

Diocese of Ely – Changing Market Towns

Changing Market Towns Workers

We have a number of senior full-time roles for community workers with a focus on Christian mission and church growth, known as Changing Market Towns Workers, as part of a major diocesan initiative.

Town	Role
Already appointed	
Wisbech	Children and Families Workers
Chatteris	Music and Arts Mission Worker
Littleport	Children and Families Worker
Ramsey	Community Mission Worker
Wisbech	Youth-focused Worker, linked to secondary school
March	Children and Families Worker
	We're now looking for ...
March	Community Mission Worker

Summary

A key part of the 'Changing Market Towns' vision is to see 800 new people involved in the life of churches across the small and medium sized towns of the Diocese. The goal is to do this within the next five years and to help these people grow as disciples of Christ – specifically we are praying for at least two Fresh Expressions of Church to grow up alongside each market town parish churches, hopefully more!

For more background to the role please read this document in conjunction with the other material available at:

<https://www.elydiocese.org/church-in-action/changing-market-towns/changing-market-towns.php>

In addition to the town-specific job descriptions, every role will:

1. Work closely in partnership with the town's team leader (who will be one of the local clergy) and with other paid and voluntary workers as part of a whole town team leading in mission. Support and guidance will also be provided by the Evangelism Coach appointed as part of the Changing Market Towns project
2. Be a 'change maker', working to transform the culture of the local church, enabling a new focus on mission, increased lay involvement and a willingness to step forward in courageous new ways
3. Encourage and lead the development of Fresh Expressions of Church relevant to the local setting in each town, as part of the Diocese's blended economy of Fresh Expressions and inherited-mode church
4. Engage widely and confidently with the community, enabling others to join in mission and service
5. Participate in worship in an Anglican setting within the town concerned, supporting and affirming mission through both inherited mode and pioneering forms of church
6. Contribute to a culture, through modelling and training, where mission in word and action become part of the life of every parish
7. Manage, support and recruit volunteers encouraging every member ministry, and helping engagement with training provided by the Diocese at all levels
8. Helping both enquirers and new believers on the 'Journey of Faith'
9. Initiate and expand links and networks with parts of the parish which are currently not in regular contact with the church. This may include schools, charities, agencies and local services
10. Play an active role in local and Diocesan shared mission, collaborating with Diocesan officers and other co-workers
11. Participate in the on-going training and development programme as part of a learning community with other Changing Market Towns Workers
12. Seek partnerships with other churches and voluntary groups to work for the good of the town
13. Work creatively to establish sustainable missional activities

The core skills of understanding Fresh Expressions of Church, evangelism, culture change and training will be required for all positions. Each role will require a slightly different skill-set, but will also retain flexibility in the light of the gifts and experience of those appointed.

Person Specification – *Changing Market Towns Workers*

It is expected that the post holder would become a wholehearted worshipping member of the Church of England in the town to which they are assigned and there is an occupational requirement for the person to be a practising Christian.

Continuing professional development will be offered as part of a learning community, meeting monthly with others working in similar roles across the Diocese. Regular fortnightly supervision will be provided by a local supervisor of incumbent status, with the support of the Diocesan Changing Market Towns team.

These are the essential (E) and desirable (D) qualities we are looking for:

A demonstrable love of Christ	E
Experience of Fresh Expressions of Church	E
Experience of bringing about an element of culture change	E
Leadership experience, with responsibilities for empowering and releasing volunteers	E
Good verbal and written communication skills	E
A confidence in using technology and social media	E
Good self-awareness and the ability to reflect	E
A friendly and warm persona with an ability to work well with a wide diversity of people	E
An ability to balance team work with entrepreneurial imagination	E
An understanding of how to handle confidential and sensitive information	E
A commitment to uphold current safeguarding legislation and best practice	E
Ability to travel independently	E
Previous experience of leading and developing Fresh Expressions of Church	D
Experience of working with schools and / or community projects	D
Qualification and / or training in theology, mission and evangelism	D
An ability to think strategically	D

Terms and Conditions

- Salary £27,000 full-time
- Membership of The Church Workers Pension Fund (non-contributory)
- Initial three-year contract (fixed-term)

Application Process

Please complete the application form in full. A Curriculum Vitae (CV) will not be accepted as a substitute.

Completed applications should be returned by email to markettowns@elydiocese.org, and by the closing date published on the Diocese of Ely website.

Please use the application form to demonstrate – with relevant examples – how your skills and experience meet the requirements of the role for which you are applying. The further particulars and role description set out the qualities and experience being sought, and the selection panel will use this as the basis for deciding whether or not to invite an applicant for interview.