



## Press Release

Embargoed until midnight Monday 12 January 2015

Contact: see notes below

### **‘SHOW UP’ campaign and video launch – Tuesday January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – 10am**

Today sees the launch of the ‘Show Up’ campaign and video. Supported by a wide range of Christian organisations and church networks (see full list below), it calls Christians to more positive engagement in politics. This is the first campaign of its kind.

[Video link here](#)

“As Christians, we have spent too long shouting from the sidelines rather than getting on the pitch of political life. This campaign will encourage Christians to move from commentary to participation,” say Andy Flannagan, Claire Mathys and Colin Bloom (co-directors of Christians in Politics) and Dr Dave Landrum, director of advocacy at the Evangelical Alliance.

Biblically-based and beautifully animated, the video is designed for use at conferences and church gatherings as a provocative discussion-starter and call to action.

Show Up was created in response to the growing disillusionment many voters feel towards politics in the UK. There is a growing sense that voting no longer makes a difference. Show Up aims to tackle this by making it clear that our participation is vital. “Voting may just be the start of our decision-making. By 2020, we could be the people answering questions at hustings rather than just asking them,” says Andy Flannagan.

“There may be glaring flaws with our political system, but the simple matter is that decisions are made by those who show up to vote,” says Dr Landrum.

In the lead up to the election of 2015 and beyond Show Up will be speaking into the current political context with articles, blogs, videos, interviews and more. Resources to equip Christians to get involved are available on the Show Up website.

‘Show Up’ will be taking the campaign to Spring Harvest and to churches and organisations across the UK. To book a speaker please refer to the media contacts below.

Sunday, 25 January, is ‘Show Up Sunday’ and churches across the UK will talk with their congregations about the importance of voting and getting involved in politics. Resources including the video and posters are available on the website.

“We are thrilled that so many organisations also recognise how vitally important it is for voters to participate in the election and beyond. We are committed to working together to get this message out to the Christian community,” says Amelia Abplanalp, public policy officer at the Evangelical Alliance.

## **Ends.**

### Notes to Editors

The SHOW UP campaign arose from a conversation between Christians in Politics and the Evangelical Alliance. It is now a growing coalition including the following organisations: the Church of England, Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, National Day of Prayer, Catholic Social Action Network, Christian Aid, Tearfund, Spring Harvest, CARE, The Cinnamon Network, Premier Radio, Catholic Education Service, United Christian Broadcasters, Bible Society, Conservative Christian Fellowship, Christians on the Left, Liberal Democrat Christian Forum, Christians in Parliament, Fusion, FaithAction, The Salvation Army, Centre for Theology and Community, Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Open Doors, Release International, Kirby Laing Institute For Christian Ethics, JustLove, Jubilee Centre, Jubilee+, and the Joint Public Issues Team.

### **Media enquiries**

Christians in Politics: Mark Scott - 07823400616

Evangelical Alliance: Amelia Abplanalp - 07722522515

### **Resources**

Show Up website: [christiansinpolitics.org.uk/showup](http://christiansinpolitics.org.uk/showup)

Show Up video: <http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=rXLCcRaGx48>

Evangelical Alliance website: [election2015.eauk.org](http://election2015.eauk.org)