



## Churches' Criminal Justice Forum Questions for parliamentary candidates

**April 2010**

1. What do you see as the biggest challenges facing the criminal justice system over the next five years?
2. To what extent is the increase in the prison population responsible for the changing levels in crime?
3. Would you support further development of restorative justice within the UK criminal justice system? Why, or why not?
4. What do you see as the greatest need for victims of crime?
5. How would you address the needs of those with mental illness & learning disabilities and alcohol or other drug dependencies within the criminal justice system?
6. What do you see as the key elements of effective rehabilitation to restore offenders to the community and reduce the likelihood of reoffending?
7. How would you address the over-representation of ethnic minorities and the rapid rise of women in prison?
8. What resources would you provide to support the children of parents/carers in custody?
9. Why are so many children and young people detained in institutions away from their local communities?
10. How would you restore confidence in the criminal justice system?

A summary and fuller statement of CCJF's position are on our website at: [www.ccjf.org](http://www.ccjf.org).

Criminal justice is also covered in "*Faith In Politics*" - the pre-election briefing produced by churches for churches which can be downloaded from [www.churcheselection.org.uk](http://www.churcheselection.org.uk) and [www.ctbi.org.uk](http://www.ctbi.org.uk)