



EMPLOYED CHAPLAIN ROLE DESCRIPTION

Salary: £13.40 per hour

The contracted hours can be anywhere from 15 to 30 per week and we invite you to state your preferred working weekly hours in your application.

Working flexible shift patterns from 09:00 to 24:00. Shifts are 5 or 10 hours in length.

Closing date for applications: 7th October 2025

About the Role

The Role involves:

1. Praying regularly for the search and rescue work that we do. Praying before and after each shift. Praying for and with anyone who comes to Beachy Head requiring prayer support. Praying for and with our partner agencies.
2. Patrolling Beachy Head both on foot and in a vehicle with another Chaplain in search of those in any form of crisis.
3. Using search lamps, binoculars and thermal imaging camera to search for people on the cliff edge and surrounding areas.
4. Approaching potential persons of concern and assessing those perceived to be at risk.
5. Engaging and negotiating with people at risk.
6. Encouraging those in crisis to go to a place of safety and giving them opportunity to talk and being responsible for the handover of their care to the appropriate agency or their family.
7. Receiving and recording information for searches from Police, Coastguards, partner agencies and members of the public.
8. Reporting incidents to the police and other emergency services.
9. Communicating with Team members, emergency services, those in crisis, members of family, the general public and those bereaved.
10. Using radio communications with other Chaplains.
11. Maintaining accurate written records of incidents.
12. Giving an accurate account of any outstanding searches at handover to the next shift.
13. Sharing the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ when it is timely and appropriate to do so.
14. Providing Chaplain-to-Chaplain pastoral support.

The Criteria for the role of Chaplain

You will need to demonstrate

1. You are a Christian and feel called by God to undertake the role of a Beachy Head Chaplain.
2. Excellent communication skills.
3. You are able to work in a challenging and stressful environment and cope with distressing situations and traumatic events.
4. Working well as member of a team.
5. You understand the importance of and respect the need for confidentiality.
6. An ability to walk on unlevel terrain and steep slopes.
7. Availability to work flexible shift patterns across daytime, evening and weekends.
8. A willingness to attend Team Training sessions and participate in the team's continuing professional development programme.

Having regard to the nature and context of the work, and the ethos of the organisation, it is an occupational requirement that the postholder is a Christian who, as a matter of conviction and practice, is in agreement with the Declaration of Faith below.

In agreeing to become a member of staff/volunteer/trustee for Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team (BHCT) hereby accept the revelation of the triune God given in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments and the historic faith of the Gospel therein set forth including the following doctrines: -

We believe in....

- The one true God who lives eternally in three persons – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- The love, grace and sovereignty of God in creating, sustaining, ruling, redeeming, and judging the world.
- The divine inspiration and supreme authority of the Old and New Testament Scriptures, which are the written Word of God – fully trustworthy for faith and conduct.
- The dignity of all people, made male and female in God's image to love, be holy and care for creation, yet corrupted by sin, which incurs divine wrath and judgement.
- The incarnation of God's eternal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ – born of the virgin Mary; truly divine and truly human, yet without sin.
- The atoning sacrifice of Christ on the cross: dying in our place, paying the price of sin and defeating evil, so reconciling us with God.
- The bodily resurrection of Christ, the fruits of our resurrection; His ascension to the Father and his reign and mediation as the only Saviour of the world.
- The justification of sinners solely by the grace of God through faith in Christ.
- The ministry of God the Holy Spirit, who leads us to repentance, unites us with Christ through new birth, empowers our discipleship and enables our witness.

- The Church, the body of Christ both local and universal, the priesthood of all believers – given life by the Spirit and endowed with the Spirit's gifts to worship God and proclaim the gospel, promoting justice and love.
- The personal and visible return of Jesus Christ to fulfil the purposes of God, who will raise all people to judgement, bring eternal life to the redeemed and eternal condemnation to the lost, and establish a new heaven and new earth

Our Commitment to You

- 1) We will provide you with a uniform:
This will consist of a polo shirt, fleece, trousers, thermal vest, Hi Viz waterproof jacket, hat and gloves, and walking boots.
- 2) You will receive full Training, which will include:
 - Mental Health
 - Active Listening Skills
 - Crisis Intervention and Negotiation Skills.
 - Health and Safety Training
 - Search and Rescue Techniques
 - Equipment Training
 - BHCT policies
- 3) You will be allocated a mentor during training and through your probationary period.
- 4) You will always work with another Chaplain. There is also a Chaplain on call who can give you and your colleague advice and support over the phone and who will pray for you and with you.
- 5) We will provide you with regular ongoing training. The aim of these training sessions is to:
 - provide informative talks from outside agencies
 - provide refresher training to update skills as part of your continuous professional development.
 - encourage fellowship within the team and so promote team building.
- 6) In the event of you witnessing a critical incident you will receive a Critical Incidence Debriefing. This will give you an opportunity to discuss the incident in detail with a member of the leadership team who can then provide you with any further help and support that you may need.
- 7) We will provide you with access to a Team Counsellor (at no cost to you).
- 8) You will be an inclusive part of a team and have opportunities to meet with the rest of the team at team gatherings where any problems and experiences can be shared and discussed openly.

Please contact gail.whittington@bhct.org.uk for further information