

Vacancy for Chief Property Officer at Durham Cathedral

Job Title: Chief Property Officer

Location: Durham Cathedral, with significant on-site engagement across the Cathedral and its estate

Hours of Work: Full time

Remuneration: £65,000–£79,000 per annum

Durham Cathedral is seeking an exceptional Chief Property Officer to lead the conservation, care and sensitive development of one of Europe's greatest Romanesque buildings and its World Heritage Site estate.

At the heart of the role is the long-term stewardship of internationally significant historic fabric. Working towards Vision 2033, you will translate conservation management plans and quinquennial inspection priorities into a deliverable programme of repair, maintenance and carefully judged adaptation.

You will lead a circa £60 million programme spanning specialist masonry, glazing, timberwork and building services; secure heritage and planning consents; and oversee projects from feasibility through procurement and delivery. You will work closely with the Cathedral Architect, Cathedral Archaeologist, statutory heritage bodies, specialist advisers, contractors and the Cathedral's skilled in-house stonemasons and property teams.

We are looking for a professionally qualified senior property leader with deep experience of conserving highly significant historic buildings or estates, strong knowledge of traditional materials and conservation practice, and a proven record of delivering complex capital projects in live, sensitive settings. You will combine sound heritage judgement with commercial, financial and team leadership skills.

As a member of the Executive Leadership Team, you will provide visible, collaborative leadership and balance exemplary conservation with safety, sustainability, operational use and financial resilience. This is a rare opportunity to safeguard a place of international importance while enabling it to serve worshippers, visitors and communities for generations to come.

In line with the Cathedral's Safer Recruitment procedures, applicants must be willing and able to undergo the relevant pre-employment checks, including provision of proof of eligibility to work in the UK, a full and complete employment history, satisfactory references and a Basic Disclosure and Barring Service check.

The closing date for completed application forms is **9am on Wednesday 14 October 2026**.

For more information and to download the candidate information pack and application form, please visit www.durhamcathedral.co.uk/more/jobs. Completed application forms should be emailed to HR@durhamcathedral.co.uk. For an initial confidential discussion about the role, please contact Guy Sampson, Chief Operating Officer, on 07523 269556 or guy.sampson@durhamcathedral.co.uk.