go. But you are so much more than that here. I've seen so much kindness.”
Visitor, Birmingham Foodbank

“I now feel like I am getting my life back. I really don't know what I would have done without them.”
Mother and family helped by Ipswich 4 Family mentor & link workers.



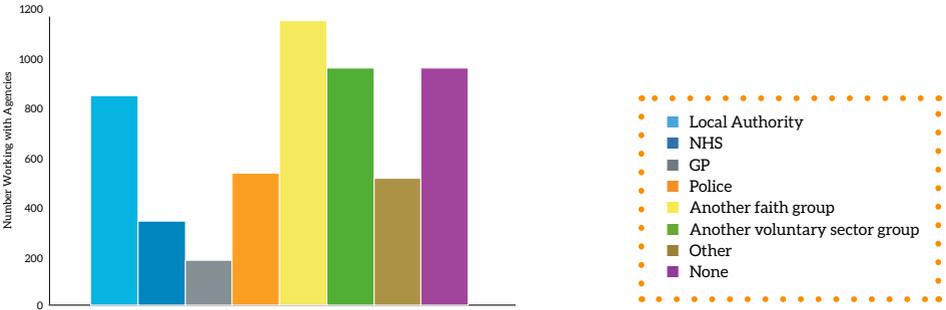
“Thank you Street Angels for coming to the rescue of my rather worse-for-wear son. You kept him safe until I could collect him.”
Guildford Street Angels



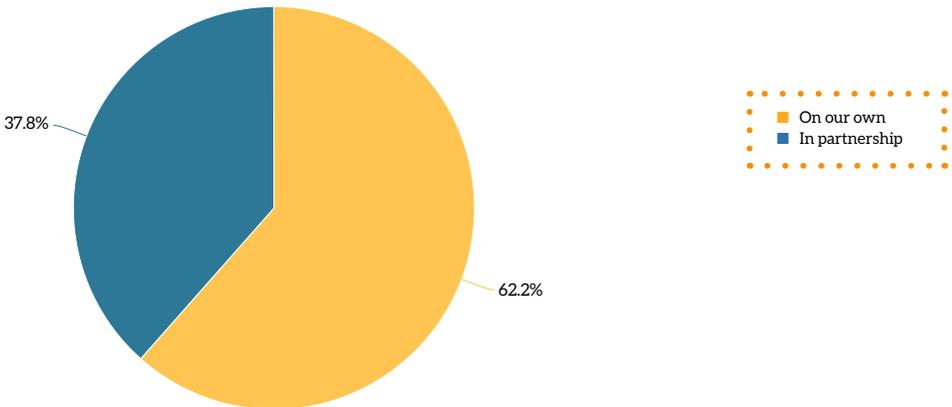
PARTNERSHIPS

The Cinnamon Faith Action Audit found that there were stronger partnerships already emerging between faith groups and Local Authorities and other agencies. The aim of this audit however, was in part to provide the momentum for local churches and other faith groups to expand their partnership working further. Cinnamon believes that there is huge potential for effective partnerships between faith groups and civic bodies which could have enormous benefits for local communities.

Working in partnership with



Who runs the activities?



ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, WALES AND NORTHERN IRELAND

The Cinnamon Faith Action Audits included respondents from England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Across the board the data showed that in each nation levels of activity amongst local churches and other faith groups were consistently high.

England

In England, on average each faith group contributed to their local community:

- 8 Social Action projects
- Support for 1,729 beneficiary interactions
- 4 paid staff activities
- 66 volunteers roles
- £107,298 worth of support (paid staff hours, plus volunteer hours calculated using the living wage of £7.85, plus management)

Scotland

In Scotland, on average each faith group contributed to their local community:

- 8 Social Action projects
- Support for 1,148 beneficiary interactions
- 4 paid staff activities
- 68 volunteer roles
- £85,207 worth of support (paid staff hours, plus volunteer hours calculated using the living wage of £7.85, plus management)

Wales

In Wales, on average each faith group contributed to their local community:

- 7 Social Action projects
- Support for 869 beneficiary interactions
- 4 paid staff activities
- 45 volunteer roles
- £84,305 worth of support (paid staff hours, plus volunteer hours calculated using the living wage of £7.85, plus management)

Northern Ireland

In Northern Ireland, on average each faith group contributed to their local community:

- 9 Social Action projects
- Support for 1,982 beneficiary interactions
- 5 paid staff activities
- 85 volunteer roles
- £113,177 worth of support (paid staff hours, plus volunteer hours calculated using the living wage of £7.85, plus management)

CONCLUSION

The Cinnamon Faith Action Audit has shown that an incredible amount of social action work is being done by faith-based communities across the UK. Nationally their time alone in carrying out these projects is worth over £3 billion a year, and between them local churches and faith groups in the UK support over 47 million beneficiaries.

We anticipate that this updated report will continue to build the confidence of local churches and other faith groups as they work at the heart of their communities. We also expect that at a local level, churches and other faith groups will be able to further engage with Local Authorities, the Police and other agencies as a result of being part of the Cinnamon Faith Action Audit.

Following this Audit, the Cinnamon Network wants to see local churches and other faith groups externally recognised and fully resourced for their crucial part in galvanising and supporting local communities. Most of all however, we hope that through the ongoing work of committed people of faith, the lives of millions of beneficiaries will be transformed for the better.

METHODOLOGY

For this piece of work, measuring the breadth of activity was of central importance. With this in mind the mechanics of gathering the data and the design of the questions were geared towards collecting a large spread of results within a defined time-span. This created a snap-shot in time of activity across the country.

Using an online survey enabled the Cinnamon Faith Action Audit to be carried out in 57 locations across the UK in 2015 and an additional 30 locations in 2016. Local Champions led on each Audit and invited as many faith groups of all types in their area as they could to participate. 6,537 faith groups were invited to complete the survey nationally with a national response rate of 46.0%, that's 3,007 faith groups completing the survey.

'Faith groups' included places of worship and charities and community groups working at a local level for the benefit of the community and driven by their faith. This would include, for example, a local church running a Make Lunch Kitchen, a Jewish-led charity working with older people at a local level, or a Gurdwara offering meals to the community. If respondents self-defined as a faith group then they were eligible to take part, thus enabling Local Champions to invite as wide a pool of different groups as possible.

The survey itself was simple to complete and designed to be as accessible as possible. It asked quantitative questions around the level of social action carried out regularly by the faith community, the type of social action carried out and the level of staffing and volunteers who work on it. In addition to this there were questions about the number and type of beneficiaries who access the activities.

Respondents recorded how many social action activities (or 'projects') their faith group ran. These projects had to be regularly carried out and delivered for the social or economic benefit of the local community to be able to be included. For example a Street Pastors project, Job Club or parent and toddler group would qualify, but not a prayer meeting or worship service.

Where there was more than one faith group involved in delivering a joint project, Local Champions worked with the specific faith groups involved to determine whether it would be more accurate to count that joint project as a respondent in its own right, or for each faith group to record their contribution to the joint project. This was done in order to create the most accurate picture possible. In a research piece of this size there were inevitably elements of risk of duplication where several groups were working on the same project together, but with the local work of the Champions mitigating against this, it was felt that if there was any double-counting, it would be of such a small size that the overall impact on results nationally would be minimal.

For each activity or project, respondents detailed how many beneficiaries used the project, how many paid staff were deployed in running it and how many volunteers were involved. This data was then collated in order to provide an overall picture locally.

The totals therefore for these three data points (beneficiaries, volunteers and paid staff) are cumulative and the figures may well include the same individuals more than once if, for example, an individual used a Foodbank, toddler group and debt centre. This would mean that they show up in the figures as three 'beneficiaries'. Similarly if one member of staff worked across several projects they would be recorded for each project they worked on. On advice of those who had run pilot audits it was agreed by the Cinnamon team that a cumulative approach was useful to see the overall impact of provision and its breadth in full.

To provide a balance to the cumulative volunteer and paid staff numbers, respondents also inputted how many volunteer hours and how many paid staff hours were spent on each project. This enabled Cinnamon and the Local Champions to assess the financial value of the time spent on each project, without double-counting or overlap. For volunteer hours, the financial value was calculated based on the Living Wage (£7.85 per hour). These figures, along with management costs have formed the basis of the total financial value of each faith group.

Each local Audit was carried out over 4 weeks in February 2015 or in March 2016. This provided a coherent and like-for-like picture of the breadth of faith-based social action in 87 areas across the UK. From these results a national picture can be gleaned.

In order to extrapolate to a national picture, Cinnamon took the combined local reports and calculated what the average faith group contributed to their local community in terms of beneficiaries, paid staff and volunteers. With over 2,109 data points from across the UK in 2015 and an additional 898 data points in 2016, these figures were felt to be considerably robust. Additional quality checks in 2016 and improvements in methodology confirmed the robustness of the 2015 data and built upon it.

Our research based on data from the Evangelical Alliance, the Charity Commission and Muslims in Britain showed that there are approximately 60,751 groups in the UK meeting our definition of 'faith group'. Given that 6,537 faith groups were invited to take part in the Cinnamon Faith Action Audit, and 3,007 completed a full audit return, Cinnamon asserted nationally that at least 46.0% of faith groups were delivering some form of social action projects. As our result our nationally extrapolated figures are based on the assumed average activity of 46.0% of the 60,751 faith groups in the UK.

UK population data

The 87 areas listed are predominantly Local Authorities, London Borough's or their like. Some audit areas were smaller than a Local Authority area. Using the Office for National Statistics Mid Year Population data (2015), the 87 areas that have conducted a Cinnamon Faith Action Audit cover 24.6% of UK population.

THE 87 AREAS

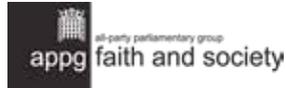
Aberdeen
 Angus
 Ashford
 Aylesbury
 Barnsley
 Barnet
 Bath & NE Somerset
 Belfast
 Bexley
 Blackburn with Darwen
 Birmingham (central)
 Bolton
 Brent
 Bridgend
 Bristol
 Bromley
 Calderdale
 Cambridge
 Canterbury
 Carlisle
 Chesterfield
 Chiltern & South Bucks

Clitheroe
 Coventry
 Croydon
 Durham
 Ealing Borough
 Eastbourne
 East Grinstead
 Edinburgh North
 Enfield
 Epping Forest
 Forest of Dean
 Gloucester
 Gosport
 Greenwich
 Guildford
 Halton
 Haringey
 Hastings & St Leonards
 Havering
 Ipswich
 Isle of Wight
 Islington

Kendal
 Kilsyth & Cumbernauld
 Kingston upon Thames
 Knowsley
 Lincoln
 Liverpool City
 Luton
 Maidstone
 Midlothian
 Northamptonshire
 Northern Ireland
 Norwich
 Plymouth
 Poole
 Reading
 Reigate & Banstead
 Richmond upon Thames
 Salisbury
 Shepway (Folkestone)
 Shipley
 Skipton & Craven
 Solihull

Southampton
 St Helens
 Stamford
 Stirling
 Suffolk Coastal
 Sunderland
 Tendring
 Three Rivers
 Thurrock
 Trowbridge
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 Weymouth & Portland
 Whitby
 Wirral
 Wokingham Borough
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