

**Assistant Diocesan Director of Vocations**

**Background and Information Paper**

The Church of England has recently moved to a new Shared Discernment framework for the discerning of a call to ministry (lay and ordained), alongside the EveryDay Faith initiative's focus on the calling of all God’s people to ministry in the church and the world.

The Shared Discernment framework has initially been implemented in a new discernment process for ordained ministry and a significant part of the work of the Diocesan Director of Vocations is working with those exploring ordained ministry, including the work of the team of Assistant DDOs.

Alongside that, Chester Diocese is committed to helping all God’s people explore their gifts and calling for a rich variety of ministries, including licensed lay ministries such as Reader, Pastoral Worker and Pioneer, as well as other roles in the church and the world. The focus of the ADDV role is on the wider “front end” vocations work, growing and developing a culture of vocation across our diocese, including a continuing widening of the range of people exploring their gifts and calling. It will integrate in particular with the new team of Deanery Vocations Listeners, working with people on initial conversations about gifts and calling.

**Scope of role**

The role of Assistant Diocesan Director of Vocations will be located within the vocations team that sits within the work of the Committee for Ministry. The main relationship and reporting is to the Director of Vocations, working as an officer of the Committee for Ministry.

This is a voluntary post, envisaged to require a time commitment of roughly 1 day per month (though this will vary throughout the year, especially linked to specific events such as Called to Serve). The role is open to ordained and lay applicants and is initially for a term of 2 years.

The suitable candidate will have a demonstrable interest in growing vocations to a variety of different areas of ministry in the church and the world and be able to evidence relevant experience. They will have an understanding of the safeguarding policies of the diocese of Chester, as well as the range of available ministries and areas of calling. The ability to handle confidential information is essential.

As a voluntary position, there is no renumeration for the role but travelling, training and other expenses incurred in carrying out the role would be reimbursed.

Applications should be made by returning the completed application form to Liz Geddes, liz.geddes@chester.anglican.org by *Sunday 5th December 2021.*

*Informal conversations with Canon Sarah Fenby are welcomed: sarah.fenby**@chester.anglican.org*

November 2021