



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

**Diocese of St Edmundsbury
and Ipswich**

Role description signed off by: Archdeacon of Sudbury Date: November 2021

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	Vicar
Name of benefice	Bures with Assington and Little Cornard
Deanery	Sudbury
Archdeaconry	Sudbury
<i>Initial point of contact on terms of service</i>	Archdeacon of Sudbury, The Ven Dr David Jenkins

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 together as the Vicar to this benefice, 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 collaborate within the deanery both in current mission and ministry and, through the deanery plan, in such reshaping of ministry as resources and opportunities may require. To attend Deanery Chapter and Deanery Synod and to play a full part in the wider life of the deanery.	
To work with the 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.
Schools
To work closely with our local Church of England VC Primary School. 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 episcopal 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 all the villages of the benefice.

3 Key contacts
Generic The Church Wardens The PCCs The Deanery Chapter & Synod The Rural Dean and Lay Chair
Specific Ordained and lay colleagues (those holding the Bishop's licence, office holders and administrative staff)
Aspirational All three parishes have a wish to grow younger in terms of congregation both in the churches and in the communities. To this end we would like to offer more support, encouragement and activities for children, young people and families – possibly through the employment of a part-time children and families worker.

Commented [CT1]:

<p>Supportive The Archdeacon, who will review this role description with you when you are six months into post. The Rural Dean and Lay Chair Diocesan Director of Mission and Ministry</p>
<p>Patrons The Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich The Diocesan Board of Patronage</p>
<p>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.</p> <p>An understanding of the Centenary 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.</p> <p>The Bishops expect and encourage clergy to take their rest days, holidays and regular retreats or similar. Clergy are strongly encouraged to have a spiritual director or equivalent.</p>

4 Benefice Summary	
Parishes	Assington Bures Little Cornard
Churches	Assington : St Edmund King & Martyr, Grade I* Bures : St Mary the Virgin, Grade I* Little Cornard : All Saints, Grade I*
PCC	The PCCs seek to work together, to be supportive and effective in mission and growth.
Schools and Colleges	Bures CEVC Primary School
Churchwardens	Assington : St Edmund King & Martyr x 2 Bures : St Mary the Virgin x 2 Little Cornard : All Saints x 2
Ministers	SSM Priests x 2 Readers x 3 + 1 in training Elders x 5

Buildings (that the PCC responsible for)	
Churchyards (Open or closed for burial)	Assington, St Edmund King & Martyr : Open Bures, St Mary the Virgin : Closed Little Cornard, All Saints : Open
Population	Assington : 450 Bures : 1,800 Little Cornard : 300
Average Sunday Attendance	Assington, St Edmund King & Martyr : 14 (pre-covid) Bures, St Mary the Virgin : 50 – 70 (pre covid) Little Cornard, All Saints : 20 (pre-covid)
Parish Share	2020 £74,238 100% 2019 £75,450 100% 2018 £75,451 100%
Expenses	Reimbursed in full
Resolutions	
Church Tradition	Open and inclusive evangelical
Pastoral re-organisation	
Presence of other Christian denominations	Baptist Church in Bures
Presence of other faith communities	None