

Role Description: Benefices of Cresswell and Lynemouth, Ulgham and Widdrington

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 Cresswell and Lynemouth and Priest in Charge of Widdrington; Assistant Curate of Ulgham (with responsibility for pioneering)
- 2.2 Name of benefices: Cresswell and Lynemouth; Ulgham; Widdrington
- 2.3 Patronage: The Bishop of Newcastle
- 2.4 Deanery and archdeaconry: Morpeth; 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, pioneer ministry and leading of regular public worship in the parishes of Cresswell and Lynemouth, and Widdrington, and to foster and cultivate pioneering in Widdrington Station, which is situated in Ulgham parish.

4 Key contacts and relationships

4.1 Generic

- a. The Bishops of Newcastle and Berwick and the Archdeacon of Lindisfarne;
- b. The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Councils;
- c. The Deanery Chapter and Synod;

4.2 Specific

- a. Rector of Bothal and Pegswood with Longhirst;
- b. Head Teacher of Grange View C of E First School;
- c. William Leech Campus of the Northumberland Church of England Academy at Lynemouth;
- d. Head Teachers of other local schools;
- e. Lynemouth Miners Institute;

4.3 Supportive

- a. The Archdeacon of Lindisfarne;
- b. The Area Dean, Lay Chair and colleagues in the Morpeth Deanery;
- c. Work consultant or spiritual director.

5 Role Context

In recognition of the strong pioneering tradition across these benefices and the closer working together in recent years by the previous Priests in Charge, we propose some pastoral re-organisation. This post will involve being Priest in Charge of Cresswell and Lynemouth Benefice, Priest in Charge of Widdrington Benefice, and Assistant Curate of Ulgham Benefice, with responsibility for the pioneering work in Widdrington Station (a large new housing estate in Ulgham parish). The cure of souls for St John's Ulgham will rest with the Priest in Charge of Ulgham Benefice, who is also the Rector of the neighbouring Benefice of Bothal and Pegswood with Longhirst. A good working relationship with this neighbouring priest will be important. Lay members of St John's Ulgham are involved in the pioneering work in Widdrington Station. There has been considerable pioneering ministry in Cresswell and Lynemouth, as well as in Widdrington Station. Although the pandemic has not been kind to all of the initiatives begun, much groundwork is in place and there is a willing group of lay volunteers, some of whom have completed an authorised pioneer ministry pathway, so the time is right for a new priest to take these initiatives into their next chapter.

The two church buildings: St Bartholomew's Cresswell and Holy Trinity Widdrington are in good condition, the former having recently undergone refurbishment following storm damage. The church communities engage well with the wider communities and there is scope for building on previous community engagement and pioneering work. The estate of Widdrington Station provides rich mission opportunities. The worshipping communities recognise the need to grow younger and embrace new initiatives whilst also cherishing time-

honoured worship styles, so a priest who is at home with both tradition and innovation is sought.

6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes	Three
Churches and listing	Ulgham St John the Baptist, grade II listed Widdrington Holy Trinity, grade I listed Cresswell St Bartholomew, grade II listed
Parsonage	Four bedroomed house in Widdrington Station (one and a half miles from Holy Trinity).
Other buildings	None
Churchwardens	One at Cresswell One at Widdrington
Ministers (including local ministry)	One permanent deacon at Cresswell and Lynemouth One Reader, an authorised volunteer community engagement worker and a Local Ministry Development Team at Widdrington Licensed Lay Pioneer Minister at Cresswell and Lynemouth. Lay people involved in worship, administration, pastoral care and outreach.
Population	Ulgham 3,132 Widdrington 166 Cresswell and Lynemouth 4,354
Usual Sunday Attendance	Ulgham 13 Widdrington 20 Cresswell and Lynemouth 20
Parish Share (2021)	Ulgham £12,450, paid £15,450 (124%) Widdrington £13,385, paid £14,500 (108%) Cresswell and Lynemouth £9,000, paid £11,157 (124%)
Resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priest?	No
Church tradition	Widdrington: central to low Anglican. Cresswell and Lynemouth: sacramental tradition. Each parish now embracing more pioneering approaches.
Pastoral Reorganisation Proposals	See role context
Outreach/service to the wider community	Links with Grange View C of E First School. Some involvement with local schools in Ellington and Lynemouth Work with Bacman's Community Ltd. In Lynemouth.

	<p>St Aidan's Award Scheme (Rudge Legacy), overseen by the PCC of Cresswell and Lynemouth.</p> <p>Café Church at the Miners Institute in Lynemouth.</p> <p>Widdy Welcomes Project in Widdrington Station.</p> <p>Coastal Community Money Advice Service.</p> <p>Support for local foodbank.</p> <p>Community activities linked to the church calendar.</p>
Business element	None
Ecumenical links	Represented on local Churches Together group, joint events and services throughout the year.

7 Review

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