

# INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

The following web links will help you to get hold of the information that you need to pray effectively for your local politicians, find out about national issues, and loads more!

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## Your local elected representatives

- To find out the names and contact details of your local MP, Councillors, Euro-MPs, and regional assembly members, go to [www.WriteToThem.com](http://www.WriteToThem.com) and enter your post code.
  - To find out more about your MP, including their issues of interest, speaking and voting records, [www.TheyWorkForYou.com](http://www.TheyWorkForYou.com) is a great place to start (again, all you need to do enter a postcode).
  - The majority of MPs (80-90% at the last count) have **their own website**. This will give you their own view of their work, often covering local issues as well as party ones. You can find it using a search engine, or there may be a link on [www.TheyWorkForYou.com](http://www.TheyWorkForYou.com) (above).
  - Your **local council website** should have section on councillors, usually providing a picture and basic information and sometimes a short summary that they have written about themselves.
  - Because elected politicians are public figures and often in the news, you can find out quite a lot about them by **searching the internet**. A suitable search would be their name followed by their role (eg: MP, MEP, councillor) and the name of their constituency or area. Thus a search for 'Gordon Brown MP Kirkcaldy' will give you a range of news items, official and unofficial sites, and biographies on the Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP, Labour Member of Parliament for Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath. The same method also works for local councillors and assembly members (but remember, not everything that you read on the internet is necessarily true, accurate, or fair!)
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## Christian organisations and issues

One of the first places to go to for current issues is the local and national news (newspapers, TV, radio, and internet). Many of the stories that you will find here have a political dimension and urgently need or prayers!

In addition, there are a number of Christian organisations working in the area of Christian engagement in public and political affairs. A few of these are presented here (but you may well know of others!):

- Theos (a Christian think-tank) provide a free media monitoring service (go to [www.theosthinktank.co.uk](http://www.theosthinktank.co.uk) and click on **media monitoring**). They also have some great 'in depth' material on Christian political engagement.
  - Tearfund are a charity who also campaign on issues which affect the poorest in society (such as international trade, development, and climate change). Visit [www.tearfund.org/campaigning](http://www.tearfund.org/campaigning).
  - CARE (Christian Action Research and Education) campaign on a range of subjects including bio-ethics and family related issues. Latest news and information at [www.care.org.uk](http://www.care.org.uk).
  - The Evangelical Alliance ([www.eauk.org](http://www.eauk.org)) are active in helping Christians and Churches to positively influence the public life of our nation. Click on **public theology** or **campaigns** for more information.
  - SPEAK is a campaigning organisation which brings students and young people together in prayer and action. To see current areas of focus, visit [www.speak.org.uk](http://www.speak.org.uk).
  - Premier Media ([www.premier.org.uk](http://www.premier.org.uk)) are a London-based radio station and media organisation who bring a Christian angle to current news stories. Click **news** to view their latest headlines.
  - The Jubilee Centre ([www.jubilee-centre.org](http://www.jubilee-centre.org)) provide a range of more in-depth articles and papers on current political, economic, and social issues.
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## And finally...

There are loads of ideas to help you with prayer at [www.24-7prayer.com](http://www.24-7prayer.com). For free help and advice relating to the week of prayer, you can call 24-7 UK on **0203 167 4381** or email [uk@24-7prayer.com](mailto:uk@24-7prayer.com).

Don't forget to check in at [www.ChristiansInParliament.org.uk](http://www.ChristiansInParliament.org.uk) for more resources and the latest on the 2009 week of prayer for parliament and government.