

The Rt Revd Libby Lane
Bishop of Derby



Vacancy for Rector of Aston-on-Trent, Elvaston, Weston-on-Trent and Shardlow, Barrow-upon-Trent with Twyford and Swarkestone

Thank you for considering this post. It is an exciting time to join the Diocese of Derby. The implementation of our vision, strategic outcomes, and priorities across the diocese's life offers challenges and opportunities for every post holder.

As the Church of England renews its calling to be centred on Christ Jesus and shaped by Him, the Diocese of Derby resonates with that call through a re-articulated vision for 2030:

Vision: *The Kingdom of God: Good News for All* seen in: *Transformed Lives: Growing Church and Building Community*

Outcomes: Deepening relationships with God, serving our local contexts, challenging injustice, and making new disciples.

Priorities: Contexts of social and economic deprivation, growing younger, growing more diverse, and being greener.

Values: Generous Faith - Courageous Hope – Life-Giving Love

Within each deanery, parishes and benefices are actively engaging in Mission Action Planning to foster a more missional and sustainable future, incorporating our desired outcomes in every context. We are seeking to appoint a priest who can collaborate effectively in Aston-on-Trent, Elvaston, Weston-on-Trent, Shardlow, Barrow-upon-Trent, Twyford, and Swarkestone Bridge, and contribute positively to the life of Mercia deanery.

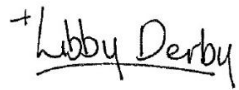
There is much to celebrate across these six parishes (seven churches), where the church still occupies an important place in each predominantly rural community. The diocese has set *serving our local contexts* as an outcome of our new diocesan strategy. Great opportunities exist to form new and creative partnerships between the church and the wider community across this benefice.

Alongside the churches of the benefice are several local schools, which are often the beating heart of small rural communities. The diocese longs to see a greater connection between our local churches and schools in our parishes. This role presents a real opportunity to engage schools across the benefice, forging new mission initiatives and potentially new worshipping communities.

We very much hope that you will consider applying.

Be assured of my continuing prayers for you as you discern God's call.

Yours, in Christ,



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