New advice for "critical" role of Training Incumbents

10 March 2014

A new good practice document on the appointment and training of clergy who manage curates and readers - training incumbents - has been published by the Church of England. Web link below -

The "critical" role of training incumbents is to look after the continuing development of more than 1500 clergy and readers who are training each year as part of their ministry to the church.

The report Good practice in the appointment and training of training incumbents was showcased at an event held in Sheffield for Diocesan representatives with a presentation by the Bishop of Doncaster, Peter Burrow.

The day was organised to share existing practice, engage with developing practice and explore how those tasked with equipping clergy in this important area of ministry can continue to learn together as dioceses engage with the themes of the report.

Bishop Peter said:
"We're asking our training incumbents to do a really important job. One that is critical to the future of ministry. It is only right and proper that we choose training incumbents with care and put in place processes to equip them and not leave them to flounder. I hope that the working party's report will help dioceses with this task.

"The advice on good practice offered in this report is not an end in itself and the working group has highlighted a number of areas for further consideration. It is hoped that the report will initiate further discussion as we continue to learn how best to develop training incumbents in the demanding role they do for the whole church and for the sake of the Gospel."

In December the House of Bishops agreed to publish the report on Good Practice, which was the result of work conducted in consultation with

dioceses and completed by a working group chaired by the Bishop Peter.

The report is available at: http://www.ministrydevelopment.org.uk/ training_incumbents