

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A meeting of the **Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)** on
Wednesday, 14 July 2021 at 4.00 p.m.

PRESENT

CHAIR

C. Weir

COUNCILLORS

L. Bowman
N. Morphet

G. Renner-Thompson
T. Thorne

TEACHER'S ASSOCIATIONS/UNIONS REPRESENTATIVES

CHURCH OF ENGLAND REPRESENTATIVES

Hudson, C.

REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER CHURCHES & FAITHS

Marley, Rev. E.H.
Miller, Dr, J.

Van Der Velde, Mrs. D.

CO-OPTED REPRESENTATIVES

Dearlove, S.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bennett, L
Cookson, D

Little, R.

Senior Democratic Services Officer
Commissioner for Secondary
Education
Assistant Democratic Services
Officer

1. Agreed Syllabus Conference

C. Weir, RE Consultant, provided a presentation which highlighted the roles of the ASC members explaining that it was a separate legal body from a SACRE committee.

It was noted that the meeting was not quorate, therefore any decisions made were made in principle and would be agreed fully when members have agreed the minutes from this meeting.

The ASC members were asked to read the current Agreed Syllabus and the recommendations from the Commission on RE, this had been completed by members prior to the meeting.

The Chair reported that in their opinion as an RE consultant that Northumberland County Council's syllabus on RE education was out of date, it had been updated slightly but not completely remodelled in the last 15 years and that the committee should decide on the best course of action for a new syllabus for the coming year.

The committee discussed the best options for a new syllabus, the options were:

- Keep the AS in its current format.
- Update the current AS in full to take account for educational changes
- Write a new AS in full
- Purchase a syllabus from a local authority who had just updated theirs – this would mean that the syllabus would be regimented, and Northumberland Council would not be able to have any input.
- Purchase a new syllabus from RE today, this would mean that Northumberland County Council would have the opportunity to have a discussion around what they would like to see in the syllabus.

The members decided that the best course of action was to purchase a new syllabus and customise it for the Northumberland context.

A short-list of syllabuses that were available to buy and customise would be drawn up, using the aim of "To enable pupils to acquire knowledge and understanding and to engage critically with the significance and impact of religion, world views, secularity and spirituality in the twenty first century."

It was recommended by five votes for to one against, that:

Work should commence on creation of the shortlist of syllabuses, prior to full agreement at the next quorate meeting.

CHAIR: _____

DATE: _____