[The Church of England](http://www.churchofengland.org/)

**The Rector of Cheadle, St Mary (Patron)**

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| **CONFIDENTIAL** | | |  | |
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| The patron will not shortlist any candidate for posts if they cannot provide an assurance of a valid DBS and up to date safeguarding training. | | | | |
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| **APPLICATION FORM** |  |  |  | |
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| Application for the office of | **Vicar – Handforth, St Chad** | | | |
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| **SECTION 1** |  |  |  | |
| Surname |  | | | |
|  |  |  |  | |
| Christian names |  | | | |
|  |  |  |  | |
| Address |  | | | |
|  |  |  |  | |
| Home telephone number |  | | | |
|  |  |  |  | |
| Mobile number |  | | | |
|  |  |  |  | |
| E-mail |  | | | |
|  |  |  |  | |
| Ordained deacon in the Diocese of |  | | In (year) |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Ordained priest in the Diocese of |  | | In (year) |  |
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| ***Lay ministers*** |  |  |  |  |
| First licensed/commissioned in the Diocese of |  | | In (year) |  |
| **The Patron will not shortlist any candidate for posts if they cannot provide an assurance of a valid DBS and up to date safeguarding training.** | | | | |
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| Date of most recent DBS disclosure | | |  | |
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| Please specify the level of DBS to which this relates: | | |  | |
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| Please list all safeguarding training certificates and dates they were obtained: | | | | |
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| Leadership: | | |  | |
|  |  | |  |  |
| Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse: | | |  | |
|  |  | |  |  |
| Safer Recruitment and People Management | | |  | |
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| Others |  | |  |  |
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| Please also include the dates that you completed the Basic and Foundation courses  (although these do not need to be in date). | | | | |
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| End of section, please go to next page | | |  |  |

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| **SECTION 2 – PRESENT APPOINTMENT**  What is the title of your present office? Please give the date you started and a brief outline of the work. |
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| **For Curates**: Have you been given permission by your diocese to look for a new post? If not when will you be? |
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| **SECTION 3 – FURTHER EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**  Please give details, with dates, **most recent first**. | | | | |
| **a) Further education** (including secondary schools, tertiary colleges/university and theological college or course). Please give qualification obtained with class of degree. | | | | |
| From | To | Qualification/experience | | |
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| **b) Other professional/practical qualifications obtained** (e.g. teaching, social work, further study). | | | | |
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| **SECTION 4 – CAREER AND MINISTRY** Please give details, with dates, with earliest first. Please explain any gaps in your employment or educations since the age of 18 and give a relevant address for each appointment. | | | | |
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| **a) Career before ordination** – please give a brief indication, with dates, of the nature of the work and responsibilities | | | | |
| From | To | Description (nature of work and responsibilities) | | |
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| **b) Offices held since ordination and any other work done** (full and part-timenot including present appointment) with details of the nature of the work and responsibilities. Please provide in date order and explain any gaps.  Please list these, with separate entries for offices held concurrently (e.g. rural dean, chaplaincies etc.). Please indicate major parish features (e.g. type of area, team ministry, ecumenical). Please provide a contact address where the post is not parochial or diocesan. | | | |
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| From | To | Office and description (nature of work and responsibilities) | Contact address if not a parochial or diocesan post |
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| **c) Responsibilities in the wider Church**  Please indicate tasks undertaken for the wider Church, e.g. synodical responsibilities at any level, diocesan committees and working parties served on, ecumenical involvement, or work for a Church voluntary organisation, and how you contributed to progressing their agendas. | | | | |
|  | | | | |
| From | To | Description | | |
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| **d) Continuing ministerial education and development**  Please list training courses attended and development activities undertaken e.g. mentoring (other than IME 1-7) in the last 5 years. Include courses and activities both inside and outside the Church. | | | | |
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| **e) Any publications** | | | | |
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| **SECTION 5 – THEOLOGICAL AND ECCLESIOLOGICAL**  What theological traditions have shaped your ministry and with which do you feel most at ease today? | | | |
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| With what styles and traditions of worship are you most at ease? | | | |
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| What are your priorities in mission and ministry? | | | |
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| What spiritual disciplines have moulded, and now mould, your daily life and ministry? | | | |
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| How would you describe your personal convictions in the following areas and how do they shape your ministry ? |
| The Scriptures |
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| The Sacraments |
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| The role of the Sunday gathering ? |
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| Marriage |
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| Human Sexuality |
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| The ministry of women |
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| **SECTION 6 – COMMUNITY AND OTHER INTERESTS**  **a) Responsibilities in the community**  Please indicate your responsibilities in the community, e.g. school governor, political or community service. What did you accomplish? |
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| **b) Other areas of interest**  Please indicate your involvement in special areas of concern, e.g. particular issues in contemporary life, international matters, academic or artistic interests. How have these contributed to your ministry? | | | |
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| **c) Other interests**  Please indicate other recreational interests. | | | |
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| **SECTION 7 – RESPONSE TO THE PARISH PROFILE**  Please state your reasons for applying for this office and how you meet each element of the person specification. Explain how you would take forward some of the challenges and issues set out in the role specification. | | | |
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| **SECTION 7 – RESPONSE TO THE PARISH PROFILE continued** | | | |
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| **SECTION 8 – CONFIDENTIAL**  **This section will be removed by the person administering the application process and will only be made available to the chair of the interview panel and the bishop.**  If you are appointed to the office you will be invited to provide information about you and your family so you can receive appropriate pastoral care.  **References:**  Please give names, occupations and addresses (including e-mail if possible) of three persons to whom reference can be made and the capacity in which they have known you. At least one should be clerical (not the bishop as his reference is sought as a matter of course) and one from a senior lay person – for example a current churchwarden or head teacher of the local school. Referees should have a detailed up-to-date knowledge of your work. Please obtain their permission. If you are a team vicar, priest-in-charge of a daughter church or assistant curate, you should give your team rector’s or incumbent’s name as a referee. | | | |
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| We expect to take up references before the interview unless you have indicated otherwise. An Episcopal reference will always be taken up prior to interview. | | | |
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| Are your papers available from the Clergy Appointments Adviser? | | | Yes/No |

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| **Health:**  Please specify any special access requirements you may have in order to attend interview e.g. deaf loop system | | | |
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| Do you have any health related condition that would affect your ability to carry out functions that are intrinsic to the office? (See person specification for details.) | | | |
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| **Marital status:**  Please describe your marital status. You should specify whether you are single, married, or in a civil partnership, separated, divorced, widowed, or formerly in a civil partnership now dissolved. You should also specify whether you are divorced and remarried with a previous spouse who was still living at the time of your marriage, and/or whether you are married to a person who has been previously married whose former spouse was still living at the time of your marriage. | | | |
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| **Ecclesiastical Offices (Age Limits) Measure 1975** | | | |
| With very limited exceptions, appointment to an ecclesiastical office can only be offered to priests over the age of 70 on a fixed or limited term licence. Are you under the age of 70? | | | Yes/No |
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| **UK Border Agency requirements** | | | |
| Are you free to remain and work in the UK with no current immigration restrictions? | | | Yes/No |
| Please note that you will be required to produce documentary evidence of your right to remain and work in the UK if you are invited to interview. | | |  |
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| **Promoting racial equality** | | | | | | |
| Are you a member or an active supporter of any political party or other organisation whose constitution, policies, objectives, activities, or public statements are incompatible with the Church of England’s commitment to promoting racial equality? The House of Bishops has made declarations of incompatibility in respect of two organisations, namely the British National Party and the National Front. | | | | | | Yes/No |
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| **Where did you hear of this office?** | | | | | | |
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| **If appointed when would you be available to start?** | | | |  | | |
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| **I certify the information given in this application is correct** | | | | | | |
|  | |  |  |  |  | |
| Signature |  | | | Date |  | |
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| It is important that this application form is completed by applicants. A Curriculum Vitae is not an acceptable substitute. If it is completed and submitted electronically a signed copy should also be sent by post. Please use black ink on hard copies of the form.  A confidential reference will also be requested from your diocesan bishop or area bishop in addition to other references. The Data Protection Act of 1998 applies to all references and commendations.  The successful candidate will be required to receive an enhanced disclosure (which will include a check of the barred lists) from the Disclosure and Barring Service.  Travelling expenses and subsistence allowance (in accordance with General Synod regulations) will be allowed to candidates selected for interview. | | | | | | |
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| Closing deadline for applications | | Sunday 13th July 2025 | Please return, ideally by email, to: | Attn: George Crowder  **St Mary’s Cheadle**  11 Wilmslow Road,  Cheadle,  Cheshire,  SK8 1DW  [**George.Crowder@cheadle.org.uk**](mailto:George.Crowder@cheadle.org.uk) | | |
| Interviews will be held on | | Friday 29th August 2025 |

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| **NOTES FOR APPLICANTS**  Please add your initials to the header of the document as indicated.  Increasingly role descriptions and person specifications are being used in appointments. These help all parties to be clear about what qualities and experience are being sought and on what basis the decision to appoint will be made.  This form helps you to demonstrate your calling to the office, showing how your gifts, skills, experience and qualities match the criteria. It allows those making appointments to demonstrate their discernment of the successful candidate by assessing applicants against selection criteria in a structured way, avoiding bias. In completing the form you should ask yourself “What might I under God be able to bring to the needs of this office?”  You are encouraged to complete the form electronically. This eases administration and allows interviewers to concentrate on the facts you are presenting rather than having first to read your handwriting. Start with the most recent one first when listing dates.  Please complete each section fully. Saying ‘see CV attached’, for example, is not sufficient.  Once you have completed the form read it through and check you have shown how you meet each of the criteria.  **Section 6** – Response to the Parish Profile. This section allows you to explain your reasons for applying for this office and how you meet each element of the person specification. Please also explain how you would take forward some of the challenges and issues set out in the role specification. Please limit this to two sides of A4. The interview will provide the opportunity to explore these areas further.  If there is a particular requirement about a post holder e.g. a PCC has passed a Resolution under the House of Bishops’ Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priests, and a woman is therefore not an acceptable appointee or someone remarried after divorce and with a former partner still living is not acceptable, the person specification needs to make this clear and if appropriate you need to address it in your personal statement.  Some requirements however are more general and will not be mentioned in the person specification. For example, the Ecclesiastical Offices (Age Limit) Measure 1975 does not allow the appointment of those over 70 unless in a fixed or limited term licensed appointment under regulation 29(1) (b). If you are in any doubt about your eligibility, you should ask those responsible for making the appointment before you complete your application.  **Section 7** – Although the whole application form is confidential, section 7 is only seen by the person administering the process, the bishop and those who need to see it. This means that those interviewing you are not influenced by factors that are not relevant in making the appointment.  The bishop may ask you questions about the confidential information at your private interview because he or she has to assure himself or herself that your lifestyle is commensurate with a) priestly ministry and b) the person specification for the post.  If you are appointed, you will be invited to provide information about you and your family so the bishop has the information he or she needs to provide you with pastoral care. |