

Which Way Now?: engaging with children and young people in our contemporary context

Basic Information

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Action Required	For information
Draft Resolution	n/a
Alternative Options, if Any	n/a

Summary of Content

Subject and Aims	• To raise with the Councils the issues of declining engagement with children and young people • To consult on why that engagement is less effective than it used to be • To engage the Councils in the context of children and young people in 2010 • To examine case studies of successful work both denominations are engaging in
Main Points	The following paper is an information sheet to provide background to the discussion. Presentations will be made to the Councils of other material, including the showing of a DVD. The sessions will involve case studies, group work and buzz groups.
Potential outcomes	The Councils might wish • to commit both denominations to the crucial work of re-engaging with children and young people in Britain through the widest variety of media and other means; • to commit both denominations to do those things together that they are able to do, and to seek continually new areas of co-operation

WHICH WAY NOW?

Engaging with children
and young people



Over **8 million** children in the UK have access to the internet
76% of parents don't have rules about what their children can do on the computer

For the first time there
are more people over
65 than under **16**
living in the UK

Children comprise **3.1%** of the prison population
Each year **one** in **three** 10-15 year olds
will be a **victim** of a **crime**

There are **116** active mobile phone contracts for every
100 people living in the UK

Over **90%** of teenagers own a mobile phone

1/5

Children & teenagers make
up one fifth of the total
population



4 million
children live in
poverty in the UK
today

30% of all households are single people living alone
The average family size has fallen from **5.8** children in
1950 to just **1.5** in **2010**

1% of people in the
UK control
25%
of the wealth

Traffic is the biggest single cause of
accidental death for **12 to 16**-year-olds

The second most common cause of death among **15 to 24** year
olds is **suicide**

In 2009 "The Good Childhood Inquiry" concluded that the
"excessive **individualism**" of adults was damaging
our children

More than **1** in **10** young people feel that life is meaningless

Each week an average child in the UK spends **32** hours at school; **46** hours in front of a screen; **0** hours at church