

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report for Information

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| Title: | Item 7. SACRE's five year strategic plan: A proposal to establish a sub group of SACRE members to prepare a draft document for a five year strategic plan . |
| Presented to: | SACRE |
| Presented by: | The Director of Children's Services |
| Date: | 23 February 2010 |
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1) Purpose of Report: SACRE's five year strategic plan

1.1. This report provides a proposal to convene a meeting of representatives of SACRE to draft a five year strategic plan for its future activities and recommendations to the local authority.

2) Contextual Issues:

2.1. This paper supports the Corporate Strategy (maximising well being) by ensuring children's provision in religious education is secure.

3) The current situation

3.1. Members of SACRE agreed a five year strategic plan that ran concurrently with the launch and implementation of the agreed syllabus for RE, Living Difference, in 2005 (See Appendix 1)

3.2. The agreed syllabus is currently under review, as required by statute, and a new strategic plan needs to be established by SACRE in order to secure the implementation of the revised syllabus and maintain the provision of RE in Hampshire schools until 2015.

3.3. The role and responsibilities of SACREs have developed over recent years to include issues in relation to social cohesion, inclusion and social harmony in schools as well as the requirement to advise the local authority about issues to do with religious education and collective worship. SACRE members will wish to

make considerations about these issues within the development of a new five year strategic plan.

3.4. Concerns that have arisen at SACRE meetings (such as representation on SACRE of religious groups in Hampshire and the quality of the provision for collective worship in Hampshire schools) can be considered and included in the new five year plan.

4) **Conclusions: That SACRE convenes a meeting of representatives, supported by the Hampshire Inspectors for RE, to produce a draft five year plan for SACRE's approval at the next meeting.**

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

SACRE Development Plan

This SACRE development plan is based upon the SACRE self evaluation carried out in 2004-5. The main points below represent priorities identified for SACRE to effectively carry out its responsibilities in relation to monitoring and providing support for religious education and collective worship and addressing the broader agenda of inclusion and diversity.

1. **Action Plan for the development of religious education based on the effective implementation of the agreed syllabus, *Living Difference***

Timescale: Phase 1 September 2004–April 2006

Evidence:

Set up County development groups to produce units of work for the handbook

Set up regional development groups to redraft planning to the requirements of the agreed syllabus

Publish Handbook

Status: completion April 2006

Timescale: Phase 2 April 2006 ongoing

Evidence:

Set up County Steering Groups (one primary, one secondary) to lead further development

Set up new regional development groups to extend development across the county

Status: initiated December 2005

Financial implications: LA to pay for steering groups; schools to pay for regional development group status

2. **Evaluation of the implementation of the agreed syllabus, *Living Difference***

Timescale: completion by January 2007

Evidence:

Questionnaire to schools (Summer Term 2006)

Steering groups feedback (Autumn Term 2006)

Regional development groups survey (Autumn Term 2006)

Inspectors reports (ongoing scrutiny)

Ofsted reports (ongoing scrutiny)

Status: initiated

Financial implications: LA to pay for questionnaire

3. **SACRE monitoring of religious education through school self evaluation of provision**

Timescale: first reports on self evaluation to be scrutinised by SACRE in the Summer Term 2006, then ongoing

Evidence: collection of ongoing self evaluation submissions from schools for SACRE scrutiny to be organised and supported by RE inspectors

Status: to be initiated in January 2006

Financial implications: none

4. **Monitoring of and support for secondary schools failing to meet statutory requirements for RE and collective worship**

Timescale: ongoing from Autumn Term 2006

Evidence:

Systematic recognition of secondary schools not meeting statutory requirements through questionnaire to schools in relation to the implementation of *Living Difference* (Autumn 2006)

Letter to schools offering inspector support (Autumn 2006)

Ongoing monitoring through SACRE scrutiny of departmental self-evaluation

Link to partnership with local providers of NQTs (established)

Status: to be initiated in Summer Term 2006

Financial implications: none

5. **Establishing of a young people's inter-faith forum**

Timescale: January 2006, ongoing monitoring with evaluation of effectiveness in 2009

Evidence:

Planning through steering group from January 2006

Establish partnership with University of Winchester by March 2006

Bid to NASACRE for initial funding in March 2006

Forum established by March/April 2006

Status: research undertaken and planning initiated, coordinator to be appointed, forum to be formed by March/April 2006

Financial implications: £50,000 over 5 years

6. **Development of links with key stakeholders**

Timescale: Spring Term 2006, ongoing

Evidence:

One meeting per year to be held at a religious or educational venue, beginning with the Medina Mosque, Southampton in Summer Term 2006

Speakers to address SACRE on their faith community, beginning with the Muslim community in Southampton in Summer Term 2006

Speakers to address SACRE on RE in their school and the effectiveness of using the Agreed Syllabus, *Living Difference*, beginning with Key Stage 1 and 2 teachers in Spring Term 2006

SACRE to establish a closer relationship with Southampton Council of Faiths

Status: initiated

Financial implications: none

7. **Induction of new SACRE members**

Timescale: Autumn 2005, ongoing

Evidence:

New members sent introductory pack by clerk to SACRE (from Autumn 2005)

SACRE delegate gives new members induction (from Autumn 2005)

New members supported at first meeting by experienced SACRE member

(from Autumn 2005)

Status: initiated, ongoing monitoring

Financial implications: none