

I am writing to express my deep and sincere thanks for the commitment of the local Street Pastors as well as the National Response Pastors in helping to staff the emergency centre at St Anne's Church Hall and the Hinckley Road Resident Support and Information Point following the recent tragic explosion. Our records indicate that as well as you the following were directly involved in helping to staff these facilities although there may be others and if so please pass on these thanks to any I have inadvertently missed out.

Local Street Pastors

Julie Tregoning
Simon Harwood
Ian Parkinson
Lillian Howell
Julian Howell
Yvette Adams
Mike Robbins
Russell Bentley
Angela Zemplak
Margaret Sharman
Moirá Massey
Martin Doig

National Response Pastors

Tony Witham
Michael Everett
Andrew Miller
Ben Griffiths

I know these facilities were vital in providing a local and highly visible support for those directly affected by the incident and have been very well received by the community as a whole. During the early stages of the recovery process it is so important for people to feel there is somewhere they can go to get accurate information, be signposted to longer term support and specialists or simply have a chat with a sympathetic listener. The small things really count at such times.

I am also aware that many volunteers had to endure severe weather conditions and sometimes boredom due to occasional days with very few visitors to the facilities. I am so grateful that the facilities were maintained for an appropriate period in spite of these additional challenges and that is down to your pastors' commitment and determination to help people when in their time of need.

I would be grateful if you could feedback how things went at these facilities from you and your volunteers' perspective. Both the good and the not so good. It is important we learn any lessons in case there is a next time. Martin Halse (cc'd into this email is collating the information so perhaps you could send it to him or liaise directly if you would like him to help with a more formal debrief.

Once again, many thanks for your help and the help of your volunteers it is so greatly appreciated not just by me but more importantly by all those affected by this tragedy

Miranda

Miranda Cannon
Director of Delivery, Communications, and Political Governance