# Environment and Sustainability Adviser – Voluntary Role

# to Bath & Wells Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC)

Bath & Wells DAC provides a wide range of advice to parishes, to the Diocese and to the Diocesan Chancellor in relation to church buildings.

In order to deliver our Diocesan Environment and Climate Justice Policy the DAC is seeking an environmental, sustainable buildings expert who specialises in advising or developing Net Zero practical solutions, assisting the committee in this vital and urgent area of its work.

As with all who serve on the DAC this is a voluntary role but one that brings significant rewards, not least in the opportunity to bring about widespread and meaningful change in the environmental impact of church buildings across Somerset.

The adviser will ideally:

1. Have a current working knowledge of sustainable technologies/practices and their potential application to mainly listed buildings.
2. Have an understanding of the work of the Diocese, of the parishes within it and of the Ecclesiastical Exemption known as the Faculty Jurisdiction system (although not essential as training and induction will be provided).
3. Be prepared to assess projects and report on them at DAC meetings, either as a full member of the committee or optionally as an accessor.
4. Be prepared to work with and support parishes in developing project proposals.
5. Develop an understanding of the wide range of national and local ecclesiastical and secular resources available to the DAC and parishes.
6. Expressions of interest are welcomed from existing committee members or people entirely new to the work of the DAC, and there is scope to flex the scope of the role if necessary.

We welcome applications from people from all ages, backgrounds and walks of life.

Prospective candidates are invited to get in touch, via Emma Brown, Church Buildings Adviser ([emma.brown@bathwells.anglican.org](mailto:emma.brown@bathwells.anglican.org)) to discuss the opportunity in more detail.

# Who We Are:

## The Diocese of Bath and Wells

The Diocese of Bath and Wells is one of 41 Church of England dioceses in the country. The diocese stretches from Portishead in the north to Crewkerne in the south, Minehead in the west to Frome in the east. The diocese loves and serves the 940,000 people who live here through its family of 496 parishes and 564+ church buildings.

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## The DAC

The Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches (DAC) is made up of a Chairman and Deputy, the three Archdeacons, one Synod clergy member, one Synod lay member, nominees for Historic England, the National Amenity Societies and the local authorities, architects and skilled experts experienced in working with historic buildings and all aspects of conservation.

More information on the DAC can be found [on the diocesan website](https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/parish-support/church-buildings/working-with-the-dac/faculty-and-list-b-applications/).

## Background

Building services installations typically account for 20-30% of the total value of a project - and sometimes a great deal more. The range and complexity of services installations has increased in recent years as demand has grown for intelligently operated environments, driving innovation to reduce carbon emissions, improve the building users’ comfort and extend building performance. Parishes are required to consider how their project proposal is contributing to the need for environmental sustainability and reducing the carbon footprint.

[The Church of England Environment programme information](https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change)

## What’s involved

* Attend Committee meetings at Flourish House, Wells, Somerset
  + 6 times per year from 2022 (Wednesday mid-month, 10am until 1pm)
* Assess permission/faculty applications
* Participate in delegation site visits as and when able
* Provide advice to struggling parishes to support their eco projects
* Supporting the Diocesan Environment Policy and work

This is a voluntary role, however travel expenses can be claimed.

The role will be supported by DAC Chair, Chris Hyldon, DAC Secretary, Sarah Williams, Diocesan Church Buildings Officer, Emma Brown and David Maggs, Mission Team Leader.