

Additional Information from the Archdeacon of Bodmin

Strategic Rural Dean

I hope you will find the information pack about this incumbent post to be inspiring. In making an appointment, the diocese is also keen to explore whether a candidate would also be able to offer wider leadership at deanery level (Stratton Deanery) by taking on the Bishop's commission of Strategic Rural Dean, for a period of 3-5 years.

This enhanced 'rural dean' role has been created in each deanery to offer leadership in the implementation of plans towards to lead the fruitful and sustainable future discerned in each place.

A Strategic Rural Dean (SRD) has a responsibility to:

1. lead and enable the changes described in deanery plans, practically and culturally;
2. lead and enable, at deanery level, the objectives of the Diocesan Plan for Change and Renewal;
3. fulfil the traditional responsibilities of a Rural Dean.

Work closely with clergy and lay leaders in their deanery, a SRD provides practical leadership, growing hope in the future, supporting decision making, overcoming blocks to plan-implementation and nurturing healthy cultures so that the vision and goals described in deanery plans become a reality.

Each Strategic Rural Dean will operate across one deanery and work closely with a neighbouring deanery as a 'buddy' offering two-way support, knowledge and expertise. They will work closely with the respective Deanery Chapter, Deanery Synods and the Standing Committee, and will Chair, or Co-chair the Deanery Implementation Team.

Support

The commission as Strategic Rural Dean will usually mean giving the equivalent of one day per week to this element of the role. We recognise that this is a challenge whilst also overseeing a benefice and therefore we are creating a package that includes administrative support (approx. 7 hours per week), professional and ministerial development, and the assistance of a 'house for duty' colleague to offer shared support to this and another deanery (approx. 1 day per week in this benefice plus alternate Sundays). A role description for the Strategic Rural Dean element of the post is included in this profile and I would happily have a conversation with priests interested in exploring further how this commission might work in practice.