

NEWS FOR PARTNERS



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New consultations take Alliance strategy forward

A new strategy for the future of the Anglican Alliance is being developed to support development, relief and advocacy around the Anglican Communion.

Alliance regional facilitators are looking at how Anglicans are carrying forward the marks of mission to help communities overcome poverty and injustice.

Please let us know your views! The development of the new strategy will continue until March 2014, and will include consultation with the Anglican Alliance Advisory Council, with representatives from around the Communion.

The existing programme has taken the Anglican Alliance from an initial concept to a charitable company with a board of trustees representing regions of the world and different skills.

We have a global distance learning programme, a presence in advocating at the G20 meetings of the world's richest nations, a response service for Anglican communities hit by disaster, and we are starting to



Above: our recent visit to Pakistan prepared communities for the upcoming floods. Read the full story on page three!

attract international donor funding.

Continuing to support Anglican churches and agencies will bring new challenges as they transform unjust structures in society, safeguard the earth, and reconcile people in conflict.

Development, relief and advocacy are the three pillars of Alliance work, and were decided through four worldwide regional consultations held in

2011. The Alliance is mandated to work through sharing best practice and capacity building, and the Agents of Change distance learning programme is a central and popular part of this.

As part of the Anglican Communion, our life is rooted in the ministry of the church and its agencies. If you want to feed your ministry and views into our review, then please email anglicanalliance@aco.org

CAPA adapting to urban growth

Mega cities are the future! The Council of Anglican Provinces in Africa has started a network to empower the church to reach people in the continent's fast growing cities.

Sharing knowledge, training



Above: launching the Urban Network at CAPA

and resource, the network looks to serve provinces, dioceses and parishes as they address the changing face of their mission.

Explaining the background for this project, CAPA said, "Rapid urban growth, increased urban poverty and changing social structures poses both challenges and opportunities for the mission of the church."

New ideas, good practice, and experience in ministry and training, will all be ways in which church mission is strengthened through the Urban Network.

Pacific islands in ocean peril



Above: Tagolyn Kabekabe writes about the challenge facing Anglicans in the Pacific on page 5.

Standing in the gap for the garment workers of Bangladesh

Bangladesh Anglicans are leading a campaign to press the rights of poor workers after the collapse of a garment factory.

Church of Bangladesh Moderator Bishop Paul S Sarker, pictured right, has taken the issue of labour exploitation to heart. His recent visits to the victims of the Rana Plaza disaster, and the Biblical call to, "let justice roll on like a river," (Amos 5:24), have urged COB to advocate for positive changes in the livelihoods of workers living in poverty.

As the second largest exporter of garments in the world, with a \$20 billion annual turnover, Bangladesh's garment industry accounts for 80 percent of the country's exports and more than 40 percent of the country's industrial workforce (about 3.6 million). The majority of these are poor women who earn about \$38 a month making products for some of the top international brands and retailers.

Working in very poor and unsafe conditions, the women are often victim to disasters and huge casualties. The recent collapse of the multi-storey Rana Plaza claimed around 1,129 lives.

Shaking the whole world, the incident has raised many questions and brought to light the exploitation and inhumanity of the garment business, which involves buyers, manufacturers and agencies engaged in the export and import of the garments.

A major source of Bangladesh economy,

but with largely neglected workers, the laws governing this business have no enforcement.

Cracks found in the Rana Plaza building before the disaster were ignored by garment factory owners, despite the shops and banks below closing due to the 'hazardous structure'.

Immediately responding to the Rana Plaza disaster, the Church of Bangladesh (COB) have assisted the victims with emergency needs and appealed through the Anglican Alliance for the rehabilitation of poor victims. It aims to support the treatment and rehabilitation into alternative livelihoods for those who cannot work in the garment industry again due to major injuries such as a loss of limbs. The appeal has been responded to generously from Churches in the Communion.

Experts from South Asia will gather at a consultation meeting in September to discuss labour rights and safety, particularly for the women and children who work in the industry. The consultation will end with key points of action in the critical areas that need to be addressed, such as workers pay and safer working conditions.

Churches have also been mobilised under the National Christian Council of Bangladesh (NCCB) to act collectively, and are working out a plan of action to defend the rights of the workers.



Above: The Bishop visiting factory victims

Bishop's call to action

Since visiting the victims of the Rana Plaza disaster, Bishop Paul S Sarker, Moderator of the Church of Bangladesh, is planning an advocacy campaign for garment workers.

He calls all to join COB in the fight for justice.

The Bishop asks us to urge investors and buyers of garments to pressurise the industry to ensure a safe working environment for all workers.

Changes can benefit workers and the economy, he says. His campaign calls for Fair wages, suitable facilities, safe uniforms, reasonable holidays, and the formation of a working trade union.

Read his full report:

http://clients.squareeye.net/uploads/anglican/Savar_Tragedy-follow_up.pdf

First regional forum shows our strength as we work together

Participating in the Alliance's first regional forum, the Anglican Churches of West Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong and Korea, joined with the Episcopal Church in the Philippines, the Amity Foundation in China and the Anglican Alliance's Advisory Council chair, Director and Asia facilitator, to take forward the mandate of the Alliance and work together to address the inequalities in the region.

Hosted generously by the Diocese of West Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur, the Diocese's Bishop, Most Rev Moon Hing, guided the participants to discuss the key issues facing South and South East Asia, including migration, refugees and trafficking, peace and reconciliation, and HIV and Aids. These are all forces that have held by development.

Despite this region showing some of the most dynamic economic growth, some communities are still trapped in poverty.

Outcomes of the meeting focussed on engaging with the work of churches and agencies in the region, and a strategy has

been developed.

The policy proposals included:

- Working with Towards Peace in Korea (TOPIK) to document best practice for Anglicans working in conflict-affected countries.
- Taking part in the Amity Foundation internship scheme, and setting up a programme of peace internships.
- Developing work on access to HIV and Aids tests and treatments, building on the practice seen at St John's Cathedral, Hong Kong.
- Provide capacity building tools to develop community awareness of HIV, leading to a module included in the Alliance's distance learning programme.
- Advocating at regional and global meetings for migrants and trafficked people.

Plans have been put in place to ensure the economic empowerment of

marginalised and excluded communities, enabling them to participate in the region's emerging economies. This will also include migrants and those living with HIV, including them in access to finance programmes.

Best practice will also be shared for providing education and training to people with disabilities.

An agreement has been made to establish a new regional steering group, which will hear the voice of women and young people, amongst others, and bring their concerns to the Anglican Alliance.

In this way, Churches in the region will engage with Alliance governance structures, and the steering group will provide support and guidance for the Alliance's facilitator to ensure the network of churches and agencies in the region is effective.

The Alliance is excited to take forward the decisions made at the first regional forum and is looking forward to promoting unity in further forum meetings as we all work together for peace and justice.

Taking advocacy forward at the G20 meetings

Food security, climate change and protection for migrant workers were at the top of the agenda as the Anglican Alliance spoke out at the G20 civil society discussions.

Representing Anglicans at the first ever G20 summit for civil society, which was held in Moscow in June, the Alliance pressed for food security and climate change to be on the priority list for the next G20 which will be led by Australia.

Support was also won for legal protection for migrant workers to be built into the address which goes from civil society to the G20 leaders meeting later this year.

Protection for migrants, refugees and trafficked people was identified as a priority for

regional advocacy at the Anglican Alliance founding consultation in Asia, and the details of the advocacy campaign were decided at the Alliance's East and South East Asia forum meeting following the G20 summit.

The Summit brought together civil society organisations from around the world to draw up recommendations to put to the meeting of the leaders of the world's 20 richest nations.

It also drew up priorities to put to the Australian government which takes over the presidency of the G20 next year. Australia will hold a similar summit for civil society, and the working group that prepares it will be chaired by Baptist Rev Tim Costello,



Above: the Kremlin, Moscow

chief executive of World Vision Australia.

Getting food security and climate change on the agenda for the G20 in Australia next year provides a platform for Anglicans in the Pacific to speak out on a key issue that affects the survival of some of their nations, and the well-being of their communities, and demonstrates how Anglicans, coming together, can transform unjust structures of society.

Unique cloth-book prepares villagers for floods

Forecasts for a damaging monsoon season, already affecting parts of neighbouring India, took Alliance relief manager, Tania Nino, to Pakistan, to prepare remote villagers for the potential disaster.

Using a unique cloth-book, kept by the community after the visit, villagers worked to prepare for the floods before the rains began.

A two week visit saw several sessions taking place in four rural areas. In Thar Mabi Sar, Pandra Water, Dohro Mori Gihapno, and Rushanbad, whole communities gathered, including women, children, teenagers, the elderly, people with disabilities, and people from all faith backgrounds, Christian, Hindu and Muslim.

An innovative design, the cloth-book is the work of a collaboration between the Anglican Alliance, Commonwealth fellow Naveed Khurram Gill, Reverend Rana Khan and students from Northampton High School.

Printed on polyester fabric made from recycled plastic bottles, it includes brightly coloured pictures supported by

explanations and discussion points.

The interactive process started with a reflection around the Biblical narrative of Noah's Ark. The community shared their past experiences of the floods, and explored different ways to use the limited resources that they had. They also reflected on the need to care for the most vulnerable, and spoke about how they could establish a warning system, using whistles to sound the alarm.

Community workers engaged with the Anglican Diocese of Hyderabad also attended the sessions and will follow up the work with the local villagers.

In 2011 the Sindh Province was badly affected by heavy rain and floods. The Kunri area in the Umerkot district was inundated for several months and communities were trapped in remote areas without access to water, health or food. Many people died and communities lost their property, livestock and crops.



Above: children taking part in the cloth-book workshop with Tania Nino.

Visiting the communities before the floods come again has given the opportunity for practical support in disaster-preparedness and prevention.

Support and guidance from Rt Rev Kaleem John, Bishop of Hyderabad and Rt Revd Saddiq Daniel, Bishop of Karachi, has made the visit possible. Naveed Khurram, who visited the Alliance on the Commonwealth Professional Fellowship Scheme this year, brought the upcoming floods to the attention of the Alliance and initiated the work with the relief manager.

The Anglican Alliance is using feedback from the communities to adapt the resource and ensure it meets the needs of others around the world.

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Act Now

The Diocese of South Rwenzori in Uganda is calling for support to help flood-displaced communities.



Above: destroyed homes

Bishop Jackson Thembo Nzerebende is calling all to pray and give generously to an appeal for seven communities in his Diocese devastated by floods in Uganda.

Thousands were left homeless after torrential rain hit the Kasese district of Uganda.

Villagers were displaced and homes destroyed. Many have died, and six schools and one hospital were ruined.

There was mass destruction of houses, infrastructure, facilities, power lines and sewage treatment units.

The Anglican Church in Uganda is carrying out a significant work, and aims to support the community to help them recover their lives after this tragedy.

Details of the appeal can be found on [our website](http://ourwebsite.org). Please pray and give generously.

The Diocese of South Rwenzori will provide updates about the progress of the situation on our website.

www.anglicanalliance.org

Anglican influences national strategy for quality education

Identifying the "distinctive ethos" of Anglican schools is at the heart of a report by Commonwealth Professional Fellow Jackie Glasgow-Browne following the completion of her fellowship scheme run by the Anglican Alliance.

Jackie, who was one of the pioneer fellows in the first scheme that the Anglican Alliance ran for education administrators, has provided a detailed report of her recommendations to the education authorities following her return home to St Vincent and the Grenadines.

The report recommends the introduction of co-operative models of learning, the implementation of a "model school" scheme in two primary schools, and strategies for ensuring that there is a distinctive ethos to education in Church schools. The full text of Jackie's initial report can be read [here](#), and her [progress report](#) details the steps that have been taken by the schools to implement these recommendations. It has been sent to the Commonwealth Scholarship

Commission which funds the Commonwealth Professional Fellowship Scheme and monitors the fellows' progress on their return home.

Two schools have since been selected for the implementation of Jackie's "model school" scheme and training workshops were provided for teachers as they learnt to apply co-operative learning strategies in the classroom.

In addition to the steps already being taken in local schools, Jackie is also looking to influence national learning. Selected to conduct a national survey on "child-friendly schools", Jackie has helped gather data on practice among educators in St Vincent and the Grenadines, and has made a package of further recommendations based on her findings.

Jackie says, "The child-friendly school approach is based on the concept that quality education involves the total needs of the child as the central focus and



Jackie Glasgow-Browne, pictured left, with Simon Hughes MP, right, during the Alliance study scheme.

beneficiary of all educational decisions. Quality goes beyond good teaching methods and learning outcomes, to also include health, safety and adequacy of school facilities and supplies."

Survey results have informed several recommendations to schools, including healthy environments, adequate resources, inclusion and equality, staff welfare, and regular communal assemblies. Prayers and devotionals also encourage Christian values and schools were

recommended to note the importance of promoting the spiritual and moral welfare of students.

Jackie hopes that the implementation of these later findings will help to greatly improve the nation's education and the spiritual welfare of the students. She says, "The way to an improved society is in improved education.

"The visit was an eye-opener to me, and I shall always be thankful for your kind support with respect to the pursuit of the educational visit."

Calling for women leaders in education for new study scheme

The search is on for women leaders in Anglican education to take part in a study scheme next year.

A Commonwealth scheme being organised by the Alliance will focus on empowering women working in developing countries to progress into a leadership position in their sector.

Women working in Anglican education from developing Commonwealth countries are encouraged to apply and take part in this exciting scheme!

They will get a chance to visit national and local education services in London,

and have a short university course as part of the seven week programme.

Our last scheme saw Joseph Nyaga Wangai, John Mhanuzi Wabike, Naveed Khurram Gill and Dr Rajabu Mallahiyu Omary come to London for six weeks of intensive learning.

As Anglican healthcare professionals, they spent time meeting organisations and charities, as well as faith-based healthcare professionals.

A bespoke short-course was provided for them at the University of Northampton, and the fellows' facilitator ensured that time in reflection was also

emphasised throughout the programme.

Each fellow left the UK with a practical report on how they had learnt from the programme and how the health sector in their communities would benefit. This included practical plans for each fellow to implement on their return home.

John Mhanuzi, coming from the Diocese of Western Tanganyika, Tanzania, has returned to his role as Diocesan Health Coordinator, and is addressing the major health concerns facing his community.

He says, "There is a significant problem of poor family planning education among the communities of Kasulu District, resulting in extreme poverty and a high mortality rate of children under five."

John will provide training to volunteers from the Mother's Union, to carry out home visits for family planning education and reproductive health.

If you are interested in applying for the next scheme please email us at anglicanalliance@aco.org, for more details, including how to apply.

Islands abandoned in the Pacific as climate change continues

Provinces in the Pacific are raising their voices to see urgent action taken to save their islands and their livelihoods.

A recent roundtable discussion held in Nadi, Fiji, heard significant data indicating a sea level rise of 8mm per year since 1993, compared to a global average of 3-4mm.

Temperatures have also risen by 0.4-1 °C across the Pacific, with sea acidification destroying plant and animal life and severely restricting the food and income available to local villages.

Repi Island, pictured above, is just one of the islands affected by the change. Three clans have lived on this island for more than forty years, until frequent salt water floods began to salinate wells, destroy crops, flood homes and erode shorelines.

In attempts to adapt, individuals built buffers to provide protection from the



Left: Repi Island is disappearing under rising sea levels. Right: Villagers have resettled near fresh water streams on the island of Kohingo, building homes and schools for future generations.

waves and used rocks and coconut husks to raise their homes.

However reduced land availability and overcrowding led to the clans relocation to neighbouring island, Kohingo.

With many families already paddling for almost an hour daily to reach Kohingo, fetching water and using the land for crops, the communities decided to leave their homes and settle on the larger island.

Left unassisted by provincial and national governments, villagers arrived at Kohingo Island with

nowhere to live and no livelihood.

However, they have now been able to secure land for future generations, and are safe from the climate-related hardships they faced on Repi Island.

Homes, churches and schools have been built and the villagers now have land to develop as their own.

Fertile soil has also multiplied crop growth and diversity, and nearby streams provide fresh drinking water.

Anglican Provinces in the Pacific face great challenges

as they seek to safeguard their communities and their environment, and protect the livelihoods of the people they serve.

The Anglican Alliance are preparing for the G20 summit in Brisbane next year, to provide a platform for the Pacific to make their desperate needs known to the 20 richest and most powerful countries in the world.

It is hoped that the voice of the islanders will be heard and that more will be done to assist villagers as they face the ongoing threats of climate change.

Free tools for your church to speak up about the world you want!

We need more Anglicans to speak loud and clear about the needs of their world!

Action must be taken now to influence world leaders and help them to make wise and informed decisions for the next generation. This is your opportunity to tell them what you want for your church, your children and your community.

And MY World provides a brilliant platform to do just that!

Partnering with the UN MY World campaign, the Anglican Alliance has been collecting votes from developing communities around the world in order to tell the UN post-2015 high-level panel what Anglicans want for their world.

With the survey available in nine different languages and the Alliance able to provide resources such as an offline paper balloting system, our campaign hopes to reach still more of the 85 million Anglicans across the Communion.

Social media images, radio slots, t-shirt designs and DIY posters are amongst the many tools available to help you encourage your communities to respond.

The survey asks citizens to choose six out of sixteen world issues they would like to see prioritised in the next development agenda.

The results are taken to the UN high-level panel meetings and have strongly influenced the leaders' discussions so far.

One of the priorities from the MY World survey. Vote now at <http://www.myworld2015.org/?partner=alliance>

And many thanks to those who have already taken part and enabled their community to speak up!

Empower your church and local community with these resources and see the world

changed for the better as we join together to make the Anglican voice loud.

Please email christina.manning@aco.org for more information and to get involved!

Workshops reveal how Anglican mission can be transformed

Gathering Christians from churches across the region, including representatives of the Anglican Communion, a conference in the City of Guatemala, Guatemala, brought unity and built faith as they shared and studied the Bible together.

Regional Facilitator for Latin America and the Caribbean, Paulo Ueti, was also present as a lecturer, facilitating the studies throughout the week in June.

With discussions relating to different social structures and cultural contexts, the group drew on the word of God to highlight the Christian's role in social activism and world development.

Focusing on a passage in Luke 24, which speaks of two disciples on the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35), questions were raised as to how the Bible and theology can be the centre of our work to eradicate poverty, open eyes to hope in Christ, and promote inclusion.

At the very core of peace, reconciliation and community, the Bible should be used as we look to the healing of all people and all nations. The way in which we read the word of God should be for encouragement and edification, to raise up the

helpless and include all in our community.

Key themes drawn out from the passage in Luke 24 focused on empowerment and disempowerment, participation, a shared table, solidarity, hospitality and mission for development.

Sharing with the clergy of Guatemala Diocese, Paulo Ueti had the opportunity to share different perspectives of Bible study for mission and development, as well as theology as an educational tool to increase the presence of the church in society.

Three members of the Anglican Church of Guatemala attended the workshops, as well as a representative from Foundation Cristosal in El Salvador. Foundation Cristosal is an independent, faith-based nonprofit organisation, built on the Anglican faith. Partnering with the people of El Salvador, the organisation supports communities in their struggle for peace, justice and reconciliation.

Formed in 2001 by the Bishop of El Salvador, Martin Barahona, and the Very Rev Richard Bower, former dean of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral in Syracuse, New York, Foundation



Above: children take part in workshop activities focused on the Bible passage in Luke 24:13-35

Cristosal brought together Salvadorans and North Americans in a mutually empowering relationship.

Dignity and respect are the foundations of their work, which brings people together to pursue positive social change in El Salvador.

Linking with the mandate of the Anglican Alliance and building the capacity of the local Church, the conference encouraged Christians to draw closer to God's word and allow first their hearts to be transformed.

As our inner man is strengthened (Ephesians 3:16), so our capacity is built that we can fulfill God's great commission to go out and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19)

The Word of God that we find in our Bible is a sweet taste to our tongue, and an invitation from Love to be transformed, and invite others into the same.

Song of Solomon 7:11-13

"Come, my beloved, let us go to the countryside, let us spend the night in the villages.

"Let us go early to the vineyards to see if the vines have budded, if their blossoms have opened, and if the pomegranates are in bloom – there I will give you my love.

"The mandrakes send out their fragrance, and at our door is every delicacy, both new and old, that I have stored up for you, my beloved."

Biblical foundations strengthening the paths out of poverty

A proposal for discussion and debate on theology and development is being coordinated by Rev John Kafwanka, Director of Mission for the Anglican Communion Office, and Rev Alejandro Manzoni in Uruguay.

Establishing the notion of theology-based development, the proposal encourages Anglicans to reflect on participation, emancipation, community and faith, and discusses how we can move towards life in all its fullness (John 10:10) and carry out the mission of the Church to safeguard the earth.

Former Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Rowan Williams said that our understanding of faith and development "delivers a more effective set of local strategies for achieving paths out of poverty" (*Theology and Development lecture, 2009*).

Founded with a strong emphasis on justice, mercy and community, the mandate of the Anglican Alliance is built upon key theological benchmarks, which provide the foundations for the development, relief and advocacy pillars of our work.

As Christians our mission to eradicate poverty is one

commissioned by God, and so must be founded on our understanding of His word, the Bible.

"They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, 'It is true! The Lord has risen!'" (Luke 24:33).

Beginning with the story of Jesus appearing to two disciples on the road to Emmaus, the passage in Luke 24 highlights the importance of moving from the sorrow of death (Luke 24:13) to a recognition of the reality of life and resurrection in Christ (v33).

Our mission requires that all Christians, churches and organisations set up and strengthen paths out of poverty, exclusion and powerlessness.

As we facilitate this mission, the Anglican Alliance serves to promote inclusion, build the capacity of the church and equip Anglicans to shine a light on the darkness they see in their communities.

With courage, open eyes, and a heart full of faith, we can connect to our communities, show them life in Christ, and say to the world, "Let it be on earth as it is in heaven".



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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We've had a lot of debates in the Alliance, starting from the first consultation in Nairobi, about the advocacy pillar of our work. Advocacy is a current term in international development, part of the participatory governance agenda that ensures people have a say in the decisions taken by national or local government. In all our debates, our partners from around the Communion have said advocacy is the Church speaking out with its prophetic voice against poverty and injustice.

So in Moscow last month the Anglican Alliance spoke out over food insecurity, poverty. The Church of Bangladesh is speaking out about the injustices that leave impoverished women garment workers to lose their lives because of corruption in the building industry. And in October Anglicans will be speaking out to the UN about the need for justice for migrant workers.

I hope you will join us, through your Church, agency, diocese, or by just adding your voice to the Anglicans calling for justice to roll on like a river, and righteousness like a never-failing stream (Amos 5:24). All the best.

Sally Keeble - Director, Anglican Alliance.

Food security for women farmers in the Pacific

Capturing the theme for this year's World Food Day, on Wednesday 16th October, the Alliance are taking action on 'Sustainable Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition'.

In the Anglican Church of Melanesia (ACOM), the Mother's Union (MU) will be celebrating in line with one of their key objectives, to 'Make known to all peoples good ways to keep family life strong and protect children.'

They have called their programme, 'Plantem gudfala kaikai fo mekem bodi stap strong an helti'.

With an organised food fair, the day will see all women showcase their own organic local foods, as well as ways to use these items to

prepare healthy meals.

Planting materials will also be distributed at the food fair, for those who need new sustainable varieties of seed. This will ensure that awareness of, and adaptation to, climate change is kept as a focal point of the day, and will encourage the practice of food security amongst women farmers.

Food preparation activities will have women sharing their recipes, and they will be able to see firsthand the different ways of preparing locally available foods.

All of the workshops will emphasise how best to retain nutrients whilst preparing and cooking healthy meals.

Women farmers will learn how to ensure sustainable food systems for food security and



Above: Planning with the ACOM PMU President (centre) and her staff

nutrition. This will benefit not only the health of their families and local communities, but also their crop production and economic wellbeing.

Churches around the world will be encouraged to take part in World Food Day with the Alliance preparing materials and resources to empower your communities.

First virtual meeting connects valued mentors

Mentors taking part in the Agents of Change pilots came together recently to take part in the Anglican Alliance's first mentor's teleconference.

Discussing the pilot schemes launched so far, the mentors shared their experiences of the

programme and the challenges they have faced.

They were advised by Francis Cattermole of the Open University, and Anglican Alliance director Sally Keeble.

Common topics arose, and the benefits of open communication and learning together were soon evident.

Steps forward were established and a strategy for developing the mentoring role of the programme is in motion.

The Alliance look to hold further discussions for new and existing mentors as the programme is set to continue.