

Jubilee+

INVESTING MORE FOR THE COMMON GOOD

National Church
Social Action
Survey Results
2014

Geoff Knott
December 2014



Introduction

Welcome to the results of the third biennial National Church and Social Action Survey for the UK.

As before in 2010 and 2012, several thousand Churches of all denominations across the UK were contacted to see how they are currently involved in social action in their communities. We would like to thank all those church leaders who responded despite leading such busy lives.

In this report, where appropriate, we compare the results of the 2014 survey with the previous ones and so can start to see some trends.

We also added some new questions to see the number of volunteers (as opposed to just hours) and also the number of beneficiaries of various types of initiatives.

We hope these results not only inform the Church and related Charities but also enable the Church to share positive news about Church social action and help influence local and national policy.

If you have any questions about the information, please contact us through the Jubilee+ website.



Geoff Knott



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Increasing social inclusion and the relief of poverty through churches engaging with social action, social justice and social enterprise.

1. Executive Summary

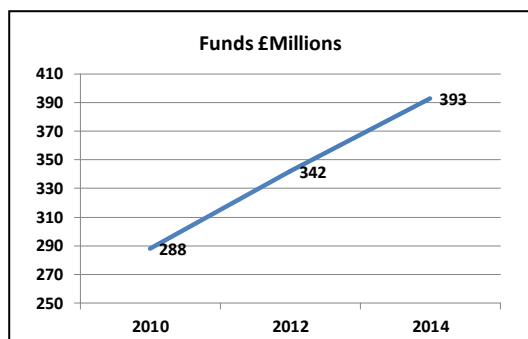
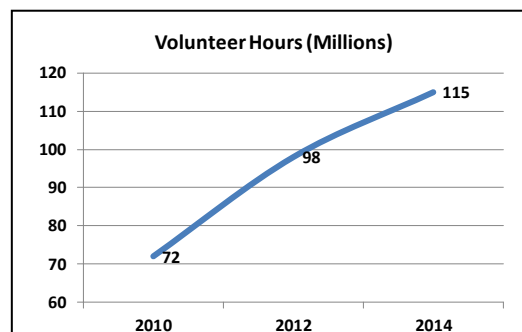
Investing more for the common good

Unsung Heroes

The responses to the 3rd biennial National Church and Social Action Survey in 2014 indicate that 1.1 -1.4 million volunteers participated in church-based social action in the UK in 2014, touching millions of people through various initiatives: community building (e.g. parents and toddlers); compassion ministries (e.g. caring for the elderly); crisis intervention (e.g. debt advice); and education (e.g. school assemblies).

UK churches have increased the average number of volunteer hours on social action to 114.8m per annum. This is an increase of 16.8% compared with two years earlier and 59.4% compared with four years ago.

Churches have also increased paid staff to help co-ordinate their initiatives: UK churches have increased the average number of staff hours on social action by 18.8% in two years. This is equivalent to roughly six hours of staff time to 10 hours of volunteer effort.



In addition to high levels of volunteering, church members also generously finance the vast majority of initiatives, with UK churches increasing their spending on social action to approximately £393m in 2014. This is an increase of 14.9% in two years and 36.5% in four years. 72% of churches are financing social actions totally themselves, while for those that have received any grants, these do not cover total costs. Unsurprisingly, the larger the church, the more the hours and money is spent on social action initiatives.

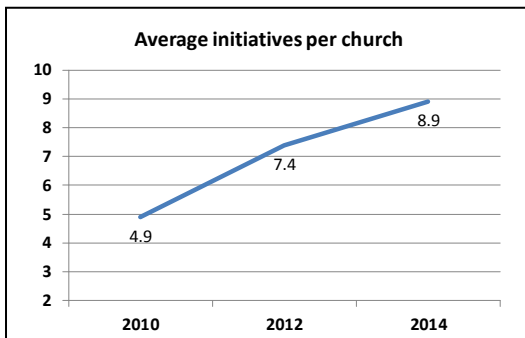
If we were to fully cost volunteer time (some of which is quite specialist) and paid staff time at an average wage of £517 per week¹ or £13 per hour, this would amount to a staggering £2.388bn. If we then include the use of facilities and direct financial contributions, we estimate that the total cost to churches of social initiatives is above £3.5bn per annum.

Please note these figures only cover Church social action initiatives. They do not include voluntary work by Christians in the community that is not initiated by a church (e.g. work by local charities), nor other church initiatives that do not involve external social action, e.g. house-groups, etc.

How have calculated these figures? As stated above, churches of all denominations and all sizes from across the UK responded to a survey. From these responses, we have calculated averages based on church size (adults attending). For example, volunteer hours for a church of 101-150 adults would be very different to one of 1-50 adults. Using these averages, we can then project a national figure for that size church and adding these up, get a national total.

¹ <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/ashe/annual-survey-of-hours-and-earnings/2013-provisional-results/info-ashe-2013.html>

Reaching further



There has been continued diversification of social action projects by churches – the average number of social action initiatives undertaken by individual churches has risen from 7.4 to 8.9. This represents an increase of 20.3% compared with two years earlier and 81.6% compared with four years ago.

The number of beneficiaries in the community of church-based social action over 12 months range from 670 for smaller churches to 4,260 for larger ones. There will be overlap here due to churches in one town partnering with each other and counting the same beneficiary, and the same beneficiary may be touched by various activities, e.g. parents and toddlers, fun days, debt advice, etc. It is estimated that there are 37,500 churches in England alone, let alone Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Even if only a small percentage of them are engaged at the level that survey respondents reported then churches are helping millions of people in communities across the UK.

Previous Jubilee+ research² into the impact of church ministries shows a number of outcomes for the direct beneficiary, for the community and society, and for the church itself. For direct beneficiaries these include: new life skills; bringing stability; reduction in stress; improvement in mental health; connection with new friendship / support networks; finding faith. For the community: reduced pressure and demand on services; events; friendship/support networks.

Food distribution has become the number one activity – continuing the trend seen in the last survey.

The top 10 activities of churches in the 2014 sample are:

1. Food distribution
2. Parents and toddlers groups
3. Schools assemblies/RE work
4. Festivals/fun days
5. Children's clubs – up to age 11 (apart from church children's ministry)
6. Caring for elderly (apart from church members)
7. Debt counselling
8. Youth work – 12-18 (apart from church youth ministry)
9. Cafe open to public
10. Marriage counselling/courses

Increases are seen in initiatives that: distribute clothes; increase fitness; help adults with special needs; give mental health/stress counselling, deliver English as a second language courses, run social enterprises, help with adoption and help sex workers/trafficking.

Help with adoption efforts may be due to the 'Home for Good' campaign run by the Evangelical Alliance. Helping sex workers/trafficking may be due to heightened awareness due to the anti-slavery initiatives, including legislation.

Churches continue to work together on initiatives: 21% are run in partnership. Franchises are used for only 14% of initiatives.

² http://www.jubilee-plus.org/Groups/200196/Jubilee_Plus/Research/Research.aspx

A new confidence

58% of churches plan to increase social initiatives in the next 12 months. Only 5% plan to reduce.

The top 10 priorities (excluding Other) are:

1. Debt counselling
2. Social enterprises/businesses
3. Cafe open to public
4. Youth work – 12-18 (apart from church youth ministry)
5. Helping the homeless get settled
6. Children's clubs – up to age 11 (apart from church children's ministry)
7. Helping the jobless back into work
8. Fitness/sport (apart from church members)
9. Food distribution
10. Lunches for those in need

A number of new priorities appeared on the fuller list, taking many churches into new activity areas.

Churches have received a great deal of encouragement through community recognition, meeting needs, attendance, church growth and the selflessness of those serving.

Relationships with government and agencies operating at a local level also continue to be an encouragement.

76% of churches think it 'essential' or 'very important' that churches maintain their Christian distinctives in social initiatives.

Churches continue to have issues with the availability of volunteers, especially during the daytime, and funding. They have increased concerns over: staffing and/or leaders needed to head up initiatives, especially as they may require specialists; the need to update facilities or find new premises.

Unsung heroes, reaching further with a new confidence

Church members across the UK have not only continued to serve the needs in their communities but have increased their efforts. They continue to play a crucial role in building and maintaining 'social capital'³, social inclusion and social cohesion.

They engender a sense of community through initiatives such as parents and toddlers. They care for those in distress e.g. the bereaved. They help those in crisis e.g. distributing food. They help educate and develop values e.g. school assemblies.

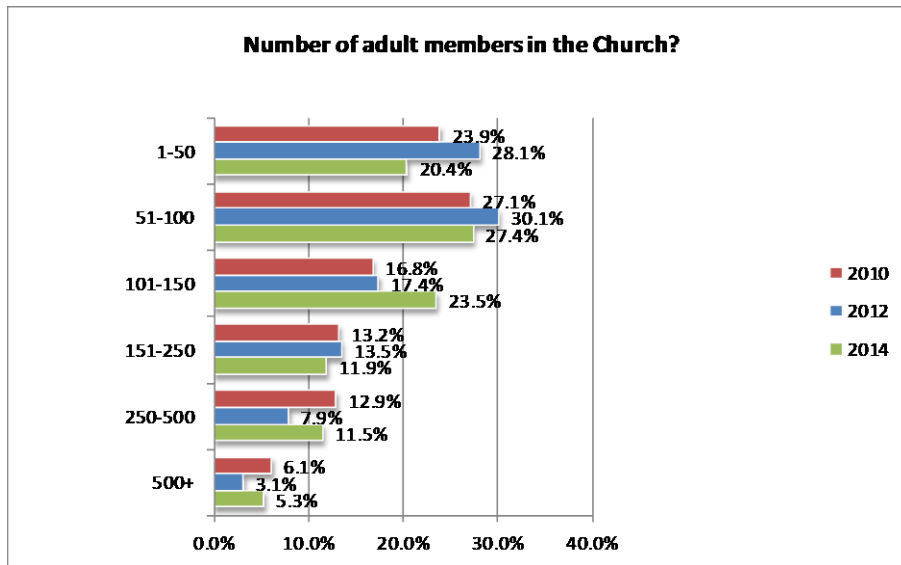
For the most part, they are unsung heroes who finance their own efforts, increasingly taking on more initiatives and getting a great deal of encouragement from their communities and the results of their efforts.

We hope this report not only informs the Church and related charities but also enables the Church to share positive news about church-based social action and helps influence local and national policy.

³ <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/user-guidance/social-capital-guide/the-social-capital-project/guide-to-social-capital.html>

2. Demographics

2.1. Size of Church



No of Churches answering question – 226 [2012- 356, 2010 - 280]

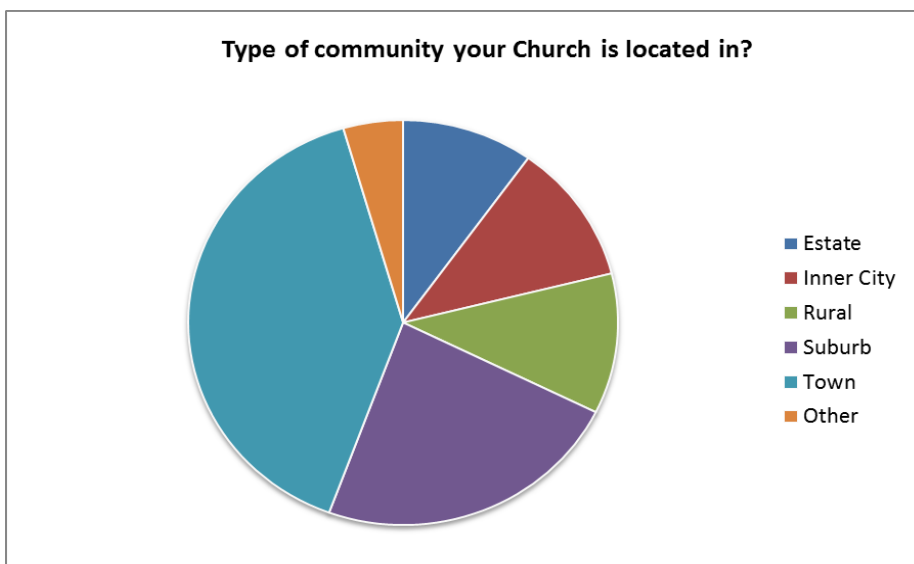
How does this sample compare to national statistics re Church sizes?

Christian Research Religious Trends 6 shows nationally the following statistics re Church size:

- 49% of churches are 50 adults or less.
- 21% are 51-100
- 11% are 101-150
- 13% are 151-300
- 4% are 301-500
- 2% are 500+

So the sample is biased towards medium and larger sized churches and under-represents small churches. To overcome this bias, where possible we have weighted calculations by the total number of churches by size as defined in Trends 6.

2.2. Location by type of community



No of Churches answering question – 223

2.3. Location in UK

Please identify broadly the region of the UK where your Church is located?

South East	25.8%
East Anglia	11.8%
East Midlands	11.4%
North-West	11.4%
South West	10.9%
West Midlands	9.6%
London	6.6%
North East	5.2%
Wales	3.5%
Scotland	1.7%
Northern Ireland	0.4%

No of Churches answering question – 229

3. Involvement in Social Action

3.1. Activities

Churches were asked to record their involvement in a range of specified activities. The activities are listed by below in order of highest involvement by churches in 2014. These are compared with involvement in 2012 and 2010 (where possible). Thinking of organised activities of your Church in the local community in the last 12 months, what external ministry areas have you been involved in by practical action? % of churches in the sample running a particular activity. 227 respondents.

Answer options	2014	2012	2010	2014 Rank	2012 Rank	2010 Rank
Food distribution	80.2%	61.6%	7.8%	1	3	16
Parents and toddlers	70.0%	62.7%	70.6%	2	2	2
Schools assemblies/RE work	66.1%	63.8%	2.80	3	1	24
Festivals/Fun days	54.6%	58.8%	5.0%	4	4	18
Children's club - up to age 11 (apart from church children's ministry)	50.2%	50.8%		5	5	
Caring for elderly (apart from church members)	44.1%	44.9%	53.9%	6	6	3
Debt counselling	43.2%	26.3%	43.6%	7	11	6
Youthwork - 12-18 (apart from church youth ministry)	42.7%	42.9%	74.5%	8	7	1
Cafe open to public	38.8%	38.4%	5.0%	9	8	19
Marriage counselling/courses	33.0%	23.7%	45.7%	10	14	5
Arts - drama, media, music, etc (apart from church members)	31.7%	31.1%	1.8%	11	9	29
Primary school clubs/Summer clubs	31.7%	33.1%	6.0%	12	10	17
Lunches for needy	27.8%	25.1%	5.0%	13	12	19
Street patrols	27.8%	22.6%	28.4%	14	15	9
Addiction (inc. alcohol and drug abuse)	24.7%	24.6%	18.8%	15	13	10
Clothes distribution	23.8%	20.9%	7.8%	16	17	16
Parenting help/courses	22.9%	17.2%	36.9%	17	18	7
Community improvement eg clean up	22.5%	16.4%	48.6%	18	19	4
Fitness/Sport (apart from church members)	19.4%	16.1%	2.1%	19	20	27
Prison ministry and/or ex-offenders	19.4%	12.4%	17.4%	20	22	11
Special needs adults	19.4%	15.0%	3.2%	21	27	22
Bereavement counselling (apart from church members)	18.1%	15.8%		22	21	
Helping homeless get settled	18.1%	14.7%	36.5%	23	23	8
Helping jobless back into work	18.1%	9.6%	17.0%	24	29	12
Visiting sick (apart from church members)	17.2%	22.0%	2.8%	25	16	23
Asylum seekers and refugees	15.9%	13.0%	17.0%	26	25	13
Furniture distribution	14.1%	12.7%	2.1%	27	26	28
Mental health/Stress counselling (apart from church members)	11.5%	9.9%	3.9%	28	28	21
Preschool nursery	11.0%	14.4%	2.1%	29	24	28
Relationship advice (apart from Marriage Course)	11.0%	4.0%		30	35	
English as a foreign language	10.6%	7.9%		31	30	
Social enterprises/businesses	10.1%	5.9%		32	34	
Adoption services	9.7%	1.7%	1.4%	33	38	30
Pregnancy/Post-abortion help	8.8%	6.8%	4.6%	34	32	20
Recovery from divorce and separation	8.8%	4.0%		35	36	
Special needs children	8.4%	7.9%	15.6%	36	31	14
Sex workers/trafficking	7.1%	2.8%		37	37	
Helping with literacy	5.7%	6.5%	10.6%	38	33	15
HIV/AIDS	1.3%	0.8%		39	39	

Some observations from the above data:

1. Calculating initiatives per church in the sample according to size of church (adult members) and projecting against UK church sizes, gives 8.9 initiatives [2012 – 7.4, 2010 – 4.9] per UK church on average. This again shows a continued increase in social action by churches. **UK churches have increased average number of initiatives by 20.3% in 2 years and 81.6% in 4 years.**
2. **Food distribution has become the number one activity – continuing the trend seen in the last survey.**
3. Links with schools to supplement teaching has continued to be a top 10 activity - Schools assemblies/RE work as well as Primary school clubs.
4. Increases are seen in initiatives that: distribute clothes; increase fitness; help adults with special needs; give mental health/stress counselling, deliver English as a second language courses, run social enterprises, help with adoption and help sex workers/trafficking.
5. Help with adoption efforts may be due to the ‘Home for Good’ campaign run by the Evangelical Alliance. Helping sex workers/trafficking may be due to heightened awareness due to the anti-slavery initiatives including legislation.

3.2. Partnership with Others

Top 10 Activities run in partnership with other churches

Activity
Food distribution
Street patrols
Debt counselling
Festivals/Fun days
Schools assemblies/RE work
Addiction (inc. alcohol and drug abuse)
Arts - drama, media, music, etc (apart from church members)
Youthwork - 12-18 (apart from church youth ministry)
Clothes distribution
Lunches for needy

Of the 2299 initiatives run by churches in the sample, **21% [2012 – 21%] are run in partnership with other churches.**

3.3. Franchises

Top 10 Activities which use ‘franchised’ materials

Activity
Food distribution
Debt counselling
Street patrols
Addiction (inc. alcohol and drug abuse)
Helping jobless back into work
Marriage counselling/courses
Prison ministry and/or ex-offenders
Parenting help/courses
Helping homeless get settled
Sex workers/trafficking

Of the 2299 initiatives run by churches in the sample, **14% [2012 - 13%] use 'franchised' materials. This is surprisingly low given the number of franchises.** There are over 40 'franchises' that can equip churches in various ministries. Jubilee+ has been promoting these franchises to 5000-7000 churches of all denominations monthly for the last few years, as have the franchisors as well. See www.jubilee-plus.org/socialaction

Obviously, churches are quite able to operate many social activities without specialist materials and help. This speaks of their capabilities.

There have been a number of new franchises in the top 10 activity areas e.g. Living-Recovery (addiction), CAP Job Clubs, Clean Sheet (ex-offenders), Hope into Action (housing for homeless).

4. Beneficiaries

4.1. Number of beneficiaries

For the first time we asked about the number of 'unique' beneficiaries of each activity.

Thinking of organised activities of your Church in the local community in the last 12 months, roughly how many different 'beneficiaries' do you estimate have been helped through external ministry areas in a year? Average number of unique beneficiaries per activity, per church running that activity in a year. 158 respondents.

Activity	2014
Arts - drama, media, music, etc (apart from church members)	934
Food distribution	830
Festivals/Fun days	740
Furniture distribution	655
Schools assemblies/RE work	655
Community improvement eg clean up	537
Street patrols	435
Cafe open to public	401
Mental health/Stress counselling (apart from church members)	333
Youthwork - 12-18 (apart from church youth ministry)	177
Clothes distribution	174
Other	172
Lunches for needy	150
Primary school clubs/summer clubs	149
Helping Homeless get settled	142
Parents and toddlers	104
Addiction (inc. alcohol and drug abuse)	87
Children's club - up to age 11 (apart from church children's ministry)	82
Fitness/Sport (apart from church members)	74
Visiting sick (apart from church members)	64
Special needs children	54
Prison ministry and/or ex-offenders	51
Caring for elderly (apart from church members)	49
Debt counselling	46
Preschool nursery	35
English as a foreign language	33
Social enterprises/businesses	30
Marriage counselling/courses	29
Relationship advice (apart from Marriage Course)	27
Asylum seekers and refugees	26
Helping with literacy	23
Parenting help/courses	22
Helping jobless back into work	20
Special needs adults	17
Sex workers/trafficking	14
Pregnancy/Post-abortion help	13
Bereavement counselling (apart from church members)	11
Adoption services	11
Recovery from divorce and separation	10
HIV/AIDS	5

Some observations from the above data:

1. The 158 churches that responded benefit in total, 342,000 'unique' people over a period of 12 months – an average of 2162 people per church. There will be some overlap here in terms of churches in one town partnering with each other and counting the same beneficiary. There will also be overlap as the same beneficiary may receive help from various activities e.g. food bank, debt advice, etc.

2. Calculating the beneficiaries per church in the sample according to size of church (adult members) and weighting them by UK church sizes, gives 1431 beneficiaries per UK church on average. This lower number than that of point 1. is due to the large number of small churches in the UK. Again the caution re overlap applies.
3. Multiplying beneficiaries by number of churches in the UK by church size, leads to the whole population being beneficiaries so it does show that overlap is very significant! Nevertheless, **the Church is reaching millions of people every day here in the UK through a whole range of activities.**
4. Activities can be seen as;
 - crisis intervention e.g. homelessness, debt advice, foodbanks;
 - community building, e.g. parents and toddlers, fun days;
 - educational e.g. school assemblies, literacy;
 - compassion ministries e.g. visiting the sick, caring for the elderly.
 Whatever the activity, the Church is quietly ministering to the local communities.

5. Jubilee+ research into the impact of church ministries (www.jubilee-plus.org/research) shows a number of outcomes for the direct beneficiary, for the community and society and for the church itself. Some of these are:
 - a. Direct Beneficiaries:
 - i. New life skills - child and/or adult development
 - ii. Getting out of crisis – bringing stability, taking responsibility
 - iii. Personal well-being – reduction in stress. Improvement in mental health, giving hope
 - iv. Having someone to speak for you
 - v. Connection with new friendship / support networks. Making long-term friends.
 - vi. Enjoyment
 - vii. Finding faith
 - b. Community
 - i. Reduced pressure and demand on services, releasing time
 - ii. Creating events in the community
 - iii. Creating friendship / support networks
 - c. Churches:
 - i. Volunteers get deep satisfaction from making difference
 - ii. Numerical growth
 - iii. Recognition by community and authorities

5. Effort per activity per annum

5.1. Staff Hours

Thinking of organised activities of your Church in the local community in the last 12 months, roughly how many staff hours do you estimate have been given in external ministry areas in a year? 165 respondents.

Top 20 ministries taking most staff time and average staff hours for one church for that ministry i.e. 'staff' intensive:

Activity	2014
English as a foreign language	2,203
Special needs children	1,665
Cafe open to public	1,420
Social enterprises/businesses	1,042
Preschool nursery	623
Furniture distribution	617
Debt counselling	616
Helping homeless get settled	464
Other	379
Youthwork - 12-18 (apart from church youth ministry)	331
Addiction (inc. alcohol and drug abuse)	258
Arts - drama, media, music, etc (apart from church members)	210
Clothes distribution	203
Fitness/Sport (apart from church members)	192
Food distribution	186
Mental health/Stress counselling (apart from church members)	178
Children's club - up to age 11 (apart from church children's ministry)	177
Street patrols	160
Caring for elderly (apart from church members)	151
Lunches for needy	147

270 (2012- 220)
staff hours is the
overall average for
any one ministry in
this sample

Calculating staff hours per church in the sample according to size of church (adult members) and projecting against UK church sizes, gives 1342 staff hours [2012 – 1130] per UK church on average. **UK churches have increased average number of staff hours on social action by 18.8% in 2 years.**

As you would expect, initiatives that are open frequently e.g. daily and/or involve many volunteers and/or are more specialist seem to have the most staff hours.

5.2. Volunteer Hours

Thinking of organised activities of your Church in the local community in the last 12 months, roughly how many 'volunteer' hours do you estimate have been given in external ministry areas in a year?

Top 20 ministries taking most volunteer time and average volunteer hours for that ministry for one church i.e. volunteer hours intensive:

Activity	2014
Cafe open to public	1,117
Furniture distribution	840
English as a foreign language	713
Lunches for needy	696
Food distribution	653
Helping homeless get settled	610
Parents and toddlers	575
Debt counselling	565
Social enterprises/businesses	548
Mental health/Stress counselling (apart from church members)	546
Youthwork - 12-18 (apart from church youth ministry)	517
Special needs children	514
Caring for elderly (apart from church members)	493
Clothes distribution	465
Children's club - up to age 11 (apart from church children's ministry)	456
Arts - drama, media, music, etc (apart from church members)	428
Addiction (inc. alcohol and drug abuse)	393
Street patrols	384
Helping jobless back into work	311
Special needs adults	304
Asylum seekers and refugees	304
Preschool nursery	303

486 [2012 – 369] volunteer hours is the overall average for any one ministry in this sample.

Calculating volunteer hours per church in the sample according to size of church (adult members) and projecting against UK church sizes, gives 2359 volunteer hours [2012 – 2037, 2010 - 1464] per UK church on average.

Taking projections in section 8, **UK churches have increased the average number of volunteer hours on social action to 114.8 million per annum. This is an increase of 16.8% in 2 years and 59.4% in 4 years.**

5.3. Number of volunteers

For the first time we asked about the number of ‘unique’ volunteers involved (as opposed to just the hours). Obviously, some volunteers are able to give more hours than others.

Thinking of organised activities of your Church in the local community in the last 12 months, roughly how many different volunteers do you estimate have been involved in external ministry areas in that year? 192 responses.

Top 20 ministries involving most volunteers for each ministry for one church:

Activity	2014
Festivals/Fun days	28.2
Community Improvement eg clean up	25.5
Furniture distribution	19.7
Lunches for needy	13.1
Food distribution	12.5
Cafe open to public	12.2
Other	10.7
Primary school clubs/Summer clubs	10.4
Caring for elderly (apart from church members)	8.8
Children's club - up to age 11 (apart from church children's ministry)	8.7
Helping homeless get settled	8.4
Arts - drama, media, music, etc (apart from church members)	8.4
Youthwork - 12-18 (apart from church youth ministry)	7.6
Special needs children	7.6
Addiction (inc. alcohol and drug abuse)	7.4
Parents and toddlers	6.9
Visiting sick (apart from church members)	6.9
Debt counselling	6.0
Clothes distribution	5.9
Special needs adults	5.5
Street patrols	5.5

8.5 volunteers is the overall average for any one ministry for this sample.

In order to calculate the number of volunteer in a church, we cannot just add up the total volunteers for each initiative as each volunteer may help in more than one ministry. So there is a degree of double counting – of overlap. Further research into the degree of overlap reveals that the overlap is much greater in smaller churches. In a small church there is much more of a spirit of 'all hands to the pump' whereas in a larger church people can be more selective and specialised in how they serve.

For example, adding up volunteers for 1-50 adult member church gives 35 volunteers for all initiatives but when we apply the overlap factor for that size church i.e. the same volunteer helping more than one initiative, the unique number of volunteers comes down to a range of 16 to 21.

Taking the overlap factors for each church size, and the average number of volunteers for that church size, **it is estimated that between 1.1 million -1.4 million volunteers are involved in church based social action initiatives in the UK.**

Sense checking this, if there are 37500 churches in England, with an average of 8.9 social action initiatives, each with an average of 8.5 people, but every volunteer is engaged in 2.3 initiatives in a year, this equals 1.23 million. Churches in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales would tend to lift this by about 20%. So, about 1.48 million. However, we know that over 50% of churches are small (1-50) and so this leads us to use the average number of volunteers for each church size which drops the overall number of volunteers. However for larger churches, our research shows that volunteers tend to be involved in less than two social actions so that would tend to increase the individual number of volunteers for those churches. That is why in the end, we give a range of 1.1 million -1.4 million volunteers.

Remember as well that many Christians are helping other charities and these efforts are not included in this report.

6. Financing per activity per annum

6.1. Church financed

Thinking of financing of your own or other's organised activities in the local community in the last 12 months, roughly how much money from your Church (£s) has been used to fund external ministry areas in a year? 130 respondents.

Top 20 ministries given most money and average money given in 12 months for that ministry for one church i.e. money intensive:

	2014
Debt counselling	£6,315
Other	£5,057
Festivals/Fun days	£3,472
Prison ministry and/or ex-offenders	£3,279
Cafe open to public	£3,251
Youthwork - 12-18 (apart from church youth ministry)	£3,031
Lunches for needy	£2,877
Helping homeless get settled	£2,656
Fitness/Sport (apart from church members)	£2,434
Social enterprises/businesses	£2,381
Food distribution	£2,139
Asylum seekers and refugees	£2,010
Furniture distribution	£1,886
Addiction (inc. alcohol and drug abuse)	£1,694
Primary school clubs/Summer clubs	£1,469
Children's club - up to age 11 (apart from church children's ministry)	£1,437
Community Improvement eg clean up	£1,436
Schools assemblies/RE work	£1,404
Adoption services	£1,313
Sex workers/trafficking	£1,088
Caring for elderly (apart from church members)	£1,085
Helping jobless back into work	£950

£2092pa [2012 - £1663] is the overall average for any one initiative in this sample.

Calculating direct funds per church in the sample according to size of church (adult members) and projecting against UK church sizes, gives £8086 [2012 – £7087, 2010 - £5975] per UK church on average.

Taking projections in section 8, **UK churches have increased average spend on social action to £393M pa. This is an increase of 14.9% in 2 years and 36.5% in 4 years.**

6.2. Grant financed

Thinking of financing of your own organised activities in the local community in the last 12 months, roughly how much money (£s) have you received from trusts, local or national government, etc to fund external ministry areas in a year?

Top 20 ministries given most grants and average grant amount for that ministry in 12 months for one church:

	2014
Preschool nursery	£72,650
Furniture distribution	£55,111
Fitness/Sport (apart from church members)	£18,333
Helping homeless get settled	£12,700
Social enterprises/businesses	£10,825
Caring for elderly (apart from church members)	£7,775
Children's club - up to age 11 (apart from church children's ministry)	£7,542
Youthwork - 12-18 (apart from church youth ministry)	£7,530
Schools assemblies/RE work	£6,638
Food distribution	£6,104
Addiction (inc. alcohol and drug abuse)	£5,993
Other	£5,303
Mental health/Stress Counselling (apart from church members)	£5,000
Special needs children	£5,000
Helping jobless back into work	£4,580
Debt counselling	£3,969
Asylum seekers and refugees	£3,000
HIV/AIDS	£3,000
Cafe open to public	£2,763
Recovery from divorce and separation	£2,550

Churches in the sample who received grants, received £15,292 [2012 - £14,064] on average for social action initiatives. Average value per grant was smaller - £5947 [2012 - £7494] pa. So this shows that churches have received smaller grants but more of them. Only 28% [2012 - 23%] of churches in the sample registered the fact that they had received grants and these would not cover all the initiatives they are involved in. It also means that 72% of churches are financing social actions totally themselves.

7. Analysis by Church size

Analysis of churches in the sample by number of adult members gives the following results:

Church Size	No of initiatives			Number of Beneficiaries	Average Staff Hours		Average Volunteer Hours				Number of Volunteers	Average Church £			
	2014	2012	2010		2014	2012	2014	2012	2010	% change 2012-14		2014	2012	2010	% change 2012-14
0-50	6.8	5.6	3.6	666	674	819	1267	1033	734	22.7%	35	£4,563	£4,222	£4,205	8.1%
51-100	9.0	7.2	5.0	1539	1247	1134	2141	1659	1095	29.1%	51	£6,063	£10,127	£5,008	-40.1%
101-150	10.3	9.5	6.2	1621	1269	1538	2889	2207	2096	30.9%	68	£7,962	£6,308	£5,309	26.2%
151-250	12.0	10.6	6.8	2663	1486	1690	3426	3505	2441	-2.3%	98	£9,448	£8,217	£6,737	15.0%
251-500	12.7	10.3	7.5	4255	6345	1655	6441	4533	3400	42.1%	103	£22,294	£20,651	£18,267	8.0%
500+	20.2	15.6	9.3	4163	7133	1839	11963	13520	8582	-11.5%	293	£68,434	£13,408	£29,550	410.4%
Overall Average weighted by church size	8.9	7.4	4.9	1431	1342	1130	2359	2037	1464	15.8%	59	£8,086	£7,087	£5,975	14.1%

Churches of every size show increases in number of initiatives undertaken.

Churches of every size show very large increases in volunteer hours except churches of 151-250 and 500+.

The number of volunteers increases in accordance with church size. A fair proportion of members are involved as volunteers but there will be double counting here if one volunteer is involved in more than one initiative.

Larger churches 251+ have increased staff involved in social action dramatically.

Churches also show increased funding except for churches of 51-100. Some of this funding might be one-off payments to set up initiatives.

8. National Projection

Church Size	Average Volunteer Hours	Average Staff Hours	Average Church £	Average Number of Volunteers	Average Number of Beneficiaries	England base - no. of churches*	England Projected Volunteer hours	England Projected Staff hours	England Projected Church £
0-50	1267	674	£4,563	35	666	18329	23,222,843	12,353,746	£83,635,227
51-100	2141	1247	£6,063	51	1539	8064	17,265,024	10,055,808	£48,892,032
101-150	2889	1269	£7,962	68	1621	4096	11,833,344	5,197,824	£32,612,352
151-250	3426	1486	£9,448	98	2663	4622	15,834,972	6,868,292	£43,668,656
251-500	6441	6345	£22,294	103	4255	1498	9,648,618	9,504,810	£33,396,412
500+	11963	7133	£68,434	293	4163	892	10,670,996	6,362,636	£61,043,128
						37501	88,475,797	50,343,116	£303,247,807
						2012 on same basis	76,402,289	42,386,433	£265,760,842
						2010 on same basis	54,900,724		£224,064,862
						% increase 2012-14	15.8%	18.7%	14.1%
						% of volunteer hours		56.9%	

*Religious Trends 6 Christian Research

The above projections are for England only. The number of and size of churches in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales are unclear. However, comparative church attendance has been measured (at least once a month attendance). Using this alongside the church attendance in England and assuming a similar number of volunteer hours and finance have been used, gives the following calculations:

Country	Population (M)	% Regular Churchgoing	Number (M)	Vol Hours (M)	Church £ (M)	Average hours per attendee	Average £ per attendee
England	53	14%	7.4	88.5	£303.25	12.0	£40.98
Northern Ireland	1.8	45%	0.8	9.6	£32.78		
Scotland	5.3	18%	1	12.0	£40.98		
Wales	3	12%	0.4	4.8	£16.39		
Total	63.1	15%	9.2	114.8	£393.41		
	ONS 2011 Pop. Stats	Tearfund 2007					

Thus the projection is 114.8M hours of volunteering and £393.4M of direct financing of church-based social actions.

9. The £10,000 Challenge

If Churches were given £10,000, 80% would be spent, in order of average size of grant, on:

	2014 Rank	2012 Rank	2010 Rank
Debt counselling	1	2	2
Social enterprises/businesses	2	-	-
Cafe open to public	3	5	-
Youthwork - 12-18 (apart from church youth ministry)	4	1	1
Other	5	10	3
Helping homeless get settled	6	15	7
Children's club - up to age 11 (apart from church children's ministry)	7	4	-
Helping jobless back into work	8	17	-
Fitness/Sport (apart from church members)	9	-	-
Food distribution	10	3	-
Lunches for needy	11	-	-
Addiction (inc. alcohol and drug abuse)	12	-	-
Furniture distribution	13	-	-
Parents and toddlers	14	7	5
Caring for elderly (apart from church members)	15	6	4
Mental health/Stress counselling (apart from church members)	16	-	-
Schools assemblies/RE work	17	16	-

2012 included:

- Arts - drama, media, music, etc (apart from church members)
- Festivals/Fun days
- Primary School Clubs/Summer clubs
- Parenting Help/Courses

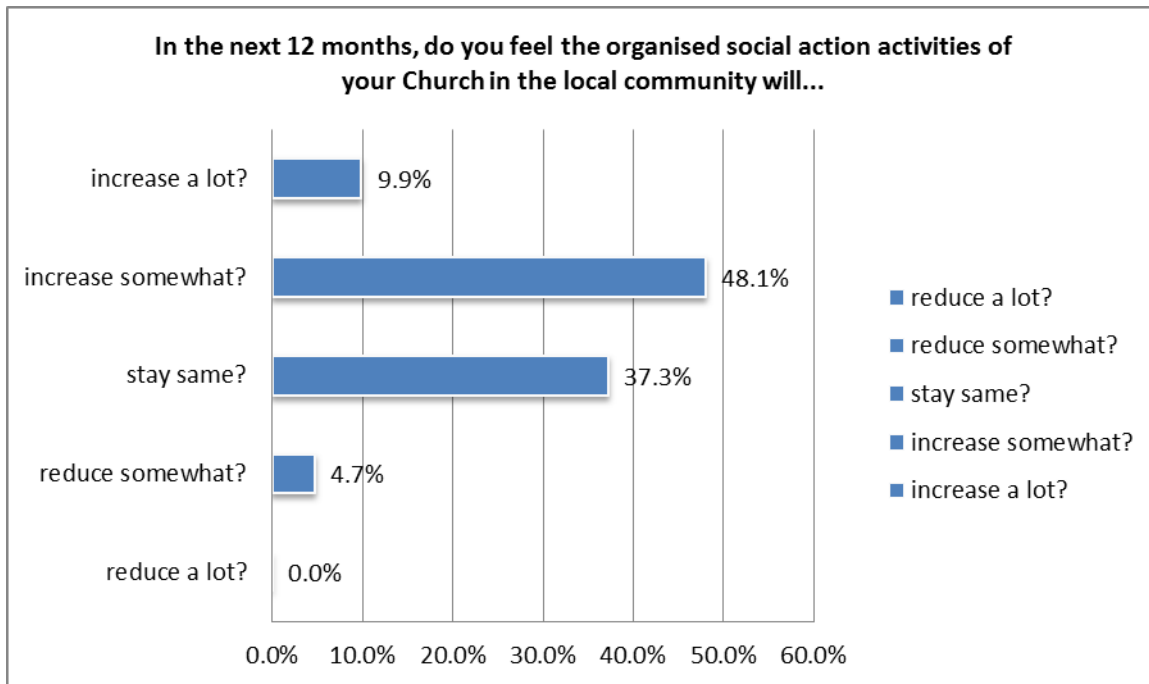
2010 included:

- Parenting Help/Courses
- Community Improvement e.g. clean-up

Churches would want to help finance 6.0 [2012 – 6.0, 2010 - 4.4] ministries on average with an average grant of £1,671 [2012 - £1,680, 2010 - £2,257].

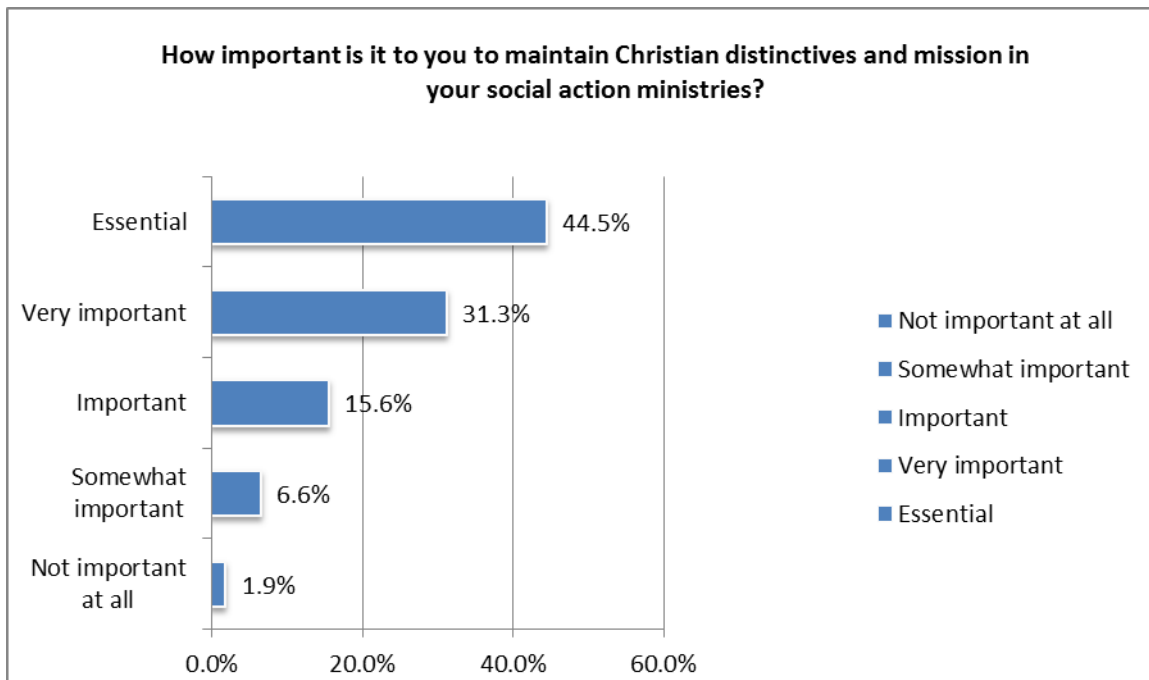
Many new priorities have appeared on the list, taking churches into new activity areas.

10. Plans in next 12 months



58% [2012 - 58%, 2010 - 68%] of the Churches plan to increase social initiatives in the next 12 months. Only 5% [2012 - 4%, 2010 - 3%] plan to reduce.

11. Importance of Christian distinctives



76% [2012 - 66%, 2010 - 81%] of Churches think it Essential or Very Important that Churches can maintain their Christian distinctives in social initiatives.

12. Hindrances

Analysis of free text answers – number of mentions:



Concern over availability of volunteers/time poverty and funding has stayed around the same as 2012. Regarding the availability of volunteers, there was obviously mention of the busyness of people, working long hours, lack of people available in the daytime.

Concern over vision/awareness has continued to decrease. This speaks of **an increased congregational awareness of needs in the community and the role of the local church.**

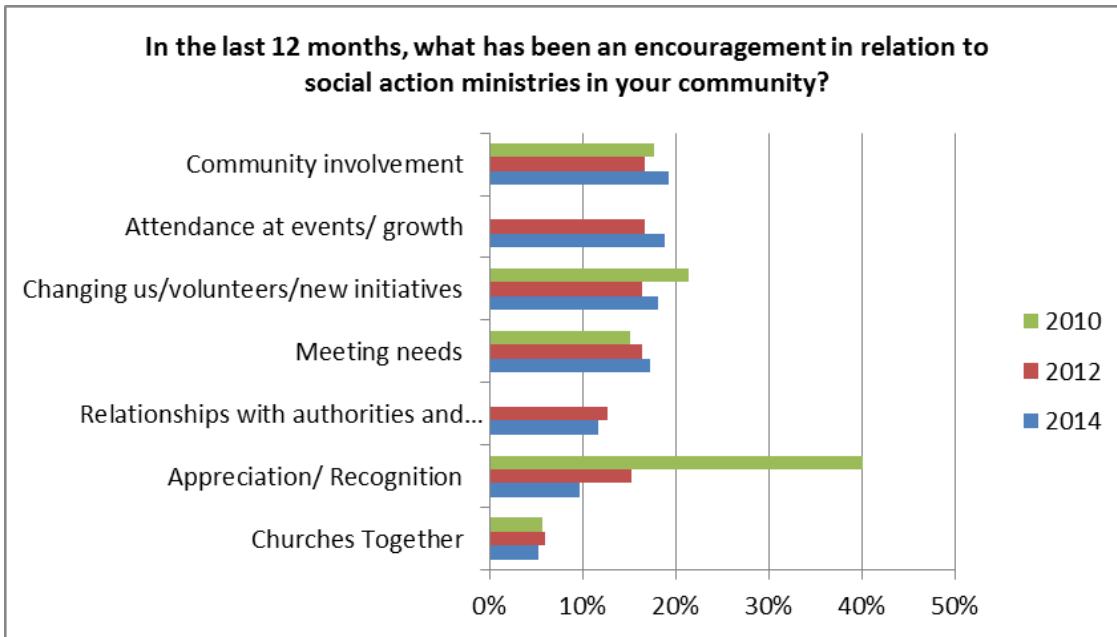
Concern has increased over staffing and/or leaders needed to head up initiatives, especially as they could be specialist.

Concern has also increased over premises and facilities. Examples given are the need for new kitchen and toilets as well as disabled access.

Bureaucracy/ legal / faith issues with authorities has continued to fall. And relationship with authorities is reported as an encouragement below.

13. Encouragements

Analysis of free text answers – number of mentions:

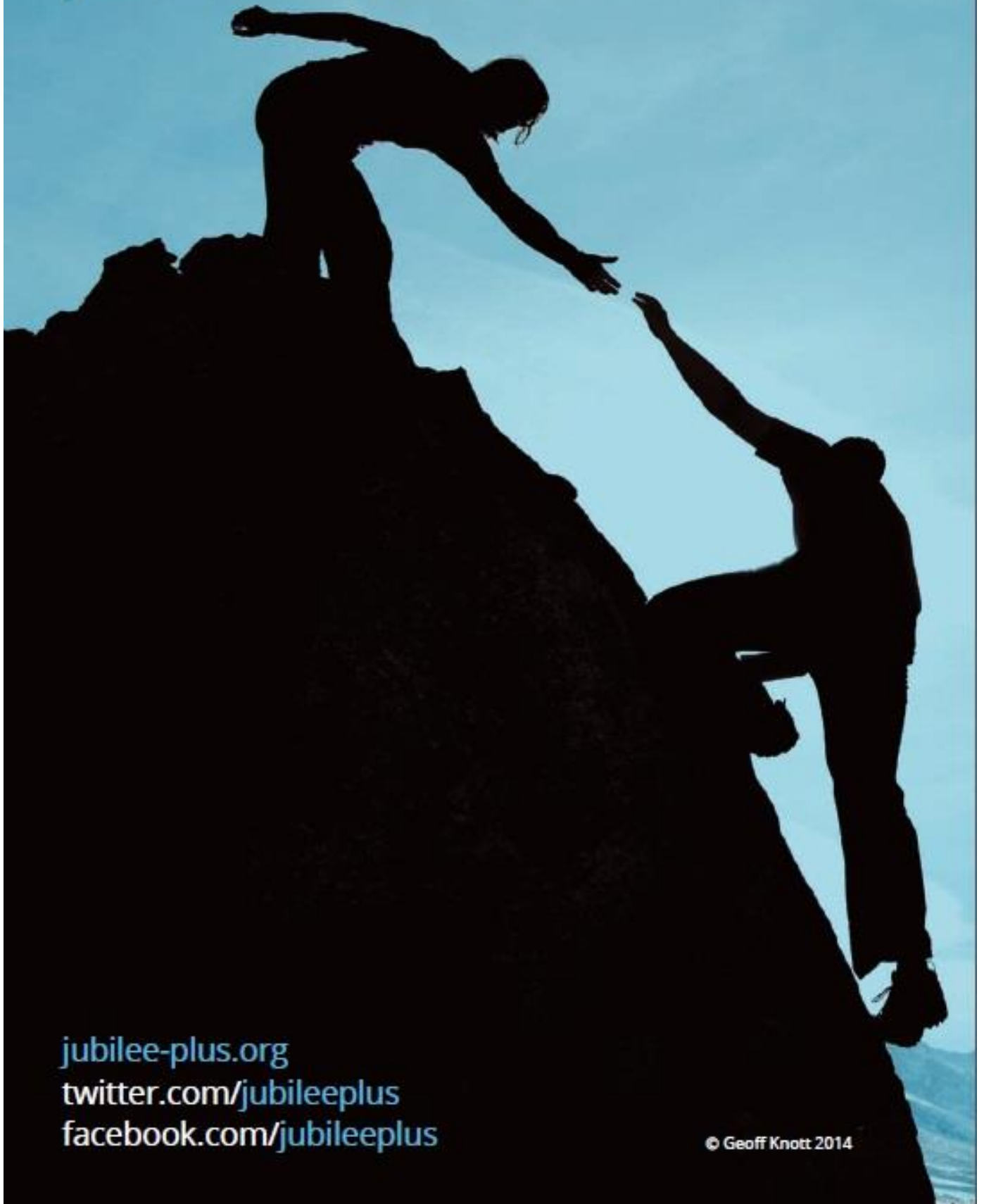


The top encouragement mentioned in 2010 was Appreciation/ Recognition. This was 40% of all mentions. This has now dropped to under 10%. This seems to confirm the observation last time that churches have moved on from perhaps ‘surprise’ at community reaction to more pragmatic encouragements i.e. attendance and Involvement of the community.

Churches have received a great deal of encouragement through community recognition, meeting needs, attendance, church growth and the selflessness of those serving.

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