

Lay Ministry

in the Diocese of Leicester



What is the role of an Focal Minister

Focal Ministers are called to offer spiritual leadership to a particular local church or benefice. Some will be existing licensed lay or ordained ministers, but others may not have any existing authorisation of training in ministry. The key characteristics of Focal Ministers are:

- **Rooted** - in God and their local church and community
- **Visible** - enable the church to connect with its parish
- **Fruitful** - encourage others to grow in faith

How are Focal Ministers authorised?

Focal Ministers are discerned by their local church and nominated by the PCC in collaboration with the designated incumbent and Minister Community Oversight Minister. They will need to provide references, a DBS check and some safeguarding training. Focal Ministers are authorised for 3 years at a service in their local parish.

How are Focal Ministers trained?

There is no specific training required before authorisation but they can access any of the relevant training modules for Associate Ministers, have access to specific on-line training and this learning is supported in local reflective practice groups.

What happens after authorisation?

Ministry involves life-long learning and this is supported through:

- an annual ministry review
- continuing ministerial learning programme
- pastoral reflection groups

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