



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
SUFFOLK

Growing Rural

Enabling multi-parish
benefices to flourish



 **Growing in God**

Flourishing Congregations

Making a Difference

Welcome to the Growing Rural programme, which has been developed specifically to help your churches to see and grasp the opportunities for mission in their context.

Growing influence

Your incumbent plus up to five other key leaders in the benefice will journey together through the programme. They will keep the PCCs and other church leaders informed and engaged with the materials offered to increase the impact.

We will meet up once a term for four terms, covering the following subjects:

- Journey
- Mission
- Leadership
- Discipleship



Learning together

Up to eight benefices come will together to create a Learning Community, listening to and learning from each other. We will come together around common questions, provoked and informed by the team leading the programme. We will follow a common pattern as we deliver the training which is aimed at maximising discovery and creativity.

Sharing together

Each term there is an overnight residential at the St Nicholas Centre in Ipswich. Accommodation will be provided in local hotels. Each residential will meet from 4.00pm Friday to 4.00pm Saturday.

Nurturing your team

Each benefice involved in this programme will be asked to choose a Mission Accompanier, someone to come alongside to nurture you as you face challenges and opportunities together. They will be someone sympathetic to your church tradition and context.

Flourishing together

This programme is offered to support you as you explore, develop and implement a shared vision for mission and growth in your context.



Further information

Your benefice will be expected to contribute £200 per term (£800 for the programme). Your accommodation, meals and any materials you need to engage in the learning are included.

We will meet each term to learn together (4.00pm Friday to 4.00pm Saturday):

- 7-8 October 2022
- 24-25 February 2023
- 5-6 May 2023
- 6-7 October 2023

We expect the incumbent to be present for each training session, and for them to invite up to five other people from different churches in the benefice to take part.

To discuss this further and sign up please contact:

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07917 385843

www.cofesuffolk.org/growing-rural



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OF ENGLAND

**Diocese of St Edmundsbury
and Ipswich**

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St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Board of Finance
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