

**Volunteer Deanery Environmental Lead Role Description & Person Specification**

The Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance (ODBF) is committed to promoting a safe environment and culture for everyone.

The individual appointed to this volunteer role must be committed to ODBF’s vision and values. Our common vision for a more Christ-like Church, contemplative, compassionate and courageous for the sake of God’s world is set out at <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/who-we-are/our-vision-and-values/>

**Main purpose of the role**

The overall purpose of the role is to encourage and support churches within your deanery to respond to the climate and ecological crisis, by advocating for environmental action, resourcing others, and helping churches on their Eco Church journey.

The role will be fully supported by the Diocesan central team and will mean being the named ‘port of call’ in your deanery for parishes who would like further help as they take action on climate change. We ask that each Lead commits to the role for a minimum of one year.

**Responsibilities - what will you be doing?**

* With Diocesan support, identify opportunities to engage churches in environmental work, for example at Deanery Synods and Chapter meetings
* Help mentor churches or gather groups of churches for knowledge-sharing, and peer to peer learning and encouragement
* Encourage churches to register for Eco Church and undertake energy audits (where appropriate)
* Support churches to advocate locally and nationally on climate and ecological issues by sharing relevant campaigns and opportunities
* Keep in touch with the Diocesan Environment Action team for the purposes of sharing stories, receiving support, and feeding back any learnings or findings
* Become the named individual on environment-related issues for the Deanery

**Key Working Relationships**

Responsible to:

Environment Programme Manager

**Other key relationships:**

* Environment Action Delivery Coordinator
* Area Dean/Deanery Synod
* Greenshoots Network member

**Location and hours - when and where you will be doing it?**

* This role is home-based with occasional travel to local churches for meetings, events and speaking opportunities.
* Work within a designated deanery
* We anticipate the role to require between two and four hours per week
* It is appreciated that this is a voluntary role, held alongside other responsibilities

**Support you will be given**

* An induction into your role
* A ‘settling in’ or ‘trial’ period
* Ongoing support, accountability, oversight and supervision

**General Information**

* This is a volunteer role for which expenses will be paid.

**Person Specification – Knowledge, Skills and Experience**

We are looking for volunteers with the following knowledge, skills, experience and personal attributes that a person needs to carry out the above role.

**Essential:**

* A strong interest in climate and environmental issues
* Comfortable building relationships with others, both in person and online
* Ability to use video conferencing technology (e.g., Zoom, Microsoft Teams) or a willingness to learn
* Based in a church setting, and/or familiarity with church structures

**Desirable:**

* Experience and/or knowledge of the A Rocha ‘Eco Church’ Award scheme
* Experience speaking to small groups of people on environment or other issues
* Some knowledge of environmental issues
* Completion of funded ‘Care for Creation’ Diocesan training course