

Diocese of Durham

Role description signed off by: Archdeacon of Sunderland

Date: 18.8.23

To be reviewed 6 months after commencement of the appointment, and at Ministerial Development Review, alongside the setting of objectives.

• Details of Post

Role Title:	Canon Provost of:
Name of benefice:	Sunderland Minster
Deanery:	Wearmouth
Archdeaconry:	Sunderland
Initial point of contact on terms of service:	Diocesan Secretary

1. Role Purpose

The vision of the Diocese is 'Blessing our communities in Jesus' name for the transformation of us all'. Within this the four core priorities are to:

- Energise Growth
- Engage with Children, Youth and Young People,
- Challenge Poverty and
- Care for God's Creation.

These are outlined and expressed in the Diocesan Mission Strategy, 'Renewing Pilgrimage'.

General

- To share with the Bishop in the cure of souls in this parish, in line with the Diocesan Vision, Priorities and Plan described above.
- To be Canon Provost of Sunderland Minster, having regard to the calling and responsibilities of the clergy of the Church of England as described in the Ordinal, the Canons, national safeguarding policies, and all other relevant legislation, and in accordance with the *Guidelines for the Professional Conduct of the Clergy 2015*. Specifically, the Provost must give due regard to safeguarding policy and practice.
- To work with the PCC towards the development of the Minster (both the people and their buildings) so that the church is sustainable and effective in mission.
- To ensure that a high standard of worship, preaching and pastoral care is provided so that people are enabled to live as disciples of Christ.
- To nurture discipleship and develop the ministry of all God's people, through training, cooperation, delegation, support and example, so that they take more responsibility for the mission and ministry of the parish; to seek to identify potential future leaders and ministers.
- To encourage all church members to participate in generous giving for the mutual support of one another across the diocese, and the wider Church of England.

- To collaborate within the deanery in mission and ministry and, through the Deanery Plan, participate in the shaping of ministry as resources and opportunities may require.
- To be proactive and persistent in seeking the fullest degree of ecumenical cooperation wherever possible.

2. Specific (in line with the Parish Profile)

The Provost serving this parish will:

- be a person of prayer, offering spiritual leadership in the parish
- An innovative leader who through encouragement, motivation and nurture will enable all, through collaboration, to fulfil their aspirations to serve God, each other, and the city.
- A compassionate and inclusive leader, empathetic to a diversity of experience and views who can serve the city with all its diversity and challenge.
- A missional leader who has a heart for reaching out into the City in Jesus' name and a desire to nurture new Christians.
- Lead and enhance the worship ministry of the Minster, open to different worship traditions while leading and encouraging innovative styles of worship as growth occurs.
- Lead and oversee the development of the Minster Church, its finances, structures volunteers and staffing, with the support of the Diocese, subject to an upcoming/ongoing bid to the Strategic Mission and Ministry Investment Board.
- Lead and grow our work to the vulnerable as we support those in most need in our city with humility and compassion.
- Be an Honorary Canon of Durham Cathedral
- Will develop the Minster which has a vital part to play in the future of the City and City Centre, working with the Mayor and Chief Executive of Sunderland City Council, The University Vice Chancellor and the Lord Lieutenant of Tyne and Wear.

3. Key Contacts

- The Churchwardens and PCC members
- Associate Ministers and retired clergy
- Sunderland Civic leaders / MP.
- Lord Lieutenant of Tyne and Wear
- Vice Chancellor of Sunderland University
- Ecumenical colleagues in Sunderland
- Area Dean and Chapter clergy of Wearmouth
- Archdeacon of Sunderland

4. Role Context (notes written from the perspective of the Archdeacon)

The vacancy has been a time of difficult conversations for The Minster and it has emerged strongly through that. A sense of needing to be missional and not just maintaining has developed through this. This has emerged strongly in the vacancy audit process.

The SMMIB bid is a very exciting new step for the Minster and will potentially open up new resources and personnel to help develop a sustainable future for the Minster.

Sunderland as a City is rapidly developing and the role of Canon Provost is a truly exciting one with huge opportunities