## Further details of the CofE Birmingham's involvement in Footsteps and with the other churches and faiths that are part of it

Since its start Footsteps has been chaired by Ruth Tetlow, a member of All Saints Kings Heath. In 2022 the Archbishop of Canterbury awarded Ruth the Hubert Walter Award for Reconciliation and Interfaith Cooperation for her outstanding contribution to interfaith relations in Birmingham over four decades. A second member is John Nightingale.

Footsteps has also been supported by the Birmingham Faith Leaders' group. This was formed in the immediate aftermath of the terrorist attack on the World Trade Centre in New York in September 2001, when there began to be attacks on some religious premises and worshippers and in response the principal leaders of Birmingham's six major faith communities began to meet on a regular basis, to build trust and understanding. Almost twenty years later leaders from the Christian, Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, Jewish and Buddhist communities still meet on a regular basis to foster good relationships. The Bishop of Birmingham is a member and is often represented by Canon Andrew Smith. The Faith Leaders have issued several statements encouraging the City Council in its plans towards becoming carbon net zero by 2030.

Footsteps organised the participation of some 100 members local faith communities in the well-attended Global Day of Action for Climate Justice on 6 November 2021 and in the Birmingham Climate Justice Coalition which is continuing to campaign for climate justice after COP26 in Glasgow.

In 2022 Footsteps completed <u>Project 4F</u> (Faiths For a Fair low carbon Future) which involved promoting energy assessments for faith buildings and for members Household fuel bill advice and support. It led into the <u>Footsteps Energy Champions Initiative</u>.