

"I am profoundly excited by the clear call of God to play my part in the realisation of the bishops' emerging vision for the ministry of the whole people of God at such a time as this. There is no other role in the Church of England for which I would have considered leaving the wonderful Diocese of Truro and I am honoured to be given the opportunity to serve in this way.

"Right across the Church of England and the many institutions and partner organisations with which we work, there is a renewed energy, creativity and momentum around the task of mobilising the whole people of God for the Mission of God. There is a clearly evidenced willingness to recognise the challenges, to think differently about ministry in all its expressions, and to work together to make the changes required in this generation.

"Our fivefold mission to the nation depends upon women and men from all backgrounds responding to the love and the call of God to play their particular part in His Mission. Right now, many of our churches feel constrained and inhibited by a scarcity of ministry capacity. Together we need to discover and release the abundant provision of God to his church.

"My whole adult life, both in the church and beyond, has been concerned with helping people to discover their gifts and their calling and for them to be equipped, sent out and sustained in service. At various times I have been a lay leader, a Reader, a part-time minister in secular employment, a vicar, and now a bishop. I shall bring all that I know and all that I am to the task of deepening and developing a culture of collaboration and confidence amongst the dioceses, the theological education institutions and the national church teams."

Bishop Chris Goldsmith