



## BISHOP'S COMMISSION FOR MISSION (BCM)

### A Summary For PCCs

This summary is provided to offer to PCCs an overview of the BCM programme as they consider whether to recommend a candidate for training.

#### How does the PCC benefit from this?

BCM programmes have been created to support the work of benefices and deaneries by equipping lay people for service, giving the participants a vision for mission in their area of vocation in the church and beyond. It is also to enable the whole people of God to live out their faith at home, at work, in the community and among friends.

#### What does BCM offer?

As a Diocese we want to equip members of our church communities to live the mission of Jesus. Many who would not come near to the church as institution will have contact with Christians in their daily lives. We want to enable members of the Diocese to take the opportunities to share the love of Christ in deed and word as they serve in their church and community. This programme is a way of recognising and affirming people in their ministries, providing some input/resource and sending them out, encouraging them to continue in that work.

#### What BCM programmes do we offer?

Here is a list of programmes which have been developed. Please see our website for which programmes are being offered. <https://www.winchester.anglican.org/bcm/>

- **Children, Youth & Families:** This is aimed at those who are already in leadership in this area of ministry in their church. We will equip them to lead a team and bring fresh vision to see these ministries reach their full potential, both in their parishes and outside the church.
- **Disciple:** This is for those who want to grow in their faith and help others grow too. We will equip them with tools to help others grow one to one, in small groups and look at how churches might help grow disciples.
- **Pastoral:** This is for those with a pastoral heart. Participants will be trained to bring the love of God to people in their church, homes and other contexts, e.g. care homes, prisons.
- **Witness:** This is for those who have a heart to talk about Jesus, and who want to enable their church to be more effective in its mission. They will be equipped to do so in a relevant, confident and contextual way.
- **Worship:** This is for those who have a desire to lead God's church into God's presence in worship. They will be equipped to do so in a variety of contexts (e.g. schools, sheltered housing, messy church). This programme is for those who lead and plan acts of worship. You

do not need to be a musician to access this course. Those commissioned will be able to lead non-eucharistic services on a regular basis. (More than once a quarter).

There is separate training being developed for those interested in preaching.

### What does the programme involve?

The BCM programme gathers people from across the Diocese to learn together and help shape one another for new or ongoing areas of service. Running over a term, there are 8 sessions to attend, (1 full day, 6 non-consecutive evenings and 1 morning) which are provided by passionate practitioners. Participants also learn from each other in action learning sets and small group work, where they reflect on how the material affects their particular vocation. Each person is asked to engage with extension activities and to keep a journal between sessions to reflect on their learning to help them produce a final reflection at the end of the programme.

### Where does the training happen?

We offer BCMs in different venues across the diocese to make the training as accessible as possible to all.

### What is the role of the Incumbent and PCC?

The incumbent working with the PCC has responsibility for ministry in the parish. Anyone commissioned by BCM will be accountable to them. The PCC will need to formally approve any application for the BCM programme, and in doing so will be committing themselves to using that person in the parish. In order to be commissioned the participant will need to create a role description in conjunction with the incumbent at the end of the programme which will be used for a new DBS check at that point.

### How do people apply?

Participants will need to complete an application form, a part of which will need to be completed by the incumbent. The PCC will need to minute approval of the candidate for training and to agree to underwrite the cost. There is no upper age limit for BCM – the lower age limit is 18.

### What is the cost to the parish?

We currently charge £90 per person per programme. We may be able to offer a discount for parishes who are financially challenged. Please contact Wendy for more information.

### How is the participant commissioned?

Following successful completion of the programme, participants will receive a letter from the Archdeacon for Mission Development granting them a temporary commission to minister in this role. This temporary commission will be confirmed at the annual Lay Ministries Services which happens in October each year. It is valid for 5 years before needing renewal, which coincides with the DBS check timetable.

### Further Questions

If you have further questions, or for an application form, please contact Wendy Atkinson [wendy.atkinson@winchester.anglican.org](mailto:wendy.atkinson@winchester.anglican.org) or look online <https://www.winchester.anglican.org/bcm/>