

Could you play a part?

As a diocese we seek to release the gifts of all God's people. We know the best way to serve our communities is through clergy and laity pooling resources, skills and knowledge, learning from each other and working together, as well as in collaboration with other partners in each community. Some of the roles are shown below.



There are many and varied opportunities to get involved. Are you called to help realise this vision of shared leadership which helps us to serve our communities better?

To find out more about sharing in deanery leadership go to: www.bathandwells.org.uk/shared-deanery-leadership or speak to your local church leaders.

Deaneries: working together, where do you fit?



What is a deanery?

A deanery is a group of parishes, benefices, chaplaincies and new Christian communities. Deaneries have a vital role in the working of our diocese. Deaneries are one way in which Christians can support, encourage and learn from each other beyond immediate, local concerns.

The diocese has 18 deaneries. Each one has an important role to play in deciding how we take on the challenge of being a Christian presence in our communities, now and into the future. It is only together that we can really be the Body of Christ, living and telling the story of Jesus.

Often deaneries are the natural place for new ideas to flourish – small enough to work together and large enough to make things happen that require a bit of capacity. For example, the courses that enable the training of Lay Worship and Lay Pastoral Assistants are usually run across deaneries so that people can learn alongside and from each other and share ideas.

What is a deanery synod?

Deanery Synod is a place for learning, sharing of good ideas, decision making for the deanery and encouraging partnerships in mission. Licensed clergy are ex-officio members and lay members are elected by parishes.

What is the deanery leadership team?

Deanery leadership is provided by the Area and Lay Dean and their assistants, working closely with the Deanery Mission and Pastoral Group (DMPG).

What is a deanery chapter?

Chapter is made up of clergy in the deanery who meet together for mutual support and encouragement. Some chapters extend the invitation to people such as Lay Deans, Deanery Accompaniers and others.



What is the Deanery Mission and Pastoral Group?

This small group, elected by Synod, is made up of lay and ordained members from across the deanery. It is responsible for taking a strategic overview of change and the deployment of ministry within the deanery.

The DMPG notices opportunities and needs for mission and pastoral work that can be best met at a broader level than parish or benefice, initiating and coordinating responses. The group is encouraged to 'dream dreams' as well to have an eye for detail.

The DMPG recognises strategic opportunities such as potential new housing in the deanery, and needs for mission and pastoral work that can best be met at a broader level than parish or benefice. It initiates and coordinates potential partnerships and is encouraged to 'dream dreams' as well as having an eye for detail.