



Our faith in the future

What and why?

Quaker faith & practice (7.02.a) explains that Meeting for Sufferings' long-term plan should interpret the wishes of the whole yearly meeting. The two most recent plans are *A framework for action 2009–2014*, followed in 2015 by *Our faith in the future*.

Can a Spirit-led organisation plan ahead? A national consultation in 2014–2015 provided the material which has been distilled into the six aspirational themes of *Our faith in the future*. These describe the future which Quakers say they are being led towards. The themes avoid prescribing specific work in favour of painting a word picture of the change Friends hope for.

The full text printed in the *Our faith in the future* leaflets (available here) describes a future Religious Society of Friends. The content will probably seem familiar to Friends, as much of today's work already supports the six themes. By sharing this picture of our future we help to bring it about.

All Quakers in Britain can use *Our faith in the future* as an aid:

- to help in the discernment of their own leadings
- in setting out shared aims in reviewing the progress of Quaker work
- in considering proposals for collaboration
- to build awareness of working together to fulfil shared aims.

Each Quaker meeting, committee or individual continues to discern where they are led and how their work plays a part in producing change.

Does the picture painted by *Our faith in the future* speak to you of changes that build the future you want to share?





Our faith in the future

The six themes

Meeting for Sufferings consulted Quakers in Britain during 2014/2015 and their responses produced a word picture of the future they seek for Friends.

There are six themes for the future that Quakers work towards:

- Meeting for worship is the bedrock of living as a Quaker
- Quaker communities are loving, inclusive and all-age
- All Friends understand and live by Quaker discipline
- Quaker values are active in the world
- Quakers work collaboratively
- Quakers are well known and widely understood.

The *Our faith in the future* leaflets (available here) contain the full text for each theme, which each Quaker individual, meeting or committee can use as an aid:

- to help in the discernment of their own leadings
- in setting out shared aims in reviewing the progress of Quaker work
- in considering proposals for collaboration
- to build awareness of working together to fulfil shared aims.

The text of *Our faith in the future* does not attempt to describe the Quaker work that should be done, but instead focuses on shared aims to give direction to our work.

To find out more, visit www.quaker.org.uk/future, read the leaflet or talk to your Quaker meeting clerk.

www.quaker.org.uk/future

