



Role description signed off by: Archdeacon of Sudbury

Date: March 2025

To be reviewed 6 months after commencement of the appointment, and at each Ministerial Development Review, alongside the setting of objectives.

1 Details of post	
Role title	Team Vicar (House for Duty)
Name of benefice	Forest Heath Team Ministry (Parishes of the North Brecks Group : Beck Row with Kenny Hill, Eriswell and Icklingham)
Deanery	Mildenhall
Archdeaconry	Sudbury
<i>Initial point of contact on terms of service</i>	The Ven Dr David Jenkins Archdeacon of Sudbury

2 Role purpose
General
To share with the Bishop both in the cure of souls and in responsibility, under God, for growing the Kingdom in this benefice.
To ensure that the church communities in the benefice flourish and engage positively with 'Growing in God' and the Diocesan Vision and Strategy.
To work as the House for Duty Team Vicar to these parishes, having regard to the calling and responsibilities of the clergy as described in the Canons, the Ordinal, the Code of Professional Conduct for the Clergy and other relevant legislation.
To work with the Team Rector and the two Team Vicars of the Forest Heath Team Ministry, ordained and lay colleagues as set out in their individual role descriptions and work agreements, and to ensure that, where relevant, they have working agreements which are reviewed. This involves discerning and developing the gifts and ministries of all members of the congregation.
To work with the PCCs towards the development of the local church as described in the benefice profile, and to review those needs with them. To recognise and value the individuality of each community.
To ensure that a high standard of worship, preaching, and pastoral care is provided.
To work together, as appropriate, with other Christian denominations which have a presence in the parishes and the wider deanery.

To ensure compliance and effective practice regarding all safeguarding matters including training.
Schools
To work closely with the local schools. The diocese is committed to working with both community and church schools and this should be seen as a key part of the priest's role.
Specific tasks and responsibilities
Develop and exercise a local oversight role, working collaboratively with the ministry team to enable effective and fruitful ministry across the whole benefice.
Working with the parishes, develop a shared vision and plans for Growing in God; encourage lay participation in services; identify and develop people's talents.
Share the Christian faith with people of all ages and work with parishes to widen the age profile of congregations through building on some of the initiatives already implemented.
Teach and encourage an understanding of Christian stewardship across the benefice.
Strengthen and encourage links with young people, families, and other groups of people including the newly retired, to help expand outreach and offer pastoral care and visiting capabilities for those in need such as the elderly, lonely and isolated.
Be willing to contribute to community life in the benefice.
It is expected that you will help start two new worshipping communities in the parish/benefice within the first five years of the post, as part of the <i>Growing in God</i> strategy.

3 Key contacts
Generic Team Rector Bishop The Archdeacon The Assistant Rural Dean The PCCs Team Vicars The Deanery Chapter & Synod The Churchwardens The Lay Chair Headteachers
Specific The Team Rector, the two Team Vicars, ordained and lay colleagues (including those holding the Bishop’s licence and commission, office holders and administrative staff)
Aspirational To be reviewed with the Team Rector after a six-month period

Supportive

The Archdeacon, who will review this role description with you when you are six months into post.

The Team Rector

The Two Team Vicars

The Lay Chair, the Assistant Rural Dean

Diocesan Director of Mission and Ministry

Patrons of The Forest Heath Team Ministry

The Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich

The Archdeacon of Sudbury

The vicars in the team ministry

Sir Michael William Bunbury

The Master and Fellows of the College of Peterhouse or St Peter, University of Cambridge

The Church Patronage Trust

The Rt Hon Arthur Edward Rory Guinness, Earl of Iveagh

The Master or Keeper of Christ's College

Charles Edward Laurence Phillips

David William Barclay

His Majesty in right of His Crown

Role context and any other relevant information

The diocesan ministry deployment principles affirm an intention to maintain stipendiary clergy numbers if possible, subject to the availability of financial resources, and to develop an understanding of local episcopal oversight ministry and local ministers in parishes ministering in teams or clusters. A key aim of this is to reduce clergy isolation and increase mutual support.

An understanding of the Parish Share process and how it is applied across the benefice and deanery and its importance for the sustainability of ministry across the diocese is fundamental.

The Bishop expects and encourages clergy to take their rest days, holidays and regular retreats or similar. Clergy are strongly encouraged to have a spiritual director or equivalent.

4 Benefice Summary

Parishes	Beck Row with Kenny Hill Eriswell Icklingham
Churches	Beck Row with Kenny Hill : St John II Eriswell : St Laurence and St Peter II* Icklingham : St James II*
PCC	The PCCs seek to work together, to be supportive and effective in mission and growth.
Schools and Colleges	Beck Row CP School

Churchwardens	Beck Row with Kenny Hill Eriswell : St Laurence and St Peter x 2 Icklingham : St James x 2
Ministers	Team Rector Team Vicars x 2 Assistant Curates x 3 Lay Elders x 11 Reader x 1
Buildings	n/a
Churchyards (Open or closed)	Beck Row with Kenny Hill : St John (open) Eriswell : St Laurence and St Peter (open) Icklingham : St James (open)
Population	Beck Row with Kenny Hill : 5,100 Eriswell : 4,300 Icklingham : 391
Average Sunday Attendance	Beck Row with Kenny Hill : St John 20 Eriswell : St Laurence and St Peter 15 Icklingham : St James 10
Parish Share	2024 : £23,091 Requested - £20,801 Received 2023 : £21,000 Requested - £19,117 Received
Expenses	Reimbursed in Full
Resolutions	n/a
Church Tradition	
Pastoral re-organisation	None planned but will be needed in the future
Presence of other Christian denominations	Beck Row Methodist Church Holywell Row Methodist Church
Presence of other faith communities	