**Diocese of Chester Net Zero Carbon Project Officer**



**Job Title:** Net Zero Carbon Project Officer

**Hours of Work:** Full-time, for a fixed term of 2 years, including some evenings and weekends.

**Reporting to:** Director of Department for Outreach

**Normal Place of Work:** Church House, Daresbury Park, Warrington, WA4 4GE.

Some travel around the diocese will be required.

**Remuneration:** £31,071

**Background**

The Diocese of Chester is working towards Net Zero Carbon by 2030, in line with the decision of General Synod in February 2020, aiming to reduce the emissions from energy consumption year on year and to incorporate sustainable working practices across all of our operations. This work is being undertaken in line with the Routemap to Net Zero passed by the Diocesan Synod in November 2022. The Diocesan Synod and the Bishop of Chester see this as an important part our mission and ministry as a Diocese, and as an outworking of the fourth and fifth Marks of Mission.

The Diocese has established an Environment Group to co-ordinate and facilitate this work. This will become a new Net Zero Carbon Working Group and will draw on expertise from a number of departments. We now seek to appoint a Net Zero Carbon Project Officer to lead the diocese in this area, to improve our capacity by developing a Net Zero Carbon Action Plan and by taking practical steps towards its implementation.

**Duties and key responsibilities:**

**Diocese**

* Work within the Diocesan vision and strategy to meet our Routemap goals, initially presenting a costed Action Plan to Diocesan Synod by Nov 2024 and then coordinating the implementation of, and reporting against, this plan. This will include the policy changes and levers for change required.
* Engage all stakeholders across the diocese, convening and chairing a Net Zero Carbon Working Group
* Report progress against this plan to the Bishops’ Council and/or Director’s meeting quarterly.
* Gather data and provide an annual carbon emissions report to Diocesan Synod.
* Audit Diocesan landholdings and develop a land management plan.
* Take particular responsibility for auditing of diocesan offices and implementation of NZC measures in them.

**Clergy Housing**

In collaboration with Houses and Glebe Committee and Finance and Scrutiny Committee:

* Audit property occupied by clergy and analyse the data to develop a property retrofitting plan by Nov 2024
* Implement a pilot project involving 2 vicarages to demonstrate feasibility of retrofitting clergy housing with insulation and double glazing.
* Produce a database of costed options for solar panels and heat pumps
* Explore funding opportunities for large scale retrofitting of clergy housing

**Parish churches and other buildings, and cathedral**

In collaboration with DAC and Archdeacons:

* Set expectations for APCM reports, QI’s and Archdeacons’ Visitations

In collaboration with DAC and Buildings for Mission Adviser

Ensure good general advice is shared to enable all churches to move towards:

* Completion of Energy Footprint Tool (90% compliance by Nov 2024)
* Undertaking an energy audit
* Developing their own decarbonisation plans, including advice on permissions
* Quick wins, such as adoption of green energy tariffs and installation of energy efficient lighting
* Work proactively with 20% most emitting churches to see significant reductions in emissions, including consideration of heating options.
* Explore and advise on funding support for parishes, including local authority and national government funding

**Partnership**

* Attend meetings of the Environment Forum and collaborate with them in their work to improve Ecodiocese and Ecochurch status for the diocese and local churches respectively.
* Work in collaboration with equivalent post holders in other northern dioceses to enable best practice and sharing of resources. Input to and learn from the nation Net Zero Carbon Resource Hub. Collaborate with the national Net Zero Carbon programme team.
* Be proactive in collaboration with DBE and DBE Services by sharing data and good practice. Promote and collaborate on joint reporting to Diocesan leaders regarding progress to NZC.
* Be aware of, and where possible contribute to, local authority discussion and decision making, particularly in the three local authorities that lie wholly within the diocese.

October 2023