

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

At a meeting of the **Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)** held at County Hall, Morpeth on Wednesday, 6 June 2018 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT

Councillor W. Daley
Chairman, in the Chair

COUNCILLORS

Crosby, W.
Pidcock, B.

Thorne, T.N.

TEACHER'S ASSOCIATIONS/UNIONS REPRESENTATIVES

Shaw, Mrs. H.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND REPRESENTATIVES

Bainbridge, Mrs. E.

Hudson, C.

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER CHURCHES & FAITHS

Cousin, Mrs. J.
Van Der Velde, Mrs. D. (Vice-Chair)

Marley, Rev. E.H.
Khan, Ms. M.

CO-OPTED REPRESENTATIVES (Observers)

Dearlove, S.
Wardingham, Ms. M.

North East Humanists
Teacher - Collingwood School and
Media Arts College

Ch.'s Initials.....

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

P. André	Part-time RE Consultant
D. Cookson	Commissioner for Secondary Education
Mrs. A. Todd	Democratic Services Officer

1. MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

The membership and terms of reference of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education for the 2018/19 Council year were reported as set out below:-

Representation of Other Churches and Faiths

Roman Catholic Church	Mrs. J. Cousin (from September 2013)
United Reformed Church (URC) 2006)	Rev. E.H. Marley OBE (from January 2006)
Baptist Church	Represented by the URC, Rev. E.H. Marley OBE
Methodist Church (SENEA)	Represented by the URC, Rev. E.H. Marley OBE (from September 2016)
Hinduism	Bhakti Rasa Adhikhara (from May 2009)
Islam	Ms. M. Khan (from 31 January 2018)
Judaism	Mrs. D. Van Der Velde (from January 2005)
Sikhism	Harpal Singh (from June 2011)

Representatives of the Church of England

Mrs. E. Bainbridge
Mr. P. W. Rusby
Rev. J. Scott (from April 2015)
Mr. C. Hudson (from May 2015)

Representatives of the Teacher's Associations/Unions

Miss. F. Gannon (from June 2014)
Mr. T. Nicholls (from April 2010) and Mr. A. Duffield (from 1 October 2015) *Shared ATL rep*
Mrs. H. Shaw
Mr. M. Davidson (from 25 May 2016)

Ch.'s Initials.....

Representatives of the Local Authority (appointed from 2 May 2018)

B. Crosby
W. Daley (Chairman)
B. Pidcock
T.N. Thorne

Co-Opted Members (non-voting capacity)

Mr. S. Dearlove – Humanist rep (from 31 January 2018)
Ms. M. Wardingham - special school teacher from Collingwood School and Media Arts College (from 7 March 2018)

Observer (Academies' rep)

Mr. S. Gibson - Northumberland Church of England Academy (from 21 September 2016)

Terms of Reference

Terms of reference as per Circular 3/89:-

“To advise the Authority upon such matters connected with religious worship in County schools and the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the Authority may refer to the Council or as the Council may see fit.”

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that the election of Councillor W. Daley as Chairman of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education for the ensuing 2018/2019 Council year be noted.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. M. Davidson, Miss. F. Gannon and Mr. A. Duffield.

4. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Mrs. Deanna Van Der Velde be re-elected Vice-Chairman of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education for the 2018/19 Council year.

Ch.'s Initials.....

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education held on 7 March 2018, as circulated, be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

6. AN UPDATE OF CONTACTS WITH SCHOOLS AND TRAINING PROVISION

The SACRE members received an update from Mr Phil André, RE Consultant, about his provision of RE in-service training and contacts with schools since the last related meeting (a copy of which is filed with the signed minutes as Appendix B).

Phil André drew the attention of members to the discussions with the head of RE at The Duchess High School about the requirements for the new RE GCSE. It was reported that a number of secondary RE teachers worried that the emphasis on scriptural analysis and reduced opportunities to address topical ethical issues would undermine student enthusiasm for the subject. Discussion took place on what the SACRE could do to help and support teachers in their concerns. The Chairman suggested a letter be drafted to the Department for Education and GCSE awarding bodies from the SACRE to outline the concerns of teachers regarding the new RE GCSE.

Regarding 29.3.18, Ms Khan informed members that she was to liaise with the mosque and Seaton Sluice Middle School to arrange a visit. She noted the number of requests received from schools wanting to discuss Islam which was very positive.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

7. NORTHUMBERLAND SACRE NEWSLETTER

(a) Members received a copy of the 37th issue of the Northumberland SACRE Newsletter, dated April 2018, that had been circulated to all schools and is published on the schools' website (a copy of which has been filed with the signed minutes).

Councillor Pidcock reported that there was to be another Holocaust Memorial event at County Hall, Morpeth. A working group had been established to discuss arrangements for the event. The working group had agreed that the event next January was to focus entirely on the Holocaust. However, it was noted that nationally it had been confirmed that there was to be an emphasis on not only the Holocaust but other genocides at Holocaust Memorial events. It was confirmed that an invitation was to be sent to all members of the SACRE nearer the time regarding County Hall's event.

Ch.'s Initials.....

RESOLVED that the newsletter be received, with thanks extended to those involved in its production.

(b) Consideration was given to the arrangements for the articles to be included in the next edition of the SACRE Newsletter, Issue No.38, for September 2018.

A number of articles were suggested as follows:-

- SACRE Development Session - D. Cookson
- RE Quality Mark achieved by a Northumberland school - D. Cookson
- Anniversary of World War 1 - C. Hudson
- RE CPD event, Autumn Term and RE Survey - D. Cookson
- Centre for Christian Education International Conference. Also the question of whether Northumberland should attend the conference in July. - M. Khan
- Easter Trail article - E. Bainbridge
- Life Path article - C. Hudson

Members were reminded that any copy articles were to be received in Word format documents, A4 portrait size and any accompanying photographs to be in jpeg format, and sent to Mr. André for proof-reading by mid-July 2018. The aim was to have the next newsletter printed over the summer holidays for distribution in schools in September 2018.

RESOLVED that the position be noted.

8. NASACRE ISSUES

The NASACRE Newsletter – SACRE News

Members received the NASACRE Briefing No. 18 of April 2018, for information (a copy of which is filed with the signed minutes).

Members welcomed the content and information provided in the NASACRE newsletter. Mr Hudson advised that he was to attend the conference in Crewe and would report back any relevant information to the next SACRE meeting.

Within the newsletter there were a number of issues that members suggested be discussed further at the SACRE Development Session including budget cuts, developments regarding compliance and Youth SACRE.

Reminder of the web site link: www.nasacre.org.uk for other articles of interest.

RESOLVED that the NASACRE Briefing No. 18, be received.

Ch.'s Initials.....

9. SURVEY OF SCHOOL RE PROVISION

Members of the SACRE were provided with a first draft of questions to be circulated to schools (a copy of which has been enclosed with the signed minutes).

Members were asked to consider the draft document which would be discussed in detail at the SACRE Development session.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

10. 2018 RE CPD EVENT

Members of the SACRE were provided within an update on the CPD event. It was suggested the event take place after the 2 October and queried if the event could link into National Interfaith Week. A keynote speaker will attend the event who is the Ofsted national lead on RE. A number of workshops would take place with all members of the SACRE being invited to attend.

It was noted that a confirmed date and venue for the event would be agreed as soon as possible, hopefully avoiding any clashes with religious festivals/events and busy times within schools.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

11. SACRE DEVELOPMENT SESSION

Members discussed arrangements for the development session scheduled for 18 July 2018. Mrs Cousin read out her questions proposed to the SACRE from the last meeting. It was suggested that these form the basis of starting discussions on the day along with those detailed within the NASACRE newsletter. Ms Khan was invited to facilitate the session and she gladly accepted.

It was suggested an itinerary be circulated in advance of the development session with background papers detailing the statutory guidance and responsibilities of the SACRE.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT AND FUTURE MEETINGS

Wednesday, 18 July 2018 at 10.30 a.m. (Development Session)
Wednesday, 10 October 2018

Ch.'s Initials.....

Wednesday, 16 January 2019
Wednesday, 10 April 2019

CHAIRMAN _____

DATE _____

Ch.'s Initials.....