

Role Description: Benefice of North Tyne and Redesdale

1 Introduction

The role description gives an outline of the responsibilities of a position. These may develop while someone is in post and this document will need to be kept up to date. It should be reviewed as necessary at Ministerial Development Review, alongside the setting of objectives.

2 Details of post

- 2.1 Role title: Priest in Charge of North Tyne and Redesdale
- 2.2 Name of benefice: North Tyne and Redesdale
- 2.3 Patronage: Team Rector: Patronage Board, Team Vicar: Bishop & Rector
- 2.4 Deanery and archdeaconry: Bellingham, Lindisfarne
- 2.5 Initial point of contact on terms of service: The Archdeacon of Lindisfarne

3 Role purpose: General

- 3.1 To share with the Bishop in the cure of souls.
- 3.2 Ever prayerful and mindful of the responsibilities laid upon you in the Ordinal, the Canons, national Safeguarding policies, and all other relevant legislation, in accordance with the Archbishops' statement *Guidelines for the Professional Conduct of the Clergy*, your ministry will be shaped by the Diocesan vision – Growing Church Bringing Hope – and marked by a generosity of spirit, an engagement with the people and situations you serve, and an openness to the promptings of God's love.
- 3.3 Your priestly vocation demands the careful preparation for, and the leading of public worship, the imaginative proclamation of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and the loving service of all God's people entrusted to your care. Together with your priestly colleagues and lay ministers, you will work collaboratively to enable the gifts of all God's people to be developed in the Service of his Kingdom.
- 3.4 In your priestly ministry you will take an active part in the Diocesan strategy – Growing Church Bringing Hope: Next Steps. This will include collaborative parish conversations and planning for mission and ministry as well as working with colleagues across the Deanery and more widely in the life of the Diocese. A number of supports are available to you through the provision of work consultants, spiritual directors and Continuing Ministerial Formation programs, and you will be expected to participate in the scheme of Ministerial Development Review.
- 3.5 Above all, you will remember that we are called to minister by a gracious, generous self-giving and loving God, as together we seek the Kingdom, share the faith, search for truth, serve our neighbour and follow Jesus in his suffering love for the salvation of all people.

Role Purpose – Generic and Specific

- 3.6 To take responsibility for pastoral care, occasional offices and leading of regular public worship in the benefice of North Tyne and Redesdale.
- 3.7 To collaboratively lead the benefice in the development of its vision and strategy for growth, developing sustainable local ministry that recognises the talents and skills of lay people, and encourages, motivates and enables their use in worship, service and outreach.
- 3.8 To lead collaboratively across Bellingham deanery as one of two stipendiary priests in the deanery who are enabling other clergy and laity in mission, supporting the roles of the Area Dean and Lay Chair, and taking an active part in Chapter, Deanery Synod and Deanery Development Group.
- 3.9. To work collaboratively with all PCCs in the development and implementation of their vision and strategy for growth, discerning where energy can be released through simplifying structures and through sharing gifts, skills, resource and roles.
- 3.10 To work with churchwardens and PCCs to proactively identify and encourage those who have a vocation to a diverse range of lay ministries, recognising the fundamental theological principle that the whole baptised people of God are blessed with gifts and skills with which to bless the wider community.
- 3.11 To work with others in deanery to help embed a culture of clergy and lay partnership, and partnership and collaboration between parishes.
- 3.12 To be pro-active in creating time for personal development and spiritual well-being.

Key contacts and relationships

4.1 Generic

- a. The Bishop of Newcastle, the Bishop of Berwick and the Archdeacon of Lindisfarne;
- b. The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Councils;
- c. The Deanery Chapter and Synod;
- d. The lay leaders of the parishes

4.2 Specific

- a. Authorised lay leaders in all nine parishes including wardens, Readers, lay worship leaders and lay pastoral leaders.
- b. Colleagues working on the National Heritage Lottery funded project Rural Churches for Everyone
- c. The school communities of Otterburn, Greenhaugh, Kielder and Bellingham
- d. Local ecumenical colleagues
- e. Those working on community projects such as 'Cuddy's Well' and The Three Church Trail'.

- f. Local businesses especially those engaged in tourism and pilgrimage, local estate owners and farmers

4.3 Supportive

- a. The Archdeacon of Lindisfarne
- b. The Area Dean, Lay Chair and colleagues in the Bellingham Deanery
- c. The Diocesan Lay Ministry Development Officer
- d. The Diocesan Director of Mission and Ministry
- c. Work consultant or spiritual director.

5. Role Context

In this ‘land of the Northern Saints’ we are committed to flourishing churches and communities and our vision for **growing church bringing hope**. Like those who came before us, we seek to bring the fire of the gospel to our communities with gentleness, creativity and faith. To better serve our values and priorities, we are building closer partnerships between our church communities, sharing the gifts that God has given us and focussing on enabling the ministry of all God’s people. Whilst cherishing what we have, we are encouraging churches to step out and try new ways of mission and ministry. In Bellingham Deanery, we are now working collaboratively across parish and geographic boundaries and we’re sharing our resources more generously. Even Covid has brought surprising blessings and we have engaged very positively and creatively with one another and with the wider community during recent periods of lockdown, including extensive on-line worship and meetings. There is a strong commitment to lay leadership and to setting free the gifts of all of God’s people. A good number from the benefice are engaging currently in lay training and we seek someone who will encourage the considerable potential among the laity.

The area covered by the benefice is unusual in terms of size – approximately 400 square miles. It includes the Kielder forest and reservoir and the area is recognised as one of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Farming, forestry and water are key elements contributing to its special character and together with tourism are the main employers. The northern boundary of the benefice is with Scotland and its most northerly church, Byrness, is only five miles south of Carter Bar. The settlements are mostly classed as ‘deep rural’ and the demographic is very mixed including some areas of disadvantage as well as more affluent ones. The six parishes and nine churches in the benefice are situated in the valleys of the North Tyne and Rede rivers.

6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes	Six
Churches and listing	St Cuthbert, Bellingham, Grade I listed All Saints, West Woodburn, Grade II listed St Cuthbert, Corsenside, Grade II listed St Cuthbert, Elsdon, Grade I listed St Peter, Falstone, unlisted

	St Aidan, Thorneyburn, Grade II listed Holy Trinity, Horsley, Grade II listed St Francis, Byrness, Grade II listed St John the Evangelist, Otterburn, Grade II listed
Parsonage	Four bedroomed detached house in Bellingham
Other buildings	None
Churchwardens	Two in each parish
Ministers (including local ministry)	Two Readers in the Deanery assist with services. Authorised Lay Worship leaders in all parishes, others taking the Authorised Lay Ministry course in pastoral care.
Population	Bellingham 1,300 Corsenside 242 Elsdon 242 Falstone with Greystead and Thorneyburn 250 Horsley and Byrness 400 Otterburn 654
Usual Sunday Attendance	All churches have small numbers of regular Sunday worshippers but large congregations for special services such as Harvest Festival and carol services.
Parish Share (2020)	Bellingham £15, 415, paid in full Corsenside £4,200, paid in full Elsdon £1,620, paid £600 (37%) Falstone with Greystead and Thorneyburn £10,426, paid in full Horsley and Byrness £2,400, paid £1,600 (67%) Otterburn £6,480, paid £6,000 (93%)
Resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priest?	No
Church tradition	Tradition of lay led services. Mainly Common worship with some use of BCP.
Pastoral Reorganisation Proposals	None
Outreach/service to the wider community	Visitor welcome. Links with local schools. Links with local community groups, involvement in and hosting of community events. Support for West Northumberland food bank.
Business element	None
Ecumenical links	Strong collaboration with local Methodist, United Reformed and Roman Catholic churches, with joint services and events.

7 Review

The Archdeacon will review this role description with you when you have been in post for six months.