

**BISHOP OF HORSHAM AND BISHOP OF LEWES**

**ROLE SPECIFICATION**

**Introduction**

This role description has been prepared on the basis of the requirements for the Bishops of Horsham and Lewes as identified by the Bishop of Chichester.

As with any role specification it will need to be kept under review. If there are any particular concerns after six months the Bishops of Horsham and Lewes may wish to raise these with the Bishop of Chichester.

This document should not be considered in isolation but in the context of:

* The vows made and responsibilities expressed in the Common Worship service for the consecration of a bishop
* The Canons of the Church of England
* Themes of the current quinquennium as identified by the House of Bishops (to contribute to the common Good; to facilitate the growth of the Church both numerically and in spiritual depth; and to reimagine ministry)
* The relevant instrument of delegation

It is important from the outset to state that in making this appointment there are no red lines. It is open to men and women and to those of all church traditions across the Church of England. However, it is essential that at least one of the new suffragan bishops ordains women and men to the priesthood and promotes the ordained ministry of women in the diocese. It should also be noted, as stated in the statement of needs document that the quantity of episcopal work in the diocese necessitates the appointment of two rather than one suffragan.

**The Purpose of the Role**

The Diocese of Chichester serves around 1.6 million people across the counties of East and West Sussex. Our vision statement has informed the strategic direction of the diocese over the last four years: The vision has been to foster an atmosphere where we all learn to know, love and follow Jesus.

The outworking of our vision has been our commitment to see sustainable Christian communities in every place; to see the Church grow in spiritual depth and numerically; to reimagine ministry in creative ways which serve the needs of the church as well as the wider community; to see the church working for the common good, serving better our local communities and wider society.

The purpose of the role of the Bishops of Horsham and Lewes is to work collegially with and accountably to the Bishop of Chichester in the delivery of the vision in the service of the Household of Faith: both lay and ordained.

**The Role**

The new Bishops of Horsham and Lewes will be expected to have primary responsibility for ensuring pastoral care, especially of licensed but also retired clergy and their families/ households across archdeaconries. Thus, the Bishops of Horsham and Lewes will:

* Have skills in teaching and in ministerial formation.
* Work alongside colleagues in the development, adoption and local delivery of the diocesan strategy for growth.
* Act as an episcopal colleague to the diocesan bishop and the other suffragan; playing a full part on the Bishop’s senior staff; sharing in the leadership and development of the diocese.
* Meet with the respective archdeacons once a month to discuss any issues arising from the archdeaconries.
* Exercise specific episcopal functions as are customary for a bishop, i.e. licensing and instituting clergy, conducting confirmations, pastoral visitations etc.
* Exercise responsibility for safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, the provision of pastoral care of survivors, and creating a culture in which all will flourish and which is consistent with the safeguarding policies of the Church of England.
* Uphold the Five Guiding Principles as set out in the House of Bishops’ Declaration on the Ministry of Priests and Bishops, and promote the flourishing of churches across the range of the theological breadth of the Church of England.
* Chair the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Sub-Committee (West or East)
* Help to relate the local church to the wider church through membership of the College of Bishops and through taking on national responsibilities.

**Particular Portfolios** (these will be subject to review in the light of the interests and skills of the newly appointed Bishops and episcopal colleagues)

The Bishop of Horsham is the local bishop in the Archdeaconries of Horsham and Chichester. The Bishop of Lewes is the local bishop in the Archdeaconries of Hastings and Brighton & Lewes. Both Bishops will:

* Sponsor candidates for selection and training for ordination
* Sponsor candidates for selection and training as accredited lay workers or readers
* celebrate baptism, confirmation and priestly ordination
* license priests and deacons in parishes
* represent Chichester diocese at local events
* connect the church with society through engaging with civic authorities and civic occasions.

The Bishop of Horsham will oversee the following diocesan responsibilities:

* Safeguarding processes
* Education: university (Chichester)
* Chair of European Ecumenical Committee.

The Bishop of Lewes will oversee the following diocesan responsibilities:

* Delivery of the diocesan strategy for growth
* Chair Council for Common Good
* Chair Diocesan Overseas Committee
* Chair of Readers’ Council

The Bishops of Horsham and Lewes will attend the following meetings:

*Monthly meetings:*

* The three bishops (both suffragans meet with the diocesan)
* Each suffragan bishop and the respective two archdeacons (note that the diocesan bishop also meets with the four archdeacons once a month)

*Bi-monthly meetings:*

* The Bishop’s Staff (bishops, archdeacons, Dean of Chichester, Dean of Women’s Ministry, Dean of SSMs, Diocesan Secretary, Director of Apostolic Life; also in attendance at some meetings: Director of Ordinands, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, Director of Education, chairs and officers of diocesan committees)

*Quarterly meetings:*

* Bishop’s Council

*Other annual or occasional meetings:*

* Bishop’s Staff and Rural Deans
* Bishop’s Staff and Rural Deans with Lay Chairs and Deanery Treasurers
* The Bishops of Horsham and Lewes will also meet locally with Rural Deans from their respective archdeaconries.
* Regional Bishops
* Other office holders, eg Church Wardens, Chairs of Governors, Head Teachers, members of General Synod, etc.

**The Geographical Factor**

The ministry of the **Bishop of Horsham** has traditionally focused the commitment of the Diocese on those who live and work in West Sussex (the Archdeaconries of Chichester and Horsham). The ministry of the **Bishop of Lewes** has traditionally focused the commitment of the Diocese on those who live and work in East Sussex (the Archdeaconries of Hastings and Brighton and Lewes).

The Bishop of Horsham will:

* Reside in West Sussex
* Be responsible for cultivating relationships with civic, business and faith leaders in West Sussex.

The Bishop of Lewes will:

* Reside in East Sussex
* Be responsible for cultivating relationships with civic, business and faith leaders in East Sussex.

**The Person Specification**

The next Bishops of Horsham and Lewes will be people who are:

**Spirituality**

* prayerful and who will teach others to pray and will show forth the life of God in all their relationships. A focus of unity.

**Theology**

* able to interpret the scriptures and the Christian tradition to the world and the world to the Church. Theological reflection will be the hallmark of their ministry and reflected in inspirational preaching and teaching. They will be expected to support with confidence and commitment the fundamentals of the Christian faith as Anglicans have received it, expressed in the Declaration of Assent.

**Evangelism**

* in themselves committed to sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ and bringing people to him and who will lead others to do the same.

**Social Engagement**

* committed to the social gospel and working for the common good and who have a broad understanding of mission.

**Safeguarding**

* able to understand the importance of safeguarding in the life of the Church and can work with confidence in the context of the NCI and Diocesan safeguarding policies.

**Vision for Mission and Delivery**

* able to be bishops in mission who can think strategically and get things done.

**Formation of Others**

* always seeking the flourishing of all God’s people, discerning and enabling the gifts of all the baptised.

**Engagement in Community Life and Public Issues**

* leaders, advocates and ambassadors in the public square; able to relate to civic leaders, police, leaders of faith communities, and the people of West and East Sussex.

**Leadership and Oversight of Others**

* resilient, trusted and of evident integrity, able to take tough decisions and not risk averse.

**Pastoral**

* known to care for and support the clergy and be available for them, caring for their well-being. They will have excellent interpersonal skills who genuinely like other people.

**Commitment to Diversity**

* able to encourage unity in diversity.  The diversity will include different church traditions, differing views on sexuality and gender, as well as varying social and ethnic backgrounds.

**Interfaith**

* able to understand and engage with the great World Faiths and build good interfaith relationships.

**Working with Others**

* collaborative leaders, able to delegate and empower others and able to fit in and work well with the Bishop’s senior staff.

**Management of Resources and Structures**

* able to understand structures, the importance of efficient administration and the wise use of resources and act upon that understanding.

**Personal**

* able to shows forth the fruits of the Spirit and who are both intellectually and emotionally intelligent. They will be able to combine both kindness and firmness.

**+Martin Cicestr:**

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