

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) held in Committee Room 1A, County Hall, Durham on Thursday 5 June 2014 at 1.30 pm

Present:

Canon L Burton (Chairman) In the Chair

Church of England

D Mowbray-Pape

Other Religious Denominations and Faiths

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|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| N Barker | - The Salvation Army |
| S Brown | - Assemblies of God |
| J Kidd | - Methodist Church |
| J Nicholls | - Society of Friends (Quaker) |
| I Osborne | - Roman Catholic |
| Bhakti Rasa Dasa | - Hinduism |
| C Spencer | - Bahá'í Faith |

Teachers Associations

| | |
|---------|------------------------------|
| V Bain | - RE Curriculum Group |
| S Baker | - NUT |
| P Welch | - NUT |

County Council Representatives

Councillors P Brookes and M Dixon

Specialist Inspector (Religious Education)

Isobel Short

Voluntary and Community Sector Officer

Ian Hunter-Smart

1 Introductions, Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting in particular J Nichols who is the newly appointed Quaker representative and Councillor Brookes who has replaced Councillor Blakey as the County Council representative.

The Chairman advised Members that N Chapman was in attendance as an observer as she would be replacing J Katsambis as the Church of England representative.

Members sought clarification if SACRE had an Islam Representative. The Clerk responded that she had written to the group in August to ask for a representative

but no response had been received. S Brown indicated that he knew someone who may be interested in becoming a SACRE member to represent Islam.

Apologies were received from J Bainbridge, C Callaghan, V Gallant, W Gray, A Hartley, S Lupton and J Pallister.

2 Presentation from a Member of the Humanist Society

The Chairman advised members that this item would be deferred to the next SACRE meeting.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in relation to items of business on the agenda.

4 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2014, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to some minor grammatical changes.

5 Matters Arising

Councillor Dixon updated members on the SACRE annual report in particular that they had not received agreement for the report to be presented to Cabinet.

Members discussed the annual report in detail and agreed to set up a SACRE Task Group which would meet on 16 July 2014 to look at this issue and suggest ways to move forward.

6 Enquiry Project Update

P Welch circulated to Members an update for Phase Four of the RE Enquiry Project and presented the work which had been done and the next phase of the project.

It was suggested that some of the students and teachers involved in the project be invited to the next SACRE meeting.

The Specialist Inspector for Religious Education thanked SACRE Members who had attended the Interfaith Conference.

7 Chair's and Vice Chair's Comments

The Chairman spoke about the RE Network meetings which were attended by people outside of the local authority which was very positive.

She also advised Members that the November SACRE meeting would be her last meeting as she was moving down the country and would no longer be a member of Durham SACRE.

Members would need to appoint a new Chairman at the November meeting.

8 RE Inspector's Report

The Specialist Inspector for Religious Education presented the circulated report which was a summary of the support in RE provided by the RE Inspector since March 2014 together with a brief summary of national developments (for copy see file of minutes).

The Specialist Inspector for Religious Education advised members that she was going to put a letter on the Extranet for Head Teachers about the Agreed Syllabus which would cover a lot of queries which she received.

She also advised members that she had produced a questionnaire about training that RE teachers had received which she circulated at the secondary network group.

From the results of the questionnaire she could advise members that 7 teachers had trained at Durham, 2 at Newcastle, 2 at Ripon/York and 1 had trained on the job.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

9 Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of SACRE would be held on 6 November 2014.