





MEDIA RELEASE

Launch of a new online Faith Map for Wolverhampton

Released: Friday 21 June 2019



More than 250 faith groups are featured on a new online faith map of Wolverhampton at bit.ly/wtonfaithmap.

The map highlights the rich diversity of faith groups worshipping in and serving local communities. It has evolved from work with local faith groups that has been initiated, supported and funded by Wolverhampton Safeguarding Boards, and undertaken by Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council and Interfaith Wolverhampton.

Even though over 250 faith groups are already on the map it is possible that some of have been missed off. So, if you know of a faith group that is not on the map please email WVSC's Faith Engagement worker Pavitter Mainn at <a href="mainto:pmain

The new Faith map will be located on <u>Wolverhampton Information Network</u> where each faith group can also create their own record to further highlight the wonderful work their organisation is doing. Any faith group interested in creating their own record on Wolverhampton Information Network should contact Kuldip Khela on 01902 553413 <u>E-mail</u>: <u>Kuldip.Khela@wolverhampton.gov.uk</u>.

Linda Sanders, Independent chair of Wolverhampton Safeguarding Boards said: "We are really pleased to be launching this exciting new resource.

"It is one of the fruits of our safeguarding work with the amazing array of faith groups in the city which we carry out in partnership with Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council which is an active and valued member of the Safeguarding Boards, and Interfaith Wolverhampton.

"This map will provide an exciting and invaluable resource for everyone living, working in, or visiting the city by providing information in one place about places where they can worship, take part in activities, volunteer or find support."

Parveen Brigue, Chairperson of Interfaith Wolverhampton, added: "The online faith map has developed from our joint 'Safeguarding In Faith' initiative with WVSC and Wolverhampton Safeguarding Boards.

"Not only has this initiative resulted in this invaluable map of faith groups in the city, but it has also provided a range of direct support to more than 261 volunteers from 50 different faith groups including safeguarding training, safeguarding policy

development, and increased use of DBS checking and other safer recruitment processes.

"Most recently, with the support of Wolverhampton Safeguarding Boards, we are recruiting members of local faith groups to a pool of volunteer trainers to support the role out of safeguarding training to even more faith groups across the city."

ENDS

Notes to the Editor:

1/ For more information, or to arrange an interview, please contact Stephen Dodd (Voluntary Sector Representative on Wolverhampton Safeguarding Boards), on 07981 931849 or email sdodd@wolverhamptonvsc.org.uk

2/ A photograph of members of Interfaith Wolverhampton proudly holding a physical representation of the Wolverhampton Faith Map is attached.

- Issued jointly by Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council, Interfaith Wolverhampton and Wolverhampton Safeguarding Boards.
- For more information on the press release, please call 07981 931849
- For more information about Interfaith Wolverhampton:
 - o Tel: 01902 427601 or email: admin@ifwton.org.uk
- More information is available from all the partners at:
 - www.wolverhamptonsafeguarding.org.uk
 - o www.ifwton.org.uk
 - o <u>www.wolverhamptonvsc.org.uk</u>