

## Key Relationships

- The Archbishop, Suffragan Bishop and Archdeacon
- The Area Dean
- The Deanery Leadership Team and Deanery Synod
- The Laity in the deanery
- The Gatherings of Ministers
- Churchwardens, especially of parishes in vacancy

## Commitment, Resourcing and Support

*The role of Lay Dean is a significant lay role in the life of the deanery and the wider diocese. The time commitment varies significantly from week to week and it must always be borne in mind that the role is being fulfilled voluntarily and that there may be occasions when circumstances restrict how much time and energy can be devoted to it.*

1. **Expenses.** Guidelines for expenses will be provided, with an explicit encouragement for expenses to be claimed
2. **Training.** Diocesan delivered training for Lay Deans and Area Deans will be provided. The diocesan Deanery Development Group also exists to offer support and advice.
3. **Collegiality and Collaboration.** It is hoped that Lay Deans will benefit from the shared ministry with the Area Dean, the Deanery Leadership Team, and through regular meetings with the Bishop and Archdeacon.