

Meet with your MP at the 2022 FoRB Ministerial: FAQ

WHAT WILL MY DAY LOOK LIKE?

We will be meeting as an Open Doors group late morning. So, good news, you can get offpeak train tickets!

Our rough timings for the day are as follows:

10am- doors to the venue open, so you can arrive anytime from 10

11am- We will host a briefing

1-3pm- Arrange a time to meet with your MP

4pm- Venue will shut

Depending on your MP's availability, we will have an open-ended finish time. Our venue will be open until 4pm, but you are free to come and go at any time that suits you.

If you are travelling from afar, you might want to consider staying the night in London. If so, please arrange and book this yourself.

WHERE ARE WE MEETING?

We will meet in the Westminster area, near the Ministerial venues of the Houses of Parliament and the Queen Elizabeth II conference centre. You'll be given the exact location for our meeting once you have booked to meet your MP. Please arrange your own travel to the destination.

WILL OPEN DOORS COVER ANY COSTS?

Unfortunately, Open Doors will not be able to cover your expenses for the day. If you decide to sign up, you will be responsible for getting yourself to London and covering any other costs involved. We will be providing refreshments and lunch but, other than that, it is up to you what you bring for additional food throughout the day.

WHAT ABOUT ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS?

UK Parliament welcomes all visitors and offers a range of facilities to help you during your visit. Further info can be found here: <u>Accessibility - UK Parliament</u>

We will meet on the ground floor of our venue, which has wheelchair access and an accessible toilet.

We want to make this day easily accessible for all our supporters, so please get in contact to discuss any further accessibility accommodations.

CAN I BRING SOMEONE WITH ME?

Because we are limiting spaces to one representative per constituency, we are advising that people don't bring anyone with them due to the implications on catering and space capacity. If, however, you need someone with you, please get in touch with our advocacy team before you sign up.

WHERE WILL I MEET MY MP?

When organising where to meet your MP, suggest doing so in Parliament. That way, it is easy for them to step out of meetings to meet you, and you can take them to the Ministerial events that are taking place. Don't worry, we will guide you in where to go and how to get there on the day. For now, just know that you can ask your MP to meet with you in Parliament on Tuesday 5 July, between 1pm and 3pm, as the campaign will guide you.

WHAT WILL I NEED TO BRING WITH ME ON THE DAY?

We will provide you with further details closer to the time about what to bring. For now, know that you will be meeting us to begin with in Westminster, London, and we will fully prepare you to go and meet with your MP. We will have drinks and lunch for you at the venue, but food and anything else for the rest of the day will need to be arranged by you.

WHAT TIME SHOULD I ASK TO MEET MY MP?

We suggest you ask in your email to your MP to invite them to meet you in Parliament between 1pm and 3pm for 15-20 minutes. If you click through the campaign and successfully sign up, the campaign template email will include this invitation. If they have more time, you can take them or guide them to any of the Ministerial events/seminars taking place. The reason for these timings is because Open Doors will run a briefing and time of prayer midday and then you'll need time to get across to Parliament and through security.

HOW LONG WILL I BE WITH MY MP?

We suggest saying 15-20 minutes as we know that MPs are very busy and may be more likely to give you the time if it is relatively short and easy. However, if they are able to give you longer, that is wonderful, and you are free to spend as long as you like with them.

WILL I BE ABLE TO ATTEND ANY OF THE MINISTERIAL EVENTS?

It is unknown at this stage whether you will be able to attend some Ministerial events. It won't just be Open Doors hosting seminars at the Ministerial - there might be events/talks/ rallies taking place around Westminster that you can be involved with, however restrictions and numbers are very tight, so we don't want to promise anything at this stage.

In terms of our Open Doors events, we hope that some of you will be able to come but, unfortunately, not everyone will be able to. This is because Parliament has strict number capacities in committee rooms. We also want to prioritise space for MPs to attend and hear about persecution.

Therefore, we will explain on the day how much space there is for supporters to attend various events and when.

Don't worry though, our Open Doors venue will be open throughout the day, so if you are happy to rest and pray there, we will be able to facilitate that while you wait to meet your MP.

WHAT IF MY MP IS NOT ABLE TO MEET ME?

Good question! Some MPs might not be free to meet with you - they might not be in London, might be too busy or might have something else on. If this is the case, you are still welcome to join us in London – it could be useful to prepare for future conversations about the Ministerial and Christian persecution. If you decide not to come to London, that's also fine - please get in touch, so that we know who to expect and not expect.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to email **advocacy@opendoorsuk.org**.