



*supporting faith in action in the south west*

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## **Are you interested in finding out more about a faith forum/network in North Somerset?**

Faithnetsouthwest is a Regional Faith Forum for the South West and we are working with North Somerset Council to set up an independent faith forum for North Somerset. Last year we helped produce a faith audit report on the work in the community that faith groups are doing in North Somerset. We have set up and/or supported the development of faith fora in the region, so that now most of the top tier authorities in the region have a functioning faith forum.

A North Somerset faith forum could work to:

- Help people from all the communities of North Somerset to get on well with each other
- Work to reduce prejudice against people of faith - this means all the main faith groups, whether they are Bahai, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Muslim or any others
- Make sure that the needs of all faith communities are understood and that there is more help to make sure their needs are met
- Improve the quality of life for local people by supporting faith group's work in the community and encourage working together on agreed projects wherever possible.
- Encourage community groups, the council and health services to have a better understanding of faith communities and their needs
- The Forum could also organise family events and social gatherings with food and music to bring people together.

I would be very pleased to hear from you with any ideas you have, on the kind of things that the Forum could do and what you think it should concentrate on, whether by post, email or phone call. Perhaps there are ways that such a Forum could help you in your work in community, so if you would like to know more, do get in touch. We intend to hold a launch event in later January or February 2012, do let us know if you would like to attend this event, more details will be sent out nearer the time.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes

*Alistair Beattie*

Alistair Beattie  
Chief Executive