

Alan Smith, First Church Estates Commissioner, Church of England

Alan Smith is First Church Estates Commissioner of the Church of England, an appointment which he has held since 1 October 2021. Prior to that he had a 27-year senior financial sector executive career at HSBC with diverse international experience in ESG, climate change, strategy, investment banking, treasury, risk management and governance, in London and Saudi Arabia. He qualified as a Chartered Accountant with KPMG London where he worked for 8 years prior to HSBC, having started his career in the Caribbean, with Coopers and Lybrand (PwC) in Barbados. Alan and his family live in London where he is active at his local Church of England Parish church, Christ Church Roxeth Hill Harrow, in the Willesden Area of the Diocese of London. He is passionate about environmental and social responsibility investment to produce strong financial returns in support of building flourishing and resilient communities. In his spare time, he coaches at his local cricket club and is an Official Adviser to the ACE Programme, a national charity seeking to increase cricket participation in underserved communities.

Grant Forrest, CEO, Parish Giving Scheme



Grant took the helm at the Parish Giving Scheme in June 2021. Previous roles as Head of Business for Lee Abbey Devon, the Christian retreat and conference centre, and The Salvation Army, where he was instrumental in overseeing the successful implementation of its financial systems, have equipped Grant with a blend of experiences ideally suited to lead the continued growth of PGS.

A Yorkshireman with a young family, Grant devotes his technical abilities (he has a First Class Honours degree in Computer Science and a broad experience in the Tech and IT industry), aptitude for people management and his personal faith to serve the Christian mission; growing the Kingdom of God.