

The Lord-Lieutenant's Council on Faith January Newsletter

Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London's Council on Faith has had a successful first year of activity. Its members have worked hard to promote and to enact Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London's strategy: Building bridges for a fairer London.

Evening of Faith Recognition and Celebration

The highlight of the year has been the Council's participation in the Evening of Faith Recognition and Celebration, which took place on Monday 27th November. The event, which was hosted by the interfaith charity 3FF, would not have been possible without the guidance of event sub-committee Bushra Nasir CBE DL, Sheila Gewolb DL, Babulal Sethia DL and Rev Nims Obunge DL; and Mustafa Abu Lisan DL, who sat on the board of judges.

At the event Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London, Ken Olisa, gave a dynamic keynote address. Sharing his belief that 'living life according to a strong set of positive values is an antidote to exclusion' and that 'we all have something to learn from each other, whatever our faith background'.



The event displayed the idea of London as a place of belonging for people of all faiths and beliefs. Nominations for many qualified projects were made by Representative Deputy Lieutenants, faith organisations and community partners. At the event 40 community faith-based projects were awarded with grants of £500 and 32 projects were recognised for services to faith communities. These projects represent the great spread of people from all faiths and beliefs who create a sense of belonging and inclusion in London. [A list of award winners can be found here.](#)

The event was accompanied by a briefing paper: Faith, Belief and Belonging in London: Extending the Coverage which gave further insight into award winning projects and their contribution to and for faith communities in London. [The full report can be found here.](#)

Amplify, an arts-based youth-led programme for Sixth Formers at Westminster Academy, showcased their Manifesto during the event. Capturing the voice of youth, a focus of the Greater London Lieutenancy. [Watch their manifesto here.](#)



Council on Faith visit Bevis Marks Synagogue

On Monday 31st January, the Council met at Bevis Marks Synagogue. The management of the Synagogue were delighted to host the Council. [...] provided a tour for Deputy Lieutenants to explain its history and significance today. [...] welcomed the Council and gave an insight into [...].

PHOTO TO BE INCLUDED

Introducing the Council: Colleen Harris MVO DL



Colleen is a communications professional and writer who has spent thirty years developing and managing strategies for Government Ministers, the UK Royal Family and multilateral organisations including as the Press Secretary to HRH The Prince of Wales, PRO to the former PM, Baroness Thatcher and as Communications Consultant at the WHO and the UN.

Colleen currently serves on the not-for-profit boards of the YMCA (Central) and Dulwich Picture Gallery. She studied as a teacher and supports projects that support young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to achieve their potential, such as Ebony Horse Club in Brixton and the Tutu Foundation.

We interviewed her to find out more about her work and background.

Events attended by Council Members

- On November 10th, 2017, Tariq Abbasi DL attended a wreath-laying ceremony in Bexley. He is pictured with the Mayor of Royal Borough of Greenwich and Mayor and Mayoress of The Borough of Bexley.

