

COP 26 Faith-based Task Group

Terms of Reference.

26.9.19

At a meeting on 19th Sept 2019 attended by a wide range of faith groups and faith-based NGOs, the following top-level goals for the COP26 Faith-based task group were agreed:

- 1 Working together to bring about the biggest possible impact on the faith communities we work with. This is an opportunity to bring about a transformation in the way faith communities engage with climate issues.
- 2 Using our resources, connections and policy engagement, locally and globally, to help ensure that the outcome of COP26 is as effective as possible.
- 3 Working together to agree clear asks to the UK Government and using our resources to lobby for improved Government policy and practice.

The following six priorities for action were agreed:

- Working for longer term unity and action in local areas
- Encouraging local faith communities to reduce their carbon footprints in significantly greater numbers
- Working for institutional shifts in policy and practice, e.g., on divestment and investment
- Encouraging a culture shift - moving members of faith communities away from consumption
- Mobilising our people for more effective advocacy
- Advocating something visible - e.g., every faith community having something outside their building on climate change to ensure wide public witness.

Membership: any faith-based organisation or NGO working on COP 26 is welcome to appoint one representative with a climate policy or engagement brief.

Chairing: the task group will be chaired and serviced by Faith for the Climate, with the Environmental Issues Network of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland serving as vice chair.

Lifespan: the task group will meet regularly until the completion of COP26, after which its existence will be reviewed.

Effectiveness: the task group will focus on areas where coordinated activity can be carried out creatively and constructively, welcoming the wider engagement of member organisations across the spectrum of climate action.