

Role Description: Benefices of the Willington Team Ministry and Wallsend St John

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: Team Rector of the Willington Team Ministry and Priest in Charge of Wallsend St John
- 2.2 Names of benefices: The Willington Team Ministry and Wallsend St John
- 2.3 Patronage: Team Rector, the Willington Team Ministry: The Crown; Wallsend St John: The Bishop of Newcastle
- 2.4 Deanery and archdeaconry: Tynemouth; Northumberland
- 2.5 Initial point of contact on terms of service: The Archdeacon of Northumberland

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 Seeking, Sharing, Sending 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 Seeking, Sharing, Sending. 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 and leading of regular public worship in the Willington Team Ministry and the parish of Wallsend St John.

3.7 To work with ordained and lay colleagues across the Team to build on a sense of shared vision and purpose across the different worship centres with the different opportunities and challenges they offer.

3.8 To work with the Willington PCC to develop the vision for mission and ministry, particularly growth in depth of faith, community presence and impact and numbers, across the churches.

3.9 To work with the PCC of St John's church to deliver their mission action plan and explore future patterns of collaboration with the Willington Team.

3.10 To work with the congregations to grow and develop the ministry teams, particularly for the current outreach projects and for leading worship and pastoral care - recognising the talents and skills of lay people, and where appropriate, making further links into the diocesan authorised lay ministry scheme.

3.11 To Chair the Trustees Meetings of the St Paul's Community Partnership Trust.

3.12 To continue to develop the pastoral care in the parish, particularly to the local residential Care Homes.

3.13 To engage creatively with the different communities of the Willington Team, particularly our Ecumenical partners in the Methodist Circuit and URC District and St John's and to seek out new missional opportunities.

3.14 To encourage and develop existing work with children and young people in the churches and build on engagement with local primary and secondary schools across the parish, particularly with our Open the book work, to work towards our diocesan aim of reaching more and different people, enabling them to experience the love of God.

3.15 To work with the congregations to assess the current sustainability of the church buildings and halls and enable the development of their ongoing potential for mission.

3.16 To encourage and enable the congregations in the principles of stewardship and giving as part of discipleship.

3.17 To lead the parishes and church communities into creative and active partnership with the deanery in a time of change. To be open to closer cooperation and the sharing of wider responsibilities in mission with other neighbouring parishes and communities through

Wallsend Churches Working Together. Active engagement with Deanery Chapter, Synod and the Deanery Development Group is expected.

3.18 To ensure that you continue to access new resources for ministry and that personal spiritual nurture and refreshment is given priority in your ministry.

Key contacts and relationships

4.1 Generic

- a. The Bishop of Newcastle and the Archdeacon of Northumberland;
- b. The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Councils;
- c. The Deanery Chapter and Synod;

4.2 Specific

- a. The Ministry Teams across the Willington and St John's parishes
- b. St Paul's Community Partnership and staff team
- c. Teachers and pupils of local schools
- d. Methodist Circuit and URC Northern Synod
- e. Wallsend Churches Working Together
- f. Westholme Social Club and Veterans
- g. Wallsend Sea Cadets

4.3 Supportive

- a. The Archdeacon of Northumberland
- b. The Area Dean, Lay Chair and colleagues in the Tynemouth Deanery
- c. Work consultant and/or spiritual director.

5. Role Context

The Willington and Wallsend parishes contain a real diverse mix of neighbourhoods with some significant deprivation alongside some much better resourced suburban estates. Both parishes are alongside one of the main thoroughfares in North Tyneside and are accessible for both the coast and the city centre. This accessibility has led to lots of new housing estates being built with an extensive development still not completed. The more southern end of the Willington Parish contains the remnants of Wallsend's proud industrial heritage with a stronger sense of community but some significant social issues.

This is a new post combining the Willington Team with St John's and so whilst it is 'uncharted territory' there are significant opportunities in exploring partnerships across these residential areas. Some work has already been done to reach out to the new estates that link Battle Hill with the northern part of St John's parish and there is huge potential for growth here. The work of St Paul's Community Partnership is well established and trusted locally and St Mary's is a more traditional parish church that is well-loved and well-used by all ages in the community. The ministry team are committed, engaged and engaging and used to working collaboratively for the growth of the Kingdom.

6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes	Two (held in plurality)
Churches and listing	St Mary the Virgin, Willington, grade II Good Shepherd, Battle Hill, unlisted St Paul, Willington Quay, unlisted St John Wallsend, unlisted
Parsonage	St Mary's
Other buildings	Hall at St Mary's
Churchwardens	5 in total
Ministers (including local ministry)	Team Vicar at Battle Hill Two SSM curates (one on long-term absence) Two Methodist Local Preachers One Reader Active retired clergy person at St John's
Population	Willington Team 24,366 St John, Wallsend 12,601
Usual Sunday Attendance	St Mary the Virgin, Willington 39 Good Shepherd, Battle Hill 57 St John Wallsend 17
Parish Share (2025)	Willington St Mary £19,000 Battle Hill Good Shepherd £25,000 plus 5,500 to Methodist and URC partners St John, Wallsend £6,600
Resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priest?	No
Church tradition	St Mary's – low with vestments Church of the Good Shepherd – varied as ecumenical St John's - Modern Catholic with vestments
Pastoral Reorganisation Proposals	Early stages of exploration of formal links between the Willington Team and St John's.
Outreach/service to the wider community	St Paul's Community Partnership alongside many other groups and activities listed in the Parish Statements.
Business element	Hall hires
Ecumenical links	Good Shepherd, Battle Hill is a LEP

7 Review

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