

# Role Description for Regional/Pastorate Eco Friend

## Role Description

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| <b>Role Title</b>             | Regional/Pastorate Eco Friend                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Main Points of Contact</b> | Synod Green Advocate<br>Synod Creation Care Steering Group                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Connected Roles</b>        | n/a                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Sources of Support</b>     | Synod Green Advocate<br>Synod Support Team<br>A Rocha's Eco Church resources<br>URC Synod of Wales website                                                                                               |
| <b>Location</b>               | National Synod of Wales                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Time Commitment</b>        | Flexible, depending on the needs of the role and the capacity of the role holder.                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Remuneration</b>           | Volunteers are not remunerated. The URC will ensure financial expenses incurred by volunteers while engaged in work related to this role will be reimbursed, in accordance with the URC expenses policy. |

### Background:

The National Synod of Wales affirms that care for creation, a just and sustainable relationship with the earth, and an active concern for the whole of God's good creation are fundamental Gospel commitments.

We know that human activity is responsible for the degradation of the earth through climate change. This is not the way that God would want it to be. It is harming the web of life, the balance of nature, and impacting most heavily upon the poorest people of the world.

We seek to care for creation and to enable the earth to flourish by considering the ecological impact of everything we do and minimising our carbon footprint, in accordance with the [URC Environmental Policy](#).

### Role Summary:

We are building a team of committed volunteers across the Synod to enable good communication, collaboration and support for each other as we seek to increase creation care awareness and action and grow together as Eco Churches and an Eco Synod. Ideally the Green Team will include one or more Synod Green Advocates, Regional or Pastorate Eco Friends, and at least one Church Eco Friend in every congregation.

The Regional/Pastorate Eco Friend is a new post which we hope will increase communication and collaboration between churches taking creation care action. Connecting with other churches and their creation care leads, both within the URC and other denominations, is an invaluable part of the Eco Church journey for any church.

## **Principal responsibilities and duties**

**There would be some freedom for you to shape your role depending on the size and geography of your region, but ideally you would:**

1. actively encourage and enable engagement with the Eco Church Starter Questionnaire and A Rocha's Eco Church scheme within the churches in your region/pastorate
2. meet regularly on zoom with the Green Advocate and act as a link between the GA and local churches
3. if possible, meet on zoom or in person with the Eco Friends or creation care leads in your churches
4. share Eco news within relevant Regional or Pastorate meetings

## **Some suggestions on how further to support your churches:**

- encourage churches to appoint at least one Eco Friend
- as necessary, help churches with registration onto the Eco Church scheme
- share creation care resources with lay preachers and worship leaders and encourage a creation care focus within worship when appropriate e.g. Season of Creation, celebrating the seasons of the year, special worship times throughout the year
- keep informed about annual initiatives (e.g. Show the Love, Great Big Green Week, Caring for God's Acre) and share with churches

## **Expected Standards**

1. Promote a culture of open and effective communication.
2. Actively foster an environment which nurtures equality and cherishes diversity.
3. Take responsibility for own personal development and develop skills and knowledge applicable to this role.
4. Ensure compliance with safeguarding practice.

*This role description reflects the overall scope and responsibilities of the role. However, it may change and evolve over time in order to meet organisational needs and this role description will therefore be subject to periodic review and change if required.*