Dear Rabbi,

Thank you for your interest in becoming Rabbi of Kingston Liberal Synagogue (KLS).

One crucial question not answered in the job description and person specification is what, beyond the terms and conditions of the appointment, KLS has to offer its new Rabbi.

The first answer is that generally our Rabbis have enjoyed a long and rewarding time with us. We shall work hard to ensure that this happy tradition is upheld.

The second answer is that Kingston, and KLS, offer a progressive Rabbi something both distinctive and highly positive.

We are by no means an isolated Jewish community. Kingston has a United as well as a Liberal Synagogue, there are several other synagogues within a few miles of us, and we are in easy reach of the Montagu Centre. But in our area Jews form a relatively small part of the general population – though one which contributes positively and substantially to wider community cohesion. Some examples may illustrate this.

There is the recently opened Jewish primary school, Mosaic - a cross-community mixed school with half of the children from across the Jewish community and half of other faiths and none. There are Kingston’s active Inter Faith Forum and Race and Equalities Council, in both of which KLS’s Rabbi and congregants have traditionally played a full part. And closer to home there is the Holocaust Memorial Day Project run jointly by KLS and Kingston & Surbiton District (United) Synagogue through which, each year, well over a thousand local Year 8 and 9 school pupils spend a half day at one of the synagogues, hear a first hand account of the Holocaust and have the opportunity to reflect on and discuss what they have learned.

As you will gather, we are proud of what KLS is and does, and of our role in the local community. We hope you will wish to be part of this. If so, please apply with a CV, contact details of two referees, and a covering letter of no more than three pages setting out how you meet, or would propose to meet, the duties in the job description, and how you match the four headings in the ‘What KLS needs from its new Rabbi’ section of the person specification.

Please email your application to office@klsonline.org or send it to Helen Mendelson, KLS Co-ordinator, Kingston Liberal Synagogue, Rushett Rd, Surrey KT7 0UX, to arrive no later than **Friday 29 April 2016.**

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Howard Webber

On behalf of the KLS Rabbi Selection Committee