**Diocese of Durham**

**Escomb Group and Care for Creation Officer (CCO): Person Specification**

The churches of the group seek a minister who will help them to build on existing strengths, embrace the opportunities for mission in the parishes and energise growth. The new minister will therefore:

* Share the vision of **helping the congregations** **develop their mission** in communities where people are open to the church.
* Be **strategic**, discerning together with the Steering Group the most important areas of ministry for their own time to be used.
* Have the skills to help the churches continue to **develop their partnership** with one another.
* Be a skilled and creative **teacher, worship leader and pastor**.
* Be **highly collaborative**, with a clear commitment to working with the people of the churches in a shared mission and ministry.
* Have the skills and experience to enable church members to **develop as disciples**, growing in faith, understanding, prayer and service.
* Be committed to the **development of lay ministry and lay leadership** in all aspects of church life, by helping church members to recognise, use and develop their own gifts and talents.
* Be passionate about mission and ministry in a **rural context**.
* Be **able to relate to a wide range of people**, represent the church visibly in the community, and enable church members to do the same.
* Continue to develop the churches’ relationships with and work in their **local schools**.
* Have the skills and capacity to be a good **training incumbent**.
* **Share the vision for Care for God’s Creation as integral to holistic Christian mission** and (preferably) already have knowledge, experience and skills relevant to the work of the CCO.
* Be committed to **helping churches and schools** locally and across the diocese **develop both their understanding of the care of creation as integral to Christian mission and their responses** to this as disciples and churches.

*“In the Escomb Group this … we sense the importance of Energising Growth – in discipleship and in the number of people served by and engaging in the life of our churches. We also sense the importance of Challenging Poverty, Engaging with Children and Young People and Caring for God’s Creation in areas with many families, some significant pockets of poverty, and with deeply rooted communities that still look to, and are open to, the local church..”*

*Escomb Group PiC and ADEO PS v01*

*Aug 2023*