Suffragan Bishop of Berwick: Mark Wroe

Press release

The Queen has approved the nomination of the Venerable Mark Wroe BA MA, Archdeacon of Northumberland to the Suffragan See of Berwick.



The Queen has approved the nomination of the Venerable Mark Wroe BA MA, Archdeacon of Northumberland, in the diocese of Newcastle to the Suffragan See of Berwick, in the diocese of Newcastle, in succession to the Right Reverend Mark Tanner following his translation to the See of Chester. Mark was educated at St Mary's University, London and Anglia Polytechnic University and trained for ministry at Ridley Hall, Cambridge. He served his title at All Saints Chilvers Coton with St Mary the Virgin, in the diocese of Coventry and was ordained Priest in 1997.

In 2000, Mark was appointed Priest-in-Charge, and latterly Vicar of St Alban Windy Nook, Gateshead in the diocese of Durham. Mark took up the roles of Priest-in- Charge of St Barnabas and St Jude, and Vicar of Holy Trinity Jesmond in the diocese of Newcastle in 2007. In 2017, Mark was additionally appointed Area Dean of Newcastle Central Deanery. He took up his current role as Archdeacon of Northumberland in 2019, having been Acting Archdeacon since 2018.

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Choose your own Analysis Adventure

Today, Tuesday 20 October is the third <u>World Statistics Day</u> with the theme – 'Connecting the world with data we can trust'. The theme reflects the importance of trust, authoritative data and innovation in national statistical systems.

Michelle Bowen is a Principal Researcher, working in the Good Practice Team in the Office for National Statistics (ONS). On World Stats Day, Michelle explains how you can join the adventure of helping shape Analysis in Government month...

World Stats Day is a fantastic platform for the global statistical community to come together through a series of virtual events, this seemed like a perfect day to tell you about our plans to celebrate the world of analysis in government.

Does anyone remember those children's books where you got to choose your own adventure? I've been re-reading these with my son recently. The books are quite unique and don't follow a traditional story format. Instead, you are in control of the characters destiny by choosing the paths they take through the tale...

All the books start with an introduction page or two which give some background to the story. At the end of this you make a choice. For example, "If you want to fly the aeroplane, turn to page four" or, "If you want to sail the boat, turn to page 15". Throughout the story there are lots of different choices to make. Each time you read the story you have the potential for a different experience and ending, depending on the paths you chose to take.

In the spirit of this, we want you to help us choose the path to take for the first Analysis in Government month, to be held in Spring 2021.

During Analysis in Government month there will be a programme of events, talks and activities covering a range of interesting and useful content. Topics will reflect the diversity of our work, and could include case studies or our work, career stories from data analysts, top tips on methodology, accessibility and much more.

We want your help to set the agenda and help shape Analysis in Government month. There are many paths we could take, but which should we choose?!

What would you find useful or interesting as part of this programme? What would make you want to attend? Have your say by completing our short survey and choose how our adventure continues. Your insight and opinions will shape the programme and ensure we develop something which works for you.

There is also the opportunity to highlight if you would like to get involved in the organisation of Analysis in Government month. Michelle and the team want to develop a programme of events which is both representative and useful for all analysts in government.

We would love to hear from individuals from a variety of professions, departments and grades, so no matter where you work or what kind of analysis you undertake — we want to hear from you.

Hopefully, with your help we will choose a path which leads to an amazing ending and a fantastic programme of events and activities! Watch this space for the next chapter in this story as work and planning develops.

Expert partnership to explore and establish Human Challenge studies of COVID-19 in the UK

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11 million households to make savings as government extends cap on energy bills

*Energy Price Cap extended until end of 2021, protecting around 11 million UK households from being overcharged *households on standard variable and default energy tariffs will continue to save between £75 and £100 a year on dual fuel bills *2.8 million electricity and 2.1 million gas customers switched supplier in the first six months of 2020

The Energy Price Cap shields those least likely to shop around for the best deals — including the elderly and most vulnerable — from being charged excessive prices.

Since its introduction in January 2019, the cap has saved customers around £1 billion a year, equivalent to around £75-100 a year for typical households on default energy tariffs.

An additional 4 million households with prepayment meters on default tariffs will also come under the protection of the cap from January.

Business and Energy Secretary Alok Sharma said:

The Energy Price Cap has been vital in ensuring customers do not pay too much on their bills, which is why we are keeping it in place for at least another year.

Switching energy supplier to find the best value deals is still the best way to save on bills, but this government is determined to make sure all customers are treated fairly and get the protection they deserve.

In addition to the price cap, millions of customers have been able to benefit from lower bills as the numbers of those switching to cheaper tariffs has increased and the rollout of smart meters has progressed in recent years.

A total of 2.8 million electricity and 2.1 million gas customers switched supplier in the first 6 months of 2020, building on record numbers of households switching to cheaper tariffs in 2019, the first full year of the Energy Price Cap.

However, more than half of customers are still on standard variable or default tariffs, where, in the absence of the cap, they would likely still be paying excessive charges for energy use.

In August, the independent energy regulator, Ofgem, recommended an extension to the cap following a review into the market. Today's announcement follows that recommendation.

The Energy Price Cap extension is the latest government measure to help vulnerable customers with their energy bills and follows particular support during the coronavirus pandemic.

Energy suppliers have given prepayment and pay-as-you-go customers support when they faced financial distress.

Those with prepayment meters have also benefited from a price cap that is in place until the end of the year.

Today's announcement means a further 4 million households with prepayment meters on default tariffs will continue to be protected from excessive prices by the wider Energy Price Cap once the Competition and Market Authority's Prepayment Meter Cap expires at the end of 2020.

Jonathan Brearley, Chief Executive of Ofgem, said:

The Secretary of State's announcement means that 15 million households will continue to be protected under the price cap and will pay a fair price for their energy in 2021.

"Although those protected by the cap are paying a fair price, they can also reduce their energy bills further by shopping around for a better deal.

Ofgem will continue to protect consumers in the difficult months ahead as we work with industry and government to build a greener, fairer energy system.

Notes to editors

*Research by the Competition and Markets Authority showed that consumers on default tariffs had been overpaying the 'Big Six' energy companies some £1.4 billion a year before the introduction of the Energy Price Cap. *The Energy Price Cap, continuing through 2021, is set by energy watchdog Ofgem, which reviews it every 6 months to reflect changes in the cost of supplying energy. This ensures those who do not shop around, often elderly and low-income households, are protected from paying over the odds. *In August, Ofgem announced the price cap level for October 2020 to March 2021 would be £1,042 for typical users paying by direct debit.

New funding and guidance to improve housing support for vulnerable people

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