**Diocese of Durham – Growing Younger**

**Background Information**

The Growing Younger team has been established in the Diocese of Durham at an exciting and pivotal time and will play a key role in enabling the Diocesan Transformation Programme. This document provides further context to some of the programmes and responsibilities outlined in the job description and interested candidates are welcome to request an informal conversation with the Head of Programme Delivery for Diocesan Transformation, Amy Burns, at amy.burns@durham.anglican.org

The mission of Durham Diocese is to *‘Bless our communities in Jesus’ name for the transformation of us all.’* The Diocese identified **four missional priorities** for the five years commencing 2021:

* Energising growth
* Engaging with children, youth and young adults
* Challenging poverty
* Caring for God’s creation

These four missional priorities are at the heart of our **Diocesan** **Transformation Programme**, a 10-year programme of strategic change to transform mission and ministry throughout the Diocese. The Transformation Programme is focused on establishing new missional initiatives, enabling local vision for transformation and church growth, particularly in some of our most deprived communities. We have been successful in two applications to the Archbishops’ Council’s Diocesan Investment Programme to fund the programme over the initial and second phases, with various projects running for three or five years.

To enable the delivery of the Transformation Programme we have established a team of **Strategic Leads**, who each hold responsibility for their workstream and work collaboratively and prayerfully with the Head of Programme Delivery for Diocesan Transformation to ensure integration and cohesion across the programme. The Growing Younger Strategic Lead will therefore work closely alongside the Growing Churches, Growing Leadership and Growing Mission Strategic Leads.

A key area of work for the Growing Younger Strategic Lead will be to support the development and implementation of a range of **new missional programmes**, including Youth and Children’s Mission Hubs, Missional Chaplaincy in secondary schools and FE Colleges, and pilot projects to reach and disciple young adults. Some development work has been done, but the Growing Younger Strategic Lead will be an integral part of shaping and establishing these programmes.

Alongside the development of the Diocesan Transformation programme we have implemented a new structure for project governance through establishing five **Programme Boards** that will monitor and evaluate Diocesan projects. Each board will be chaired by the Programme Sponsor, a member of the Bishop’s Leadership Team, with a Programme Board designated to each Diocesan missional priority. The fifth board, Mission and Ministry Development, will monitor change projects that enable our mission. The Growing Younger Strategic Lead will hold the position of Programme Manager to the Engaging Children, Youth and Young Adults Programme Board, as outlined in the job description.