

What is Greenhouse?

Greenhouse is the Church of England's approach to establishing and growing new Christian communities / fresh expressions of Church. It's a process that anyone can join in with to help them make their mission plans and ideas a reality.

There is a suite of resources and online training to enable dioceses, or Church leaders in a particular context such as a Deanery, to 'run' with Greenhouse when they're ready. See greenhousehub.org.

Who's behind it?

There is a national Greenhouse team - [see details about their roles and skills here](#).

What happens in Greenhouses - how does it work?

- An operational Greenhouse in a diocese, deanery or other context is a community of teams from a number of parishes or places all across the region, who are called to, and excited about, mission.
- Each team is committed to **growing new Christian communities** where they don't yet exist, in places where they live, work and have friends.
- They each do this by progressing along a journey together, which we call the **Missional Journey**. [You can watch Mike Harrison, Bishop of Dunwich, describing this journey here](#), and it's summarised by the graphic on the right.
- The Missional Journey is supported by a resource called **Godsend** comprising prayers, scripture, discussion points and inspiring videos to help teams at each stage. It can be accessed via both a book, [which you can buy](#) if you wish, and a website which is free to access. See the material online at godsend.cloud.
- The **contexts** in which these new Christian communities might grow are **limitless and unique in each case**, from cafe meetings, sports teams, knitting groups and youth clubs, to parent and toddler groups, gardening clubs, foodbanks and many other social action projects. Wherever there is a community with a common interest, there is scope for a new Christian community to be grown.



What is required from a diocese?

- There will need to be occasional support from two (or three) diocesan **facilitators** to run Greenhouse gatherings / learning communities and to encourage the teams on the ground.
- Gatherings happen 2-3 times each year. Full training is available online, and helps facilitators to hold these gatherings and manage the surrounding admin (such as recruiting enough participating teams in the first place).
- The **facilitators** will also support teams in between gatherings with brief, direct check-ins, offering encouragement, prayer and signposting where needed.

What does the national team offer?

Alongside the online training, there are consultants in the national Greenhouse team on standby to help answer questions, accompaniment and mentoring at the frequency required, and to convene meetings with facilitators across dioceses for mutual learning and support. For more information on this, **contact the team**.

How can we monitor the impact of Greenhouse?

A tool to measure the impact of fresh expressions generally (not just Greenhouses) has been developed in partnership with **Eido Research**. It is called the Fruitfulness Framework.

The Fruitfulness Framework tool is especially suitable for measuring the impact of fresh expressions, because it measures **transformed relationships and behaviours**, in the context of fledgling faith and discipleship. **Read more about it on the Church of England website**.

More information

Visit the **Greenhouse website**.

Contact the team and you'll be put in touch with someone who would be delighted to answer questions.

