

# **Southwark Pastoral**

## **Auxiliaries**

**[SPAs]**



**Applying for the training course  
September 2009-June 2011**

**For further information please contact Sue Hoad,  
SPA Training Administrator on 020 7939 9433  
[sue.hoad@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:sue.hoad@southwark.anglican.org)**

### **About selection requirements.....**

None of us have finished growing; therefore we do not expect you to be perfect in every regard! What we look for is to make sure you have the right motivation, attitudes and potential to benefit from the training programme and have an effective ministry as a SPA.

**To train as a SPA you will need..**

### **Sensitivity and concern for other people within both the church and wider community**

In other words people's wholeness and wellbeing will matter to you and you will have the desire and potential to come alongside people in a sensitive way. It's also important that you are sensitive to the needs and gifts of people who come from diverse backgrounds.

### **Experience of pastoral care work, whether formal or informal**

This may be through your paid work, or your role as a volunteer, or informal care for family members or friends.

### **The ability to work with others**

Pastoral care is often dependent on good team work

### **A readiness to share, think about and learn from experience – both your own and that of other people.**

The training will present new challenges to you, so your commitment to continual learning and development will be important

### **A commitment to continued growth in your relationship with God and the ability to relate faith to daily living**

This caring ministry is rooted in openness to God, so a willingness to develop your spiritual life is vital.

### **The capacity to take part in the training programme**

You will need sufficient time, health and wellbeing to take a full part in the training programme

## **About recruitment policy**

We want to recruit people in each course from a variety of situations within the diocese. We particularly welcome applications from minority ethnic people and men who are currently under-represented in SPA ministry.

Those who apply will need the backing of their incumbent / priest in charge, and their church council

If the course is oversubscribed with suitable applicants, places on the next course will be allocated first to those parishes and parts of the diocese where there are fewer existing lay ministers.

## **About the application process**

### **Step One: Thinking about Applying**

*There are two important things to do: they may happen at the same time .....*

- [A] Talk with your incumbent / priest in charge; you will need his / her backing and eventually that of your PCC [church council].
  
- [B] You will need to attend a Vocational Guidance Unit to make sure that SPA ministry is right for you. This is a short [usually one day] course exploring the idea of 'call' with the opportunity to talk to people in different forms of ministry. Phone Sue Hoad [020 7939 9433] for details.

## **Step 2: Making an application**

[A] Once you have received your application pack, fill in the application form and return it by **1<sup>st</sup> June 2009** to: Sue Hoad, SPA Training Administrator, Trinity House, 4 Chapel Court, Borough High Street, London SE1 1HW.

**Think about the questions on the form carefully and follow the guidance given.** If you need help to fill in your form please let us know.

[B] Reference sheets are filled in by the people listed below. These should be returned to Sue Hoad **by 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009**

- give the yellow sheet to your PCC Secretary (for the formal support of the PCC)
- give the pink sheet to someone who knows about your involvement in caring work. For some people, this might be a neighbour or a colleague - it doesn't have to be anybody from the church
- give the green sheet to your incumbent / priest in charge.

## **Step three: The selection process**

[A] We will invite **all** candidates for an interview. [There is no short-listing process; this is why we need the applications in advance so extra interviewers can be appointed if need be.]

[B] Candidates will meet diocesan interviewers, who will want to find out if they meet the selection criteria. The next selection day will take place in June 2009