

# DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

**At a Meeting of Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)**  
held in Committee Room 1B, County Hall, Durham on **Thursday 7 November**  
**2019 at 1.30 pm**

**Present:**

**P Welch (Chair) In the Chair**

## **Church of England**

Canon L Burton, K Passmore, H Tait and C Weir

## **Other Religious Denominations and Faiths**

S Baker	- Roman Catholic
F Johnson	- Methodist Church
J Pallister	- Roman Catholic
Bhakti Rasa Dasa	- Hinduism
C Spencer	- Bahá'í Faith
D Van der Velde	- Judaism

## **Teachers Associations**

V Bain	- NEU
A Hartley	- NASUWT

## **County Council Representatives**

Councillors P Brookes and C Martin

## **Co-opted Member:**

S Walker	- Humanist
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## **1 Introductions, Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Members to introduce themselves and give a brief introduction into their background.

Apologies for absence were received from J Bainbridge, M Dixon, W Gray, M Lowden, S Lupton, J Nicholls, C Singh, Councillors Shuttleworth and Tinsley.

## **2 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2019 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

## **3 Declarations of Interest**

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

## **4 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

## **5 Chairs Comments**

Members raised concerns that there was no representative from Education Durham in attendance to support the meeting.

The County Council Representative Councillor Brookes agreed to speak to the relevant Portfolio Holder or an Officer from Education Durham regarding officer support at SACRE meetings.

The Chair indicated that at the next SACRE meeting he would like Members to discuss the short and long term plans for SACRE, via some discussion groups.

Members were updated about the Agreed Syllabus and were advised that a meeting would be held on Thursday at Church House to explore what art work or quotes to include.

The Chair advised Members that he had hoped initially to launch the Agreed Syllabus as early as February, but this had been pushed back to spring 2020 in order that all processes could be concluded.

## **6 Judaism - An introduction by Deanna Van der Velde**

Deanna Van der Velde the representative on SACRE from Judaism gave a presentation on herself and her Jewish faith.

Following the presentation, Members were given the opportunity to ask questions regarding Judaism.

The Chair thanked Deanna Van der Velde for her very informative presentation.

The Chair asked if any Members would like to give an introduction to their faith or organisation they represent at the next meeting. The Council representatives were asked if they would like to give an introduction at the next meeting.

Councillor Brookes agreed to give an introduction at the next meeting.

## **7 Primary NQT Questionnaire Feedback**

S Baker, V Bain and S Lupton had worked on the evaluation of the NQT Questionnaire.

V Bain presented their findings and circulated a summary of the questionnaire to Members. Members discussed the findings of the questionnaire.

## **8 Interfaith Week and Events**

C Spencer advised Members that an Event was to be held on Monday 11 November 2019 at Keenan House, Old Dryburn Way, Durham.

There would be light refreshments and speakers on 'climate emergency a personal faith perspective', there would be 7 speakers in total and all Members were welcome to attend.

The Chair referred to the guidelines that SACRE could look at and endorse then ask Education Durham if they could be circulated to schools. The Chair would obtain a copy of the guidelines, so that Members could discuss at the next SACRE meeting.

## **9 Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting of Durham SACRE would be held on 5 March 2020.