

AT A MEETING of the
STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)
held in The Church of the Good Shepherd, Lymington Bottom, Four Marks, Alton,
Hampshire, GU34 5AA , on 2 June 2014

PRESENT

Chairman

p Councillor Roz Chadd (Hampshire County Council)

Vice-Chairman

p Councillor Charles Choudhary (Hampshire County Council)

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| p Councillor Mrs Fiona Mather | - | Hampshire County Council |
| p Councillor David Simpson | - | Hampshire County Council |
| a Mr Mohammed Ansar | - | Muslim |
| p Mrs Jackie Chong | - | Roman Catholic |
| a Rev Seishin Darren Clark | - | Buddhist |
| a Sheikh Fazle Abbas Dattoo | - | Muslim |
| p Mrs Pat Fry | - | United Reformed Church |
| a Mrs Lisa Gilmour | - | Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints |
| p Mr Colin How | - | Methodist |
| p Mr Chris Hughes | - | Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches |
| p Mrs Elizabeth Jenkerson | - | Baha'i |
| a Ms Jackie McGregor | - | Salvation Army |
| p Mrs Heather Thorpe-Tracey | - | Society of Friends |
| a Mrs Jo May | - | Baptist Union |
| a Mr Richard Moss | - | Buddhist |
| a Mr Harjap Singh | - | Sikh |
| a Major Suryaparsad Upadhya | - | Hindu |
| p Mr. Michael Zeffertt | - | Jewish |
| a Mr Richard Wharton | - | Church of England |
| p Mrs Joyce Johnson | - | Church of England |
| p Ms Caroline Welch | - | Church of England |
| p Rev Howard Wright | - | Church of England |
| a Mrs Maureen Barnes | - | Teachers' Association |
| p Mr James Dye | - | Teachers' Association |
| p Mrs Jane Pridmore | - | Teachers' Association |
| a Mrs Patrizia Timms Blanch | - | Teachers' association |
| a Mrs Pam Brown | - | Special School – Co-opted |
| a Mrs Gill Heron | - | Academy – Co-opted |
| p Miss Chris Robinson | - | Humanist – Co-opted |

p Mrs Rhiannon Love	-	Higher Education Rep – Co-opted
p Mr Alasdair Richardson	-	Higher Education Rep – Co-opted
p Ms Patricia Hannam	-	Support Officer
a Mrs Judith Lowndes	-	Support Officer

Prior to the start of the meeting Rev. Howard Wright gave a presentation on Christianity and the Church of England; explaining its history and his particular perspective. Howard also received and responded to questions from Members.

Councillor Chadd welcomed everyone to the meeting, and gave particular mention to Heather Thorpe-Tracey and James Dye as it was their first meeting.

45. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from:

Mohammed Ansar – Muslim
 Seishin Darren Clark - Buddhist
 Fazle Abbas Dattoo – Muslim
 Lisa Gilmour - Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints
 Jackie McGregor - Salvation Army
 Jo May - Baptist Union
 Richard Moss - Buddhist
 Harjap Singh - Sikh
 Suryaparsad Upadhya - Hindu
 Richard Wharton - Church of England
 Maureen Barnes - Teachers' Association
 Patrizia Timms Blanch - Teachers' association
 Pam Brown - Special School – Co-opted
 Gill Heron - Academy – Co-opted
 Judith Lowndes - Support Officer

46. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3 Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Non-Pecuniary interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 2 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

No declarations of interest were made.

47. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman subject to the following corrections:

Page 2 – Apologies – Sheikh Fazle Abbas Datoo had sent apologies for the meeting.

Page 5 – Under “Resolved” for Item 39 – “SACRE agreed the proposals for the timeframe of Living Difference review and their implementation”.

Page 6 – Item 43, third paragraph - “It was agreed that the already established local networks with schools would continue.”

48. MATTERS ARISING

Item 38 – It had been decided that SACRE would hold back from looking at marketing and promoting the individual Living Difference packages due to the amount of time and resource involved. It was agreed that Hampshire was the priority and therefore limited time available should remain focused within the County.

Item 41 - It was confirmed that the Westhill bid had not been successful. It was also decided that the children involved in Youth Voice would be consulted for their ideas and opinions before approaching SACRE for additional volunteers.

Item 42 – It was concluded after consultation with the SACRE Hub that there was no currently no interest or uptake in the Quality Mark, and that it would be looked at again by SACRE in 12 months time.

49. CHAIRMAN’S COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman began by introducing and welcoming Keith Mans, Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services and Deputy Leader to the meeting. Cllr Mans talked to the Committee about Religious Education in schools and the Living Difference syllabus, and the importance of maintaining a high standard within Hampshire.

Margaret Matthews, Society of Friends representative, was thanked for her work and contribution to SACRE and her replacement, Heather Thorpe-Tracey was welcomed along with James Dye; the new Teachers’ Association representative.

Cllr Simpson gave feedback on the South West Conference attended in March and also shared comments made by Lisa Gilmour, who had also attended. Overall it was felt that some aspects were very negative towards SACRE’s generally, referring to them as being a ‘crumbling system’, but it was agreed that this view was not shared by a lot of those attending the Conference.

It was confirmed that a RE/Teachers Network Speed Faithing event was due to take place on the 2 July in Bristol, and further details could be found via:

<http://www.bristol.anglican.org/event/speed-faithing-speed-phasing/>

Feedback was also received from Patricia Hannam and Chris Hughes on the NASACRE AGM in London, which took place in April. It was agreed that this was a very upbeat meeting and well attended. It was learned that many Authorities do not have an RE Adviser and that Hampshire were in a very strong position.

50. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

51. YOUTH VOICE

The Council received a presentation from pupils at Perins School, members of the Hampshire Youth Voice to SACRE as well as being REC Young RE Ambassadors; who talked about their involvement in Hampshire Youth Voice to SACRE. The Council was also shown a video by Youth Voice members from Thornden School. These presentations highlighted how important it was to encourage strong and thought provoking debate amongst pupils and that the approach in the Agreed Syllabus 'Living Difference revised 2011' developed a serious interest in RE. Further, the presentations emphasised how the Hampshire Youth Voice to SACRE was successful in engaging young people in the development of RE across the county.

52. MEMBERSHIP

The Council received a brief summary report from Patricia Hannam, the County Inspector for RE (Item 8 in the Minute Book), which confirmed the proposed new Membership on SACRE

RESOLVED:

1. Mrs Heather Thorpe-Tracey was confirmed as a member of Group A on SACRE and Mr James Dye was confirmed as a new member on Group C on SACRE.

53. MONITORING SUB-GROUP

The Council received the proposed timeline from Patricia Hannam, the County Inspector for RE (Item 9 in the Minute Book).

It was noted that most recent Secondary OFSTED inspections in Hampshire had mentioned RE positively. This may be as a result of new guidance to inspectors in October 2013.

RESOLVED:

1. SACRE noted the report

54. SUPPLY OF QUALIFIED SECONDARY RE TEACHERS

The Council received a verbal report from Patricia Hannam, the County Inspector for RE (Item 10 in the Minute Book).

SACRE discussed how there were still secondary RE posts vacant in Hampshire for September and evidence that RE was becoming a shortage subject. . Applications from prospective teachers to train as RE teachers at higher education institutions were reducing. Although no bursary is available for prospective RE teachers some

Universities had been able to access Trust funding to assist with training as an incentive for potential teachers. It was noted by SACRE Members that there was low morale with teaching generally at the moment, and not just with RE due to issues with status and pay.

RESOLVED:

1. SACRE noted the verbal report

55. SOUTH CENTRAL SACRE HUB: (FORMERLY KNOWN AS JOINT SACRE)

The Council received a report from Patricia Hannam, the County Inspector for RE on the South Central SACRE Hub (Item 11 in the Minute Book).

It was confirmed that since the last SACRE meeting, the RE Council document had been published discussing how work could be advanced across the Country

RESOLVED:

1. SACRE noted the report

56. NATIONAL RE MATTERS

The Council received a verbal update from Patricia Hannam, the County Inspector for RE regarding national RE matters (Item 12 in the Minute Book).

The Council were informed that an investigation by the RE APPG regarding Social Cohesion and RE had been published by the Religious education Council (REC) and a link could be found online via this link:

<http://religiouseducationcouncil.org.uk/appg/news/2014-03-17/re-and-good-community-relations>

RESOLVED:

1. SACRE noted the report.

57. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was confirmed that a Protocol for SACRE presentations was being drafted and would be circulated at the November SACRE meeting.

The next presentation would be by the Teachers Association.

58. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 18 November, 13:30 – Ashburton Hall, Winchester, SO23 8UJ