

Greater Manchester Faith Community Leaders

Statement for General Election on 4th July 2024

The vote you have on July 4th has great value. Each and every one of us has a part to play.

If you're not sure about the Photo I.D. you will need when you vote, you can find the details here: <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voting-and-elections/voter-id> or see below.

We encourage everyone to get to know the individual candidates standing in their constituency - and to learn what they stand for.

Our Faith Communities share many values, among them:

- Promotion of peace and reconciliation
- Upholding the sanctity of life
- Respect for the dignity of every human being
- Eradication of poverty
- Care for our common home - this planet
- Democracy
- The rule of law.

We urge you to vote for people who will promote positive relationships and cohesion between all communities, and who oppose anything that causes racial or religious hatred or prejudice on grounds of race, nationality, disability, gender, sexual orientation, age or religion – especially Antisemitism or Islamophobia in the current international climate.

With the right to vote comes the responsibility for us all to work together for the flourishing of our neighbourhoods and our national life. We must never take this freedom for granted. It is ours to protect, cherish and use.

We urge everyone who can vote to do so.

Useful Information

Valid Photo I.D. when you vote is either a UK [or European Economic Area] Passport or Driving Licence, Blue Badge, Older or Disabled Person's Bus Pass funded by the Government, Proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram, Biometric Immigration Document, Defence Identity Card or EEA National Identity Card.

Draft: 27th June 2024

From Greater Manchester Faith Community Leaders, including:

Buddhist

Jill Brennan, Soka Gakkai International

Christian

From the Church of England:

Rt Revd David Walker (Bishop of Manchester)

Rt Revd Mark Davies (Bishop of Middleton)

Very Revd Rogers Govender (Dean of Manchester)

From the Catholic Church of England and Wales:

Rt Revd John Arnold (Bishop of Salford)

From the Methodist Church:

Rev Catherine Bird, Deputy Chair of Manchester & Stockport Methodist District

Rev Dr Andrew J Lunn, Chair of Manchester & Stockport and Bolton & Rochdale Methodist Districts

From the Apostolic Pastoral Congress

Archbishop Dr Doyé Teido Agama, Senior Pastor, Christian Way of Life Churches, and Former Presiding Prelate and Executive Director, Apostolic Pastoral Congress

Rt Rev Edmund Akyea-Mensah APC Regional Bishop North UK

From the United Reformed Church

Revd Clare Downing, Moderator, North Western Synod

Hindu

Dr Kaushik Chakraborty, General Secretary, Manchester Branch, World Council of Hindus

Professor N. K. Prinja, Trustee of Gita Bhavan Hindu Temple Manchester and World Council of Hindus

Nidhi Sinha (she/her), Founder, Sangha (Connecting People, Building Community)

Dr Saraswati Sinha, Community Representative

Jain

Suresh Mehta, Jain Samaj Manchester

Manjari Patel, Jain community and centre and SRMD -shrimadrajchandra mission UK

Jewish

Mark Adlestone O.B.E., Chair, Jewish Representative Council of Greater Manchester and Region

David Arnold M.B.E., previous President, Jewish Representative Council of Greater Manchester and Region (and co-chair of the Council of Christians and Jews, Manchester Branch)

Rabbi Warren Elf M.B.E., Manchester Reform Synagogue and Faith Network 4 Manchester

Rabbi Jonathan Guttentag

Rabbi Dr Reuven Silverman, Rabbi Emeritus, Manchester Reform Congregation

Muslim

Rabnawaz Akbar, Makki Masjid, Longsight

Imam Rashid Musa, Faith Adviser, Chaplain, Lecturer, University of Salford

Amer Salam, al-Khizra Mosque, Cheetham Hill, UK Islamic Mission

Sikh

Jagtar Singh Ajimal

Faith Network 4 Manchester

Revd Charles Kwaku-Odoi, Co-chair

GM Networks Connect

Revd Ian Rutherford, City Centre Minister, Methodist Central Hall, Manchester