

Annual Review 2025

Flourishing Together

a year of hope



Caritas Social Action Network

is an agency of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales and a member of Caritas Internationalis

“The fact that some dismiss or ridicule charitable works, as if they were an obsession on the part of a few and not the burning heart of the Church’s mission, convinces me of the need to go back and re-read the Gospel, lest we risk replacing it with the wisdom of this world. The poor cannot be neglected if we are to remain within the great current of the Church’s life that has its source in the Gospel and bears fruit in every time and place.”

Pope Leo XIV, *Dilexi te*, 15

“This is the most useful network I am part of. It has been incredibly helpful as I have settled into a new role and I have been made to feel extremely welcome and have been really well supported by fellow leaders and CSAN staff. I always look forward to Alliance meetings and feel energised after them. It is an inspiring network to be part of.”

CSAN member, Members’ Survey 2026

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FOREWORD



The last twelve months have been very busy for CSAN. You will be able to read of the many activities of the members and staff in the following Report. I would like to give special mention to two aspects of our work. First and foremost, we remain focused on those in our society impacted by poverty, and, in the Jubilee Year, we demonstrated the value of working together.

Cooperating with many partners the campaign to lift the two-child cap on benefits resulted in the government removing the cap. This single act will lift numerous children out of poverty and has given new hope of a better future to so many families and those who are struggling to make ends meet.

In 2025 the Catholic Church celebrated a Jubilee or Holy Year and Caritas Social Action Network held its own Jubilee of Social Action by holding an event in Liverpool. After giving thanks to God with holy Mass there was time to celebrate and to visit the exhibition which highlighted the diverse and wide-ranging work of our member organisations. Coming together in this way enriched us all and, I believe gave us new energy and spirit to face the challenges ahead.

I want to record my thanks to everyone who has shown their commitment to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ by putting his words into action.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+ Malcolm McMahon OP

+ Malcolm McMahon

Archbishop of Liverpool, Chair of CSAN

“The willingness to listen to all, especially those who are poor, stands in stark contrast to a world in which the concentration of power tends to disregard those who are poor, the marginalised, minorities and the earth, which is our common home.”

XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, Final Document (2024)

MESSAGE FROM RAYMOND FRIEL OBE

CEO OF CARITAS SOCIAL ACTION NETWORK



2025 was a Holy Year in the life of the Church, a Year of Jubilee with the theme, “Pilgrims of Hope”. Many challenges arose in our communities in 2025, not least from the voices of those who seek to build walls not bridges. Poverty continues to be a scandal in our communities, as does the isolation and exploitation faced by many, young and old.

As Christians we do not succumb either to despair or aggression in the face of the challenges. We are called to hope, a hope which is not unwarranted optimism, but rooted in our faith in the love of God and the activity of his Spirit in our world. As Pope Francis said, “Christian hope does not deceive or disappoint because it is grounded in the certainty that nothing and no one may ever separate us from God’s love.” That hope inspires us, in love, to work for justice, the building of a better, fairer and more compassionate world.

Caritas Social Action Network, the agency of the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales for convening and supporting the Catholic charities dedicated to tackling poverty and injustice in our countries, has always been ready and willing to work with local and national government to help to bring about a more just and compassionate society. As the Government continues to get to grips with the challenges we face, our offer is once again renewed: we stand ready to work in partnership with Government for the common good, to serve all the people in our communities who are not flourishing.

The *Final Document* from the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops called on the Christian community to “recognise in those made poor the face and flesh of Christ” (#19). In other words, poverty is contrived, it is designed into systems, and it can be designed out. A key part of our work is to advocate for the structural changes which will bring an end to unnecessary poverty.

I hope that this review gives a sense of the work of our committed national team in their support for the social action network and in raising a prophetic voice in the public arena as we continue to dedicate ourselves to “perfecting the work of justice under the inspiration of charity” (*Gaudium et Spes*, 72).

Raymond Friel OBE, CEO, Caritas Social Action Network

OUR IDENTITY

Caritas Social Action Network is an agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. The Bishops' Conference appoints a Bishop as the Chair of Trustees, appoints up to two other episcopal Trustees and approves other Trustee appointments. We are a national member of the **Caritas Internationalis confederation** within the **Caritas Europa** group. England and Wales have two distinct Caritas national members: the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (**CAFOD**), and CSAN for domestic social action. Caritas Social Action Network is registered in England and Wales as a charity (number 1101431) and a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital (number 4505111). We are a network organisation, with fifty charities, all with their own trustees and governance, paying membership subscriptions.

OUR VISION

Centred on Christ, inspired by Catholic Social Teaching, our vision for the nations of England and Wales is of a civilization of love, solidarity and justice, where the dignity of every human being is respected and upheld; where every person can flourish and live in peace and freedom as part of one human family; where there is no exclusion, discrimination, or dehumanising poverty; where the voices of the women, men and children in the most vulnerable situations are listened to, discerned, and inform action; where everyone is encouraged to contribute to the common good.

OUR MISSION

Caritas Social Action Network shares in the mission of the Catholic Church, committed to tackling the causes of poverty, promoting justice and restoring dignity, specifically by convening and animating alliances of member charities involved in the social mission of the Church, leading on the formation of those involved in social action, and raising a prophetic Catholic voice in the public arena.



OUR TEAM

In 2025, we bade farewell to our colleagues Berna and Aliya, who gave us three wonderful years each of quality work and heartfelt commitment. We wish them every blessing in the next steps in their journeys. We were also joined by Nancy Adams as an intern. Nancy, a theology student at Bristol University, brought great creativity and skill to the team in her time with us. We were delighted to appoint Fiona Ranford as our new Senior Migration Officer and David Byrne as our new Communications and Programmes Officer. They both bring with them a wealth of skills and experience.

The CSAN 2026 national team is:

- Raymond Friel: Chief Executive Officer
- Kweku Bedu-Addo: Finance and Operations Manager
- Daisy Inglese: Communications and Public Affairs Manager
- Fiona Ranford: Senior Migration Officer
- David Byrne: Communications and Programmes Officer
- With thanks to Mary Gandy for all her support as board minutes secretary



CSAN Team (L to R: Daisy, David, Kweku, Fiona, Raymond)

“Thank you to all of the team who are always professional, polite and represent the values and ethos of the Gospel in communications, events and in person. Congratulations on all that you continue to do.”

CSAN member, Members' Survey

DEVELOPING THE NETWORK

Our members

Our members are the lifeblood of CSAN, the reason for our organisation. There are fifty charities in our membership, all of them working on the frontline of human need to restore dignity and agency to people. Our purpose is to convene and support this inspiring network, providing opportunities for learning, collaboration and formation.

According to our most recent Personnel Survey, there are 4,700 members of staff working for CSAN member organisations, supported by around 14,300 volunteers. The total expenditure of CSAN member organisations and dioceses on social action in England and Wales is £484m (source: Charity Commission). Our members are a significant presence in the landscape of those who are working for a more just and inclusive society.

Our members, with a brief indication of their field of work, are as follows:

British Province of the Society of Jesus

International religious order active across a number of social justice projects and in education.

Cardinal Hume Centre

Based in London, supports families and young people facing poverty and homelessness by helping them to thrive with six services offering practical help.

Caritas Archdiocese of Cardiff

Diocesan Caritas agency*.

Caritas Arundel and Brighton

Diocesan Caritas agency.

Caritas Diocese of Brentwood

Diocesan Caritas agency.

Caritas Diocese of Hallam

Diocesan Caritas agency.

Caritas Diocese of Middlesbrough

Diocesan Caritas agency.

Caritas Diocese of Northampton

Diocesan Caritas agency.

Caritas Diocese of Nottingham

Diocesan Caritas agency.

Caritas Diocese of Plymouth

Diocesan Caritas agency.

Caritas Diocese of Portsmouth

Diocesan Caritas agency.

Caritas Diocese of Salford

Diocesan Caritas agency.

Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury

Diocesan Caritas agency.

Caritas East Anglia

Diocesan Caritas agency.

Caritas Hexham and Newcastle

Diocesan Caritas agency.

Caritas Jersey

Diocesan Caritas agency, part of the Diocese of Portsmouth.

Caritas Southwark

Diocesan Caritas agency.

Caritas Westminster

Diocesan Caritas agency.

Catholic Association for Racial Justice

CARJ works to support and empower black and minority ethnic Catholics to give them an effective voice in the Church and the wider society.

Catholic Care: Caritas Leeds

Caritas Leeds is now part of Catholic Care, which operates a number of supportive services including residential children's homes, community projects, services for schools and families, mental health supported lives, older people's services and adult learning disability services.

Catholic Children's Society

Supports disadvantaged children and families across London, Hertfordshire and the South-East.

Catholic Disability Fellowship

Seeks to help people with disabilities to participate fully in the life and worship of the Church.

Catholic for AIDS Prevention

CAPS: a network of Christians in Britain and Ireland promoting HIV prevention and support.

Clifton Diocese

The purpose and format of Caritas in the diocese is being reviewed at the time of writing.

Daughters of Charity Services

A family of Vincentian charities across Great Britain dedicated to improving the lives of people experiencing the effects of poverty, as inspired by the life of St Vincent de Paul.

Depaul UK

A youth homelessness national charity helping young people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Father Hudson's Caritas

Based in Birmingham, providing a range of services for homelessness, disability, refugees and asylum seekers, older people, children and families.

Institute of Our Lady of Mercy

Religious order, usually known as the Sisters of Mercy, working across a number of ministries including advocacy, counselling, support for refugees and asylum seekers, education and care.

Irish Chaplaincy

Working with prisoners, travellers and older people in the Irish community.

Jesuit Refugee Service UK

Serving, advocating for and accompanying refugees and people seeking asylum.

Marriage Care

Offering relationship counselling and marriage preparation.

Million Minutes

Accompanying young people, youth ministry.

“One of the most rewarding networks to be part of. Thank you!”

CSAN member, Members’ Survey 2024

Nugent

Based in Liverpool, providing specialist schools, supported living, an adoption agency.

Oscar Romero Award

Supporting Catholic schools to embed Catholic Social Teaching in their governance, curriculum and social outreach.

Out There

Supporting families of prisoners in Greater Manchester.

PACT

Prison Advice and Care Trust: national charity supporting people in prison and their families.

Seeking Sanctuary

Promoting awareness of migrants near our shores, lone children, providing humanitarian assistance.

St Vincent de Paul

A national grassroots Catholic charity with thousands of volunteers who befriend and support the isolated and hundreds of staff running day centres and advocating for social justice.

St Antony’s Centre for Church and Industry

A UK charity, based in Manchester, providing help with advice, support and training for individuals in the workplace and their communities.

St Elizabeth Centre

Residential home and education for children and young people with epilepsy and complex needs and behaviours.

St John of God Hospitaller Services

A national charity providing people with the skills and the support to gain control of their own lives across a range of services including for people with disability, experiencing homelessness and victims of modern slavery and human trafficking.

St Joseph’s Hospice

Providing free compassionate palliative care in East London.

Stella Maris

UK and international, supporting seafarers and fishers.

The Centre for Theology and Community

Faith-filled community organising in East End of London.

The Medaille Trust

National charity providing refuge and freedom from modern slavery and human trafficking.

The Passage

Based in Victoria, London, offering a wide range of services that help to prevent and end homelessness for good, highlighting the links between modern slavery and homelessness in London.

Together for the Common Good

A national Christian charity dedicated to the renewal of the civic ecology by bringing covenantal thinking into church and civic life.

Women@thewell

Based in King’s Cross, London, supporting women who are affected by or at risk of prostitution and/or sexual exploitation.

Young Christian Workers

Run by and for young people discerning positive change.

Your Place

Dedicated to solving homelessness in east London, one person at a time.

** A Caritas diocesan agency will vary considerably in size and capacity: some with large full-time teams offering a range of services, such as Westminster, Salford and Shrewsbury, some with smaller teams, part-time staff or volunteers, but what they have in common is the role of convening and supporting all the social action activities in the diocese.*

You will find more information about the work of our members on our website:

www.csan.org.uk/member

If you would like to enquire about membership for your organisation, please contact us at:

admin@csan.co.uk

“One of the most rewarding networks to be part of. Thank you!”

CSAN member, Members’ Survey

In 2025, we continued to work with other Catholic agencies and support major events in the Catholic calendar, such as the National Justice and Peace Network conference at the Hayes in Derbyshire and the inaugural We Believe Festival at St Mary’s College in Oscott.

We continued to work in partnership with Citizens UK, the broad-based community organising movement which works in many Catholic dioceses and schools. In 2024, Raymond spoke at a conference organised by Citizens for Catholic schools to celebrate their work for social justice inspired by community organising methods. The keynote speaker was His Eminence, Cardinal Vincent Nichols, who encouraged the interface between Catholic Social Teaching and broad-based community organising. We wish Cardinal Vincent every blessing in his retirement.



At the NJPN Conference, 2025



Cardinal Nichols encourages the pupils

CSAN Alliances

Our **Leadership Alliance** provides essential networking, peer support and the exchange of best practices and innovative solutions for the leaders of our member organisations. The Leaders' Alliance is chaired by Richard Harries, Director of Caritas Westminster. In March 2025, the Leaders' Alliance gathered for a Jubilee residential conference at the Royal Foundation of St Katharine's in London. We were delighted to welcome inspiring speakers, including David Wells, Jim McManus, Avril Baigent and Nikki Dhillon-Keane.

As well as the Leaders' Alliance, we have an **Advocacy Alliance** chaired in 2025 by Ben Gilchrist from Caritas Shrewsbury. Ben has since left Caritas Shrewsbury. We thank him for his passion and commitment to the Advocacy Alliance and wish him well for the future. The new Chair of the Alliance is Ben Ryan, the COO of Medaille Trust. Ben brings extensive knowledge and experience of advocacy from his previous roles and we look forward to working with him.

This alliance has focused on developing the capacity of the network for advocacy for justice, by sharing good practice and priorities and focusing

on a number of priorities, including campaigning to end the two-child benefit cap. In October 2025, a number of CSAN leaders took part in a Parliamentary roundtable, in collaboration with the Bishops' Conference, and met with ministers and senior civil servants to make the case for an end to the two-child cap. We were delighted to see this unjust and harmful policy discontinued by the Chancellor in the Budget in November 2025. While welcome, it is only a step in the right direction of putting an end to the scandal of child poverty in our countries. Our other advocacy priorities include working with the Bishops' Conference to oppose assisted suicide legislation, promoting the dignity of workers and advocating for more just social care. In the course of 2025, we developed an **Advocacy Training Programme** for our members. In a significant contribution to the research base in the Catholic community we published our report, *Counting the Cost*, into the impact of the cost-of-living crisis, based on a survey of parishioners across our countries. You can find the report here: www.csan.org.uk/news/report-launch-counting-the-cost

Leaders' Alliance Jubilee conference





CSAN Leaders at Parliament

CSAN has convened an Education Forum in the past which was discontinued in 2020. However, feedback from the members suggested there was still a need for those involved in education or youth to be able to convene. Our initial idea for an Education Alliance has evolved into a **Youth Alliance** and 2025 saw the work of this alliance develop, chaired by Deacon Jim Hannigan from Caritas Northampton.

Our **Diocesan Alliance** had been chaired since its inception by Deborah Fisher from Caritas Plymouth. Deborah left her role in 2025 and we wish her every blessing for the future. The role of Chair of the Diocesan Alliance has been taken on by Sian Thomas-Cullinan, Director of Caritas Brentwood. Sian has already shown great energy and creativity in the role, among other things leading the development of a youth version of the Bishops' Conference document, *Love the Stranger* – a much-needed Catholic response to migrants and refugees. You can find the resource here: www.caritasbrentwood.org/resource/lts-youth

The Diocesan Alliance provides an opportunity for all members to meet, but has a particular focus on the work of the diocesan Caritas agencies and issues which affect them, such as support for parishes in their endeavours to work at the grassroots for social justice.

In June 2025, our **Diocesan and Advocacy Alliances** met in person for a day's conference, generously supported by our partners CCLA at their offices in London. We heard from a number of our colleagues, including from Annabeth at Caritas Salford, who presented their powerful research on child poverty. The discussions on the day, led by Paul Bodenham from Caritas Nottingham, have stimulated a new energy in our collaborative working.

Annabeth presenting the report



Working with the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

Some of our alliances are run in partnership with, or on behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. Our **Migration Alliance**, chaired by Patrick O'Dowd, Director of Caritas Salford, is a case in point. Our previous focus had been community sponsorship and excellent work was done in setting up community sponsorship projects in many parishes.

We have continued to promote **Love the Stranger**, the publication by the Department for International Affairs of the Bishops' Conference on the Catholic response to migrants and refugees and, as noted above, have produced a youth version in collaboration with Caritas Brentwood.

With the appointment of a Migration Officer, a post funded by the Bishops' Conference, our focus widened to include the legislation around immigration, support for people seeking asylum in our country, and raising awareness of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery. The Migration Alliance has convened three in-person one day conferences, in London in 2023, Manchester in 2024, and again in London, at the London Jesuit Centre, in 2025. These events brought together many members from the network involved in various aspects of migration for fruitful networking. In 2025, we spoke out against unjust legislation and focused in particular on the scandal of human trafficking and modern slavery. This focus will continue into 2026, with a project to resource and inspire grassroots Catholic communities.

We continue to convene the Bishops' Conference's **Criminal Justice Alliance**, chaired in 2025 by Bishop (now Archbishop) Richard Moth. In its annual online meeting, the alliance promotes the work of the Bishops' Conference national chaplaincy to prisons and the work of our members most involved in supporting people in the criminal justice system



and their families, such as PACT, Out There, Irish Chaplaincy and the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. In November 2025 we launched a **Call to Action** to support **Remember Me**, a document from the Department for Social Justice exploring a Catholic response to the criminal justice system. You will find this here: www.csan.org.uk/news/responding-to-remember-me-a-call-to-prayer-reflection-and-action/

In 2020, we held our first Domestic Abuse Forum, having taken on this work when the Bishops' Conference's domestic abuse working group

(DAWG) was wound up in 2019. In line with the new structure, this forum is now the **Domestic Abuse Alliance**. We have worked very closely with Nikki Dhillon-Keane from Safe in Faith (Caritas Westminster) to expand the annual online event to more frequent events. In the last year we have promoted the Safe in Faith **Domestic Abuse Signposting Toolkit for Churches and Faith Leaders**, available from their website:

https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/0803324_____Signposting-Toolkit.pdf

Caritas Europa

CSAN along with our sister Caritas agency CAFOD are members of Caritas Europa and the global confederation of Caritas Internationalis. In May 2025, Raymond represented CSAN at the Caritas Europa Regional Conference in Chisinau, Moldova, and was invited to speak to the conference on the theme of servant leadership.

Following on from the conference, CSAN accepted an invitation from Caritas Moldova for Raymond to travel to Chisinau and provide training and advice for their leadership team. The focus was on Catholic Social Teaching and embedding the values of Caritas in the personal commitment of colleagues and the policies and procedures of the organisation.



Group work at Caritas Moldova

COMECE Social Affairs Commission

COMECE is the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Union. There are several commissions within the overarching structure, including the Social Affairs Commissions, which would be the closest equivalent to the Department for Social Justice at the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. CSAN represents the Bishops on the COMECE Social Affairs Commission, although since the UK left the EU, we have observer status only. We continue to attend meetings online and contribute as constructively as possible.



Jubilee 2025

As our partnership working with the Bishops' Conference developed, we were pleased to contribute to the national working group for Jubilee 2025 in England and Wales, contributing to the *Vade Mecum* and the overall strategy for the year.

We also worked in partnership with colleagues from the Catholic Education Service and CAFOD to lead on **Jubilee for Schools** in England and Wales, which really seemed to stir the hearts of our young people and their teachers. You'll find a film summary of the incredible impact of the year at:

<https://cafod.org.uk/jubilee-schools>

Thanks to the creativity and capacity of our friends at CAFOD, an astonishing 600,000 Jubilee prayer cards were sent to schools, with 1200 school communities make a **Jubilee Pledge** to work in solidarity with our neighbours who are caught up in poverty or exclusion. Our work was highlighted at the Vatican during the Jubilee of Education.

Jubilee of Social Justice, Liverpool

For CSAN, perhaps the highlight of our Jubilee year was our Jubilee of Social Justice gathering at the Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral in September 2025.

Hundreds of staff and volunteers from the social action network gathered for Holy Mass at midday, led by Archbishop Malcolm McMahon, Archbishop Emeritus of Liverpool and Chair of CSAN. The singing was led by Jo Boyce and CJM Music, very good friends of CSAN who have inspired a number of our gatherings.

After Mass, we made our way downstairs to the spacious crypt area for an exhibition of social justice with over twenty stalls. We heard short speeches from our leaders telling the story of the struggles for justice in our countries, as well as the powerful testimony of Demi, a young woman with cerebral palsy who described the challenges of living with disability in precarious housing.



ADVANCING EDUCATION, TRAINING, PRACTICE AND FORMATION



Cohort 3 of Aspiring Leaders

The second charity object of CSAN, after developing the network of those working in social action, is to advance the education, training, practice and formation of those working in the field of social action.

Our work to support this object has taken different forms over the years. In the last five years a major focus in this area has been our **Aspiring Leaders Programme**. In October 2025, we launched Cohort 3 of this programme, with sixteen participants from CSAN member organisations, as well as diocesan departments and Caritas Europa. We were joined at the first residential by a range of inspiring speakers, including Christine Allen, Director of CAFOD, and Maria Nyman, Secretary General of Caritas Europa.

The programme provides an introduction to Catholic Social Teaching, explores a Gospel-inspired approach to servant leadership grounded in the reality of leadership, and draws on the most

helpful thinking from the leadership schools on adaptive and transformational leadership to develop participants' knowledge and skills in managing other people and challenging circumstances. Participants work in learning groups under the guidance of an experienced facilitator from the network.



Raymond with Maria and Christine

“Thank you for the incredible way that you have supported and fostered this cohort and their learning culture. You have blessed me and fed me with spiritual wisdom and new insights.”

Participant in
Aspiring Leaders Programme

“Incredibly fruitful and inspiring. Just the right pace for learning but also the opportunity for reflection and discussion.”

Participant in the Aspiring Leaders Programme



CST training day at the London Jesuit Centre

Another major development in our formation offer has been our new **Catholic Social Teaching training days**. As well as in-person training days, we piloted a five-session online introductory course on Catholic Social Teaching for the staff of our member organisations. The feedback was very positive, with an undoubted highlight being the 'spotlight' session when we were joined by CSAN member organisations. We heard powerful and moving testimony from our colleagues at PACT (Prison Advice and Care Trust), the Cardinal Hume Centre, the Medaille Trust and Caritas Salford. With the witness from the 'front line' of poverty and exclusion, we were able to make the connection between Catholic Social Teaching and the action it calls for.

***"Great and fruitful day!
Thank you for the food for thought and for the food."***

Participant in CST Training Day

OFFERING A COHERENT CATHOLIC VOICE IN THE PUBLIC ARENA

We continue to honour the third object of our charity, that is raising a coherent Catholic voice in the public arena for the benefit of people who are in circumstances of poverty and disadvantage of various kinds.

In 2025 we spoke out against what we considered to be unjust policies which contributed to poverty. Our focus was very much on the increase in poverty, especially child poverty, with a specific request to remove the harmful two-child benefit cap, which was successful. For more on this work, see the section above on the Advocacy Alliance.

We continue to oppose migration legislation which does not fully support human dignity, most recently the Border Security, Asylum and Immigration Act (2025) which frames migration and asylum-seeking as a security issue, rather than a right under international conventions. Our role is not just to condemn of course but to encourage the Catholic community to respond concretely to situations of injustice.

In 2025, we worked closely with the Bishops' Conference, supporting their opposition to assisted suicide legislation as it worked its way through Parliament. Our foundational commitment to human dignity means protecting and promoting the human person from conception to the natural end of life, persons made in the image and likeness of a loving God.

Do Justice

Our Catholic voice in the public square continues to be framed by our Do Justice campaign, launched in February 2024.

With input from a number of CSAN members in working groups and roundtable discussions, we produced the 'core text' entitled, *Do Justice: A Vision for Spiritual and Civic Renewal in England and Wales*, which can be downloaded from our Do Justice website at: dojustice.co.uk

The Do Justice core text is a foundational resource, a reminder in the public arena that we do have a different story to tell and a different vision to offer our country.

We will continue to develop resources to support the Catholic community. So far we have produced Do Justice: for parishes, Do Justice: for schools (in collaboration with the Oscar Romero Award) and Do Justice: Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery. We have more worksheets in preparation and would gladly hear from any group who would like to collaborate on a resource. We would also like to highlight the projects of the network in our case studies section, so please tell us about all the inspirational work which is going on: <https://dojustice.co.uk/casestudies>



OPERATING FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

Caritas Social Action Network operates for the public benefit in England and Wales through all our activities. Our network development work supports the independent charities and Caritas diocesan agencies in our membership in their work with people in poverty and exclusion, regardless of their faith. Our formation and training work contributes to a deeper understanding of and commitment to the work of social justice. Our voice in the public arena is a contribution to a vision for the flourishing of all people in our society. We support and convene a network of charities who between them and their dioceses spend in the region of £480m for the benefit of people in poverty and marginalised circumstances. In 2025, we distributed £50k in grants to our members from the Rita Walter legacy to support work on the front line of poverty and exclusion. Working with the charity Close the Gap, we distributed 136 laptops to our members working with refugees and seeking asylum. Our work serves the common good of England and Wales.

It's more than just charity

Do Justice is about empowering and inspiring parishes, schools, communities and individuals to celebrate justice and challenge injustice, taking action to improve the world we live in.

DO JUSTICE



caritas
social action network

dojustice.co.uk

Governance

Caritas Social Action Network is a registered charity, a Limited Company by guarantee without share capital and an official agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. Information about our governance can be found on the websites of the Charity Commission (www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission) and Companies House (www.gov.uk/government/organisations/companies-house).

Our Patron is His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster. Our Chair is The Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon, Archbishop of Liverpool. We have one other bishop trustee, the Right Reverend Paul Hendricks, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Southwark. Our Honorary Treasurer is Lisa Lilley. We have two Vice-Chairs, Julia Corcoran and Jonathan Heard, who support the CEO and meet with the Chairs of our Alliances. Our other trustees are Johan Bergstrom-Allen, Sir John Battle, Sr Philomena Benedict le Gall OP, Naoise Grenham and Fr Ashley Beck. Richard Harries, as Chair of the Leaders' Alliance, has an *ex officio* seat on the board.

You'll find more information on our trustees on the CSAN website: www.csan.org.uk/about-csan/people.

Finances and funding

We are grateful for our ongoing grant funding from the Catholic Trust for England and Wales, and the funding received from our members through annual subscriptions. These funds enable us to plan a core programme of work. We have supplemented this with income from donations and gifts from individuals and groups, many of whom have contributed on a regular basis. We are grateful for the ongoing support for our events and programmes from CCLA and those funders who wish to remain anonymous. One notable contribution in 2025 was a generous legacy from **Rita Walter**. Working with her family, we have developed a way to distribute funds to our members in a which honours Rita's faith and her lifelong attention to those living in poverty and those who had to leave their homes to seek a more dignified life. We're also grateful to the estate of Maureen O'Hara for a generous legacy.

The total income for 2025 was £638k compared with £329k in 2024. Total expenditure in 2025 was £422k compared with £326 in 2024. .

Premises

CSAN's registered office is at Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB. We are grateful to be in the home of CAFOD, a friendly and supportive environment. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, the CSAN team has moved to hybrid working, but we still ensure we have team days in the office together. The CSAN board meets in Romero House four times a year.

Social Media

LinkedIn: **Caritas Social Action network (CSAN)**

Sign up for our monthly newsletter at: www.csan.org.uk/newsletter

For more information about CSAN, visit our website: www.csan.org.uk

“It is not enough merely to formulate a social doctrine. It must be translated into reality. And this is particularly true of the Church’s social doctrine, the light of which is Truth, Justice its objective, and Love its driving force.”

Pope John XXIII, *Mater et Magistra* (1961), 226



“We must put human dignity back at the centre, and on that pillar build the alternative social structures we need.”

Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*, 168

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LinkedIn: Caritas Social Action network (CSAN)

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