

Annual Review and Re-commissioning of Local Ministers

All Local Ministers should meet regularly with their incumbent or another licensed minister and complete an annual review led by the incumbent. Re-commissioning is every three years in line with the renewal of DBS and Safeguarding training and administered by the Local Ministry Team.



If you would like to know more about Local Ministry please contact
Elizabeth Wild, Local Ministry Team Leader: Elizabeth.wild@hereford.anglican.org



The Diocesan Office • The Palace • Hereford • HR4 9BL
t: 01432 373300 e: info@hereford.anglican.org
www.hereford.anglican.org



Local Ministry

The Diocese of Hereford has developed a range of Local Ministry roles to enable people with all sorts of gifts to work as part of a team which offers worship, pastoral care and mission activities in church and in the wider community. These roles are supervised by the parish priest and work alongside other lay and ordained ministers.



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What is Local Ministry?

The Church of England is blessed to have a great many people voluntarily giving of their time, gifts and skills in the service of God's mission – in their daily lives, wherever they spend time for work or leisure, in their involvement with church activities and what they do in the wider community. In recognition of the commitment of those who are ministering in these ways, the Diocese of Hereford has developed a range of Local Ministry roles into which people may be commissioned at a special deanery service, led by one of our senior clergy where they will be given a Certificate of Commissioning for their role.

These roles include activities within and beyond the church community and are expected to be carried out by laypeople as part of a team working closely with their incumbent and other ministers. The discernment, training and Safeguarding requirements for these roles, as well as the expectation of regular support and review are designed to be appropriate to the ministry offered while also being in line with all lay and ordained ministry roles.



What are the roles?

Local Minister

This is a role which includes the leading of worship, pastoral care and mission activity. Training for this role comprises the one year Introduction to Christian Ministry Course delivered by Cuddesdon Gloucester and Hereford (CGH) in Ludlow (including Theological Reflection, Biblical Studies, Mission, Worship Leading and Pastoral Care) – or similar modules delivered in deaneries. The appropriate Safeguarding Training (C2) and DBS needs to be completed by the candidate before commissioning, as well as a discernment and Safer Recruitment process led by the Local Ministry Team Leader.

Local Worship Leader

This role enables the leading of public worship.

Training for this role can be delivered in deaneries as a course or via an apprenticeship model, and corresponds to the Worship Leading module of the CGH course (above). The appropriate Safeguarding Training (C2) and DBS needs to be completed by the candidate before commissioning, as well as a discernment and Safer Recruitment process led by the incumbent.

Local Pastoral Visitor

This role enables pastoral care in a range of settings.

Training for this role can be delivered in deaneries as a course or via an apprenticeship model, and corresponds to the Pastoral Care module of the CGH course (above). The appropriate Safeguarding Training (C1) and DBS needs to be completed by the candidate before commissioning, as well as a discernment and Safer Recruitment process led by the incumbent.



Local Missioner

(Intergenerational, Pioneer, Chaplain, Everyday Faith)

These roles enable a range of different mission activities, including Intergenerational Mission (with children, young people, families, schools and churches), Pioneer Mission (which may be in any context beyond the traditional church), Chaplaincy (in any setting) and Everyday Faith (in a person's daily life and relationships). Training for this role can be delivered in deaneries as a course or via an apprenticeship model, and corresponds to the Mission module of the CGH course (above).