**Community Overview**

Watford and District Synagogue (WADS) is small community in South Hertfordshire. It prides itself on being welcoming and inclusive and the friendly and relaxed atmosphere at its services and events. The community provides a full range of religious, social, cultural, educational and welfare provision to its members and other Jews in the locale and places importance on its relationship with the wider community in Watford,

Founded in 1947, WADS has seen a steady increase in its membership and, as the Jewish population of Hertfordshire increases, recognises the potential for its transformation and growth. WADS is now seeking a dynamic, open-minded and creative Rabbi/Rabbinic couple to work in partnership with the laity to drive this growth and to take on the spiritual leadership of the community.

Strategic priorities in the coming years include, developing a community centre with diverse programming and activities, encouraging the active participation of members of all ages and continuing to provide the highest level of pastoral care, at all times remaining faithful to its core value of inclusivity.

**Role Overview**

WADS is advertising for an exciting, part-time role for an inspirational individual/couple devoted to building a small community. A recent community consultation suggests that the successful applicants will exemplify as many as possible of the following qualities:

Open-minded | Inclusive | Approachable | Discreet/Confidential | Non-judgemental | Innovative

Empathetic | Communicative | Reflective listener | Broad Appeal | Team-player | Responsive | Proactive | Relevant | Trustworthy | Good sense of humour | Enthusiastic

As the rabbi of WADS you will, within the limits set by Jewish Law, act as the authority on religious issues for the community, abiding by its existing United Synagogue traditions and usages.

You will actively and enthusiastically promote and encourage membership of WADS and represent WADS to its members in a pastoral capacity, attending to their religious, Jewish educational, spiritual and emotional needs. This includes playing an active role in tending to the welfare needs of the sick, poor and otherwise disadvantaged.

It is assumed that you will take an active and leading role in social, cultural, educational and welfare groups within the community; formulating and delivering educational programmes for families and for the general adult membership. That should be designed to broaden and deepen their knowledge and commitment to a wide spectrum of Jewish knowledge, understanding and activity. Through inspirational leadership and personal involvement, you will assist, encourage, strengthen and support younger members of whatever level of commitment to develop an understanding and commitment to traditional Judaism and to WADS community life.

You will play a full part in all religious services and make your best efforts to improve attendance while making them accessible and engaging to the widest audience.

While your first call will always be WADS (in the event of a pastoral emergency), you will be enthusiastically encouraged to simultaneously pursue other professional and personal goals. WADS’s lay leaders will work with the successful candidates to agree expectations in terms of delivery and availability to ensure that a mutually-productive working model can be adopted.