



From the Chair of Churches Together in Lancashire:

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Name

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House of Commons

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Dear

The first decade of the twenty-first century has seen increased global polarity. Iraq, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Israel-Palestine, Congo, are just some of those countries that continue to be torn apart by war and conflict, many in the name of the 'war on terror', others in the drive to secure access to and control of natural resources.

As well as the obvious human costs, the opportunity costs of these wars are incalculable: lack of investment in social and development projects, the displacement of people, the destruction of essential infrastructure within countries, the fuelling of suspicion and hatred within and between communities. Millions today are offered a false and dangerous peace which not only ignores but often exacerbates the real suffering of the human family and the very planet.

For decades the discussion on peace and security has been dominated by proponents of the 'might is right' model, arguing that national self-interest and the protection and security of others is best achieved by military means. The time has come to turn away from this false and short-sighted model in favour of a

model of sustainable human security that puts people – and especially the poor - at its centre.

Such a model is consistent with the social teachings of many churches which seek to build global solidarity between peoples – solidarity that heals the wounds of war, the violation of rights, poverty and the destruction of the environment.

Church Leaders from Churches Together in Lancashire agreed to call on the Government to include Trident in the planned Defence Review, and to use this opportunity for a radical evaluation of security policies.

As a Lancashire MP we ask for your support and work for the inclusion of Trident in the planned Defence Review.

Yours sincerely

The Rt Revd Geoff Pearson
Chair of Churches Together in Lancashire:

For more information see:

Trident & Employment Report published by CND & funded by Unison General Political Fund &

Oceans of Work: Arms Conversion Revisited 2007 published by BASIC

Oceans of Work was produced by the Barrow Alternative Employment Committee in 1987. The report was supported by senior politicians and trade union leaders but never seriously considered by the company's management