

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report for Information

Title:	The NASACRE Conference and the NASACRE AGM
Presented to:	SACRE
Presented by:	The Director of Children's Services
Date:	7 June 2011

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1) Purpose of Report:

- 1.1 This report provides SACRE with a brief summary of the National Association of SACRE's (NASACRE) conference held on 31 March 2011 and the NASACRE AGM held on 11 May 2011

2) Contextual Issues:

- 2.1 This paper supports the Corporate Strategy (maximising well being) by ensuring children's provision in religious education is secure.
- 2.2 Both events, held in Birmingham, were attended by Elizabeth Jenkerson as Hampshire SACRE's representative.

3) The Conference:

- 3.1 The Conference was organised as part of the RE Celebrations month and was planned to promote discussion and debate about the current situation of RE nationally. Mark Chater gave the keynote speech in which he said, as way of introduction *"What's worth fighting for in Religious Education? This event is part of the RE celebration month, with events taking place all over the country to promote the importance of Religious Education as a curriculum subject and to draw attention to the negative impact of the government's present policies are having on RE."* A copy of his keynote address is available on the NASACRE website (www.nasacre.org.uk/) .

Discussion groups were organised to allow SACRE members to discuss the issues raised.

There was a general air of optimism despite the state of English Baccalaureate and the financial restraints. See Appendix 1 for a visual summary of the day.

3.2 The NASACRE AGM was held at Council House Birmingham. The keynote address was from Robert Beckford who is a theologian and a television presenter. His address was entitled “ Effective SACRE’s engaging with young people in the Big Society”. There was also a presentation from pupils who have been engaged with Westhill/ NASACRE funded RE projects.

4) Recommendation:

That SACRE notes the report.

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location