

Paper 2

What is the Mission Initiative Newcastle East (MINE)?

Vision

The vision of MINE is that the changes taking place in the East End of Newcastle embody the kingdom of God; that new forms of church presence emerge that honour the current context; that we share our learning with those outside our situation and learn from them.

Purpose

The purpose of MINE is to live out a style of Christian Ministry within the distinct parishes of St Anthony's, St Martin's, St Michael's and St Silas' that assists local churches and communities to engage effectively with the processes of social and economic regeneration in the East End of Newcastle upon Tyne.

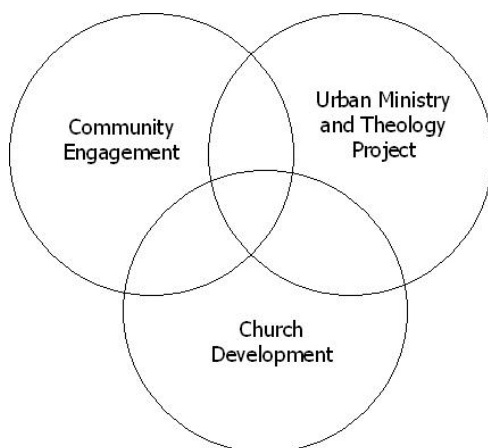
Outcomes

The outcomes of MINE are that the local church might be such that:

- Existing groups of Christians are growing in spiritual depth, numerically and in theological awareness.
- New forms of Church presence and mission are emerging.
- Local Christians are developing models of ministry that arise directly out of the context of social and economic regeneration.
- There is a strategic and economic use of existing buildings.
- There is a stimulating interaction with the communities of the East End and appropriate partnerships are being established with both statutory and voluntary agencies.
- Those engaged in theological training, for lay and ordained ministries and in continuing ministerial education, are able both to share in the learning gained by local people and to make a significant contribution.
- Theological reflection on the urban context takes place against a background generated by the interaction of these factors.

Way of Working

In order to achieve the above outcomes, MINE is working on three tasks (see diagram):



- **Community engagement** – coordinating the church's involvement in regeneration structures
- **Church development** (which includes Local Ministry Team formation) – evangelism, new ways of being church, growth of engagement with the community
- **Urban Ministry and Theology Project** (a centre for contextual theology) – providing opportunities for reflection and offering our own learning and our learning from other contexts – both ecumenically and in other situations - to others.

