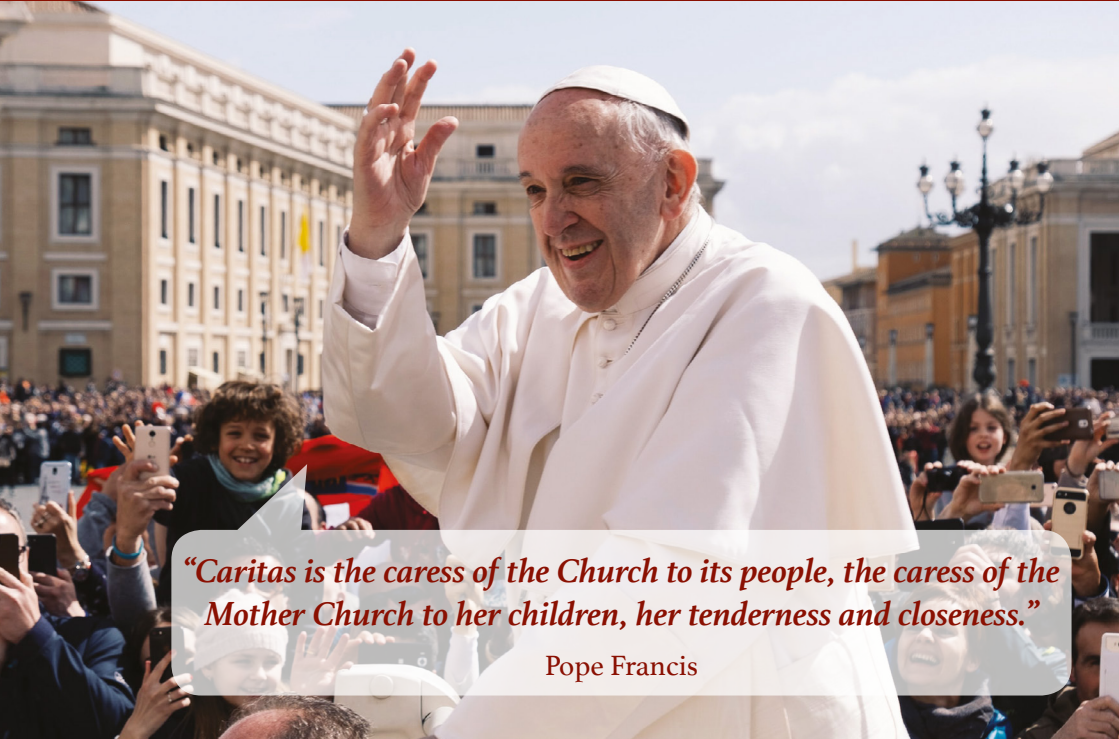


Caritas Social Action Network



“Caritas is the caress of the Church to its people, the caress of the Mother Church to her children, her tenderness and closeness.”

Pope Francis

Our vision

Our vision is inspired and rooted in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. We want England & Wales to be places where every person can flourish in their families and communities, living in peace and human dignity. We strive especially for the voices of the poor and wounded to be heard and acted upon.

*Caritas Social Action Network is a member of
the Caritas Internationalis confederation within the Caritas Europa Group*

Who we are

Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) is an agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales, and an independent charity. Caritas Social Action Network shares in the mission of the Catholic Church in England & Wales and was established to develop the Church's social mission in these parts of the United Kingdom.

We are a small national team, based at Romero House in London, seeking to animate and co-ordinate Catholic social action, to deepen Catholic social thought, and to bring the voices of the poor and Catholic teaching to bear in guiding public policy. We work in collaboration with a network of over fifty Caritas dioceses and independent charities committed to the principles of Catholic social teaching, with expertise in their many and various fields.

Caritas Social Action Network is a national member of Caritas Internationalis within the Caritas Europa Group. The first Caritas organisation was established in Germany in 1897. Today the Caritas Internationalis confederation has 165 national members and works in 200 countries and territories around the world. In England & Wales we work closely with our sister national Caritas agency CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development.

'Being part of CSAN gives Pact a vital practical connection not only with other Catholic charities in England & Wales, but also the wider Catholic social action movement and Diocesan networks. It means we are part of the family of people, agencies and Church both here and across Europe and the world, working for social justice and the Kingdom of God. What more could you want from a network?'

Andy Keens-Down, CEO Pact

Our mission

We share in the mission of the Catholic Church in England & Wales by:

- **Developing the network** of those working in social action in England & Wales in accordance with the teaching of the Catholic Church;
- **Advancing the education**, training, practice and formation of those active in the field; and
- **Offering a coherent Catholic voice in the public arena** to promote the development of individuals and communities for the benefit of the poor, the vulnerable and the marginalised of all faiths or none.

The Network

Many charities in our network have long track records of providing care for families, refugees and asylum seekers, older people, vulnerable adults, the homeless, the disabled, prisoners, and the unemployed. The membership is rich in diversity, experience and expertise. Some members are professionally led and have contracts with statutory bodies, others are led by volunteers. Their approach is often distinctive, supporting people who cannot access help elsewhere, in building on the dignity and strengths of each person and being able to work over the long term. They draw on deep and lasting connections of volunteers and staff with their local communities. We seek to strengthen this work. New members invited to work with us in solidarity.

Why join our Network?

Caritas Social Action Network members:

- Participate in an engaged, dynamic and professional community which facilitates its members to connect, engage and act, providing each other with peer support and networking opportunities;
- Benefit from high quality opportunities for education, training, practice and formation;
- Contribute to a coherent voice for Catholic on social affairs in England & Wales;
- Help to create a “poor Church for the poor” and the common good of our society;
- Are connected to the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England & Wales; and
- Are linked to the global Caritas family.



Membership benefits include:

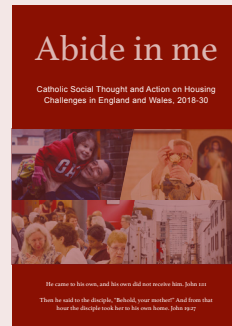
- **Directors' Forum** meetings which provide regular opportunities for leaders to share knowledge, best practice, expertise and experience as well as networking and fellowship;
- **Caritas Diocesan Journey** meetings which bring together those involved in developing Caritas diocesan agencies to support, encourage and celebrate their work;
- **Network Receptions** which brings representatives of our charities together with parliamentarians of all parties and both Houses;
- **The opportunity to contribute to dialogue** with recommendations for public policy in the light of Catholic Social Teaching;
- **The Communications and Fundraising forum** which focuses on improving skills in these areas;
- **Regular educational events including webinar and video conferences** on relevant issues to our members;
- **The opportunity to participate in extending Catholic social thought and practice** on emerging challenges for society and mission;
- **Special interest and task groups** to enable members to explore innovative ways of working together, for example in relation to community sponsorship of refugees and the criminal justice system;
- **Theological, and Catholic social teaching resources** such as *Caritas in Practice*, a new induction resource for staff and volunteers of all faiths and none;
- **A bi-monthly newsletter** including members news;
- **Opportunity to contribute to shared media work;** and
- **Promotion of members' events and job vacancies** on CSAN's website.

Recent network events and achievements

Parliamentary Reception 2018



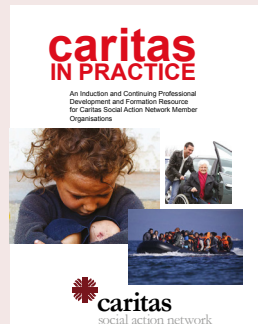
Abide in me 2019



Rome Caritas Leadership week 2018



Caritas in Practice 2019



“Caritas Social Action Network was an invaluable source of information and guidance when we started developing Caritas Plymouth.”

Zoe Oldman, Development worker, Caritas Plymouth

Membership application information

Application process

Organisations wishing to join the Network should complete and return a membership application form which will then be reviewed by our Board of Trustees.

As an agency of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales Caritas Social Action Network operates in accordance with the Motu Proprio *On the Service of Charity*¹, which provides the framework for the Church's charitable actions and Caritas organisations. To comply with this, your application should be signed by your organisation's Chair of Trustees (or equivalent) and by a bishop or a religious superior. In the case of local lay organisations, this should be the diocesan bishop; in the case of national lay organisations, by a bishop with relevant responsibility within the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales; and in the case of charities which are part of a religious order or society, by the congregational leader or superior. In the case of ecumenical charities, or where there is difficulty in identifying an appropriate bishop, you can request that our bishop chair sign the form.

Minimum Network Contribution

On approval of the application, organisations joining the Network pay a membership contribution. The minimum network contributions are based on the recent income on Charity Commission website for your organisation. The contribution bands for 2020 are in the table below:

Income band	Minimum network contribution	✓
£ 20m or over	£ 5,050	
£ 10m – £ 20m	£ 4,500	
£ 5m – £ 10m	£ 3,950	
£ 1m – £ 5m	£ 3,375	
£ 750k – £ 1m	£ 2,275	
£ 500k – £ 750k	£ 1,725	
£ 250k – £ 500k	£ 1,150	
£ 50k – £ 250k	£ 325	
Less than £ 50k	£ 75	

1. https://w2.vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en/motu_proprio/documents/hf_ben-xvi_motu-proprio_20121111_caritas.html

*“Let us together strengthen the church of the poor
so our witness can help guide us to a world of
understanding, justice, true freedom and peace.”*

Cardinal Tagle, President of Caritas Internationalis



Further information

If you would like further information about our work or might be interested in joining Caritas Social Action Network please contact:

admin@csan.org.uk

Contact details

Caritas Social Action Network,
Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Rd, Southwark, London SE1 7JB

www.csan.org.uk

Charity Number: 01101431