

A Checklist for Pioneering Mission Projects

These 20 questions are produced as an aid and a checklist for those beginning pioneering mission projects such as church plants, fresh expressions and crossing places.

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Planning the project

1. What is the nature and scope of the proposal?
2. What population group is this mission project intended for?
3. Whose idea is this project and what denominations do they come from?
4. How will the proposal further the mission of the church?

Linking with the wider church in the county

5. What resources are needed to begin and sustain the project? Are these already in place?
6. What other potential resources might be available and how are these to be accessed?
7. Does the Regional Minister / Mission Enabler / Missioner know about the proposal? (He/she may be able to help with accessing resources/training.)
8. If other partners or people from different denominations or groups are likely to be involved, do we need a simple Ecumenical Vision Statement (previously known as a Declaration of Intent) and also a date for signing? (The County Ecumenical Officer can help with this.)

Consulting and communicating locally and ecumenically

9. Which other local Christian Groups have been consulted?
10. What ecumenical partners or other churches are involved at this stage or envisaged in future?
11. Does the County Ecumenical Officer know about the proposal?
12. How will this proposal complement existing mission initiatives?
13. What are the implications for people of other faiths in the area?
14. Will it duplicate or conflict with other initiatives or plans of any other group?

Some more key questions

15. Is appropriate mission accompaniment and support in place and if not, what support systems are planned?
16. What provision will be made for Baptism and Communion when/if this becomes appropriate?
17. What provision will be made for marriages and funerals?
18. What is the leadership structure and how will future leaders be appointed?
19. How will offerings/donations be managed and how will the project become financially self supporting?
20. How will decisions be made? You will need to work towards a constitution if this is to be a decision making project, and denominational and Charity Commission guidelines will need to be followed.

Shire and Soke

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