

# Public Document Pack

To all Members of the

## STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

### AGENDA

Notice is given that a Meeting of the above Committee  
is to be held as follows:

**VENUE** Room 007a and b - Civic Office, Waterdale, Doncaster, DN1 3BU

**DATE:** Monday, 6th March, 2017

**TIME:** 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm

#### Items for Discussion:

- |           |   |                       |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| 1.        | Introductions.  | <b>Lead</b><br>Rev TM |
| 2.        | Apologies for absence.  | Rev TM                |
| 3.        | Decision Summary and Minutes of the meeting held on 29th November, 2016. ( <i>attached pages 1 - 10</i> ).  | Rev TM                |
| 4.        | Matters Arising.  | Rev TM                |
| <b>A.</b> | <b>Reports where the public and press may not be excluded.</b>  |                       |
| 5.        | Membership and attendance. ( <i>attached - pages 11 - 12</i> ).   | JS                    |
| 6.        | Preparation/working party for agreed syllabus 2018.<br>( <i>documents to be tabled at the meeting</i> ).  | JS                    |
| 7.        | Challenging RE Conference – Rotherham<br>( <i>Flyer attached - flyer forwarded to all schools on 14 February, 2017</i> ).<br>( <i>pages - 13 – 14</i> ) | JS                    |

**Jo Miller**  
**Chief Executive**

Issued on: Friday, 24 February, 2017

Democratic Services Officer  
for this meeting:

Andrea Hedges  
Tel. 01302 736716

- |    |   |              |
|----|---|--------------|
| 8. | NASACE AGM - 16 May, 2017 York: Preparing for life in Britain today: the contribution of RE.<br><i>(attached - pages 15 - 16).</i>  | JS/Rev<br>TM |
| 9. | Information exchange.   | Rev TM       |
|    | (a) Newsletter Working Party<br>(b) Building Outreach Capacity<br>(c) Grant of £4000 for a project bringing Christians and Muslims together (as noted at the end of Rev Tom's Chair's introduction in the draft SACRE Annual Report). |              |

**B. Items where the Public and Press may be excluded.**

- |     |  |        |
|-----|--|--------|
| 10. | Draft SACRE Annual Report 2016 – For information.<br><i>(attached – pages 17 - 44)</i> | JS     |
| 11. | Any Other Business.  | Rev TM |
| 12. | Date, time and location of Summer Term meeting.  |        |

**Members of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)**

Chair – Reverend Tom McCready – Unitarian (Doncaster Interfaith)  
Vice-Chair – Mr Bruce Gillham (Balby (Doncaster) Society of Friends)

**Local Authority Representatives**

Councillors James Hart, Nuala Fennelly, Sue Knowles and Majid Khan

**Christian and other religious denominations**

Mrs J Gessler, Jewish  
Mr R Iball, Methodist  
Mrs P Kaur, Sikh  
Ms S Norburn, Humanist  
Lucy Saxton, Roman Catholic  
Mrs M Sivaanbu, Hindu  
Ms J Stephenson, Baptist  
Mr S Syed, Muslim  
Mr B Teimoori, Baha'i  
Vacant, Buddhist

**The Church of England**

Ms J Crowther  
2 Vacancies

**Teachers' Associations**

T Griffiths, National Association of Headteachers Edge  
A Nicholson, National Union of Teachers  
Vacant, Association of Teachers and Lecturers  
Vacant, Association of Teachers and Lecturers  
Vacant, National Union of Teachers

# Agenda Item 3

## STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

29TH NOVEMBER, 2016

### DECISION SUMMARY

Please note that the meeting was declared inquorate. It was agreed that the meeting take place but no decisions were made, only recommendations which would need to be ratified at the next meeting.

In advance of the production of the minutes, the following is a summary of the recommendations arising from the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) meeting held on Tuesday 29th November, 2016.

Agenda Item No. and Subject Matter		Decision	Action
1.	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nuala Fennelly and Majid Khan, Mr R Iball, Ms S Norburn, Mary Sivaanbu, Ms J Crowther, Mr T Griffiths and Michael McGuigan.	All to note.
3.	Declarations of Interest	None	All to note
4.	Pre-meeting Item – SACRE AGM report	<p>The Chair gave a brief presentation of the report and requested that members read the response and suggestions made by Bruce Gillham.</p> <p>The Group recommended to note the update and paper presented by the Chair of his attendance at the NASACRE AGM on the 17th May, 2016.</p>	All to note
5.	Minutes of the meeting held on 25th May, 2016	AGREED as a True Record	All to note
7.	Annual Review Membership and Attendance	<p>It was recommended that:-</p> <p>(1) the new Minister Adam Priestly be invited to attend SACRE meetings;</p> <p>(2) a Review be undertaken of the Membership and Attendance;</p> <p>(3) Members be reminded of the importance of attendance to ensure the meetings are quorate; and</p> <p>(4) a Review of the Constitution and Terms of Reference be undertaken and a report be submitted to the next meeting.</p>	<p>Rev TM</p> <p>RH</p> <p>AT</p> <p>RH</p>

8.	New Arrangements for SACRE	It was recommended that clarity be sought from the Local Authority on what the new arrangements for SACRE would be following recent resource changes.	RH
9.	SACRE Briefing 12	<p>It was recommended that the Briefing be noted and further clarity be sought prior to the next meeting on who would be responsible for Member log in's/password's.</p> <p>Rev T McCready stated that he would also prepare a brief report to the Muslim/Christian Faith Group in relation to the Tell Mama Annual Report 2015 requesting their views and report back to the next meeting.</p>	<p>All to note</p> <p>Rev TM</p>
10.	NATRE Primary Survey Findings	It was recommended that the NATRE Primary Survey Findings be noted.	All to note
11.	Information Exchange	<p>It was noted that the SACRE Autumn 2016 e newsletter had been forwarded to all schools for their information.</p> <p>Rev T McCready shared with the Members the following information:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-7 February 2017 was International Interfaith Harmony Week which would be a festival of minority faiths and he would be contacting people asking for their participation.</li> <li>• Refugee week would take place in the 3rd week of June 2017 which would also fall within Ramadan. He stated that it was the intention for there to be a week of prayer and following the end of Ramadan there would be a celebration of cultural diversity.</li> </ul> <p>Mr S Syed shared with Members his thoughts and comments regarding his recent visit to the Israel.</p>	All to note

12.	Future Agenda Items	<p>It was recommended that future agenda items Should be as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Membership and Attendance</li> <li>• Review of Constitution and Terms of Reference</li> <li>• Draft SACRE Annual Report 2015-16 for approval</li> <li>• Review of the Local Agreed Syllabus</li> <li>• Presentation Humanism Website</li> <li>• Response from Muslim/Christian Faith Group on the Anti-Muslim Hatred report</li> </ul>	
13.	Date and Time of next meeting	<p>AGREED that the next meeting be scheduled to take place on Monday 6th March, 2017 in Room 7a&amp;b Civic Office commencing at 4.00 p.m.</p>	All to note

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DONCASTER METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

TUESDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER, 2016

A MEETING of the STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) was held at the 007A AND B - CIVIC OFFICE on TUESDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER, 2016, at 4.00 pm.

PRESENT:

Chair – Reverend Tom McCready – Unitarian (Doncaster Interfaith)

Vice-Chair – Mr Bruce Gillham (Balby (Doncaster) Society of Friends)

Councillors James Hart and Sue Knowles

Mrs J Gessler, Ms J Stephenson, Mr S Syed, Mr B Teimoori, Mrs P Cassidy and Mr R Hedley.

APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nuala Fennelly and Majid Khan, Mr R Iball, Ms S Norburn, Mary Sivaanbu, Ms J Crowther, Mr M McGuigan and Mr T Griffiths.

15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IF ANY.

No declarations were reported at the meeting.

16 PRE-MEETING ITEM

The Chair, Reverend Tom McCready presented a brief report in relation to his attendance at the NASACRE AGM in London on the 17th May, 2016. He stated that he found the meeting was very informative, encouraging and a worthwhile event. It was noted that 50% of those eligible SACRE's were in attendance.

The Keynote speakers were Baroness Elizabeth Butler-Sloss and Professor Adam Dinham. He stated that he had participated in discussions with other attendees and reported that following those conversations there were questions that the Committee could consider which were as follows:-

1. At the primary school level pupils do not only learn about different beliefs, cultures and traditions from their parents and their teachers: they learn from each other. Is there an effective way to acknowledge and encourage this?
2. At the secondary, F.E. and H.E. level, R.E and Religious Studies are not just about differing beliefs and practices but about using the world's religions and wisdom traditions to frame serious ethical and philosophical questions? and
3. There is still considerable resistance among some members of some faith groups to have more engagement with other faith groups, even though all the

main leaders of the faith groups encourage engagement on terms of friendship and respect. How do we address this? Is it part of our job to address this?

The Chair presented Members with a response submitted by the Vice-Chair Mr Bruce Gillham which highlighted a proposal for facilitating involving pupils directly in resourcing the Moral Curriculum.

Members were asked to consider the following:-

Launching and funding, from slim resources, a pupil-centred media competition, for example by encouraging the production of:

- Video interview tapes of analysis and investigations of moral questions, with staff and pupil inputs;
- Production of short plays intended for specific purposes and covering the key dimensions of moral decision-making within a multi-faith and multi-cultural context;
- Written compilations of wise sayings from the under 16's designed to support creative approaches to the fostering of moral and ethical issues in school;
- Guidance notes for government from pupils about the place of moral education in the school system

It was noted that all of these ideas could be explored but not necessarily presented in conjunction with religious standpoints or designed for distribution and dissemination via mobile phones, Facebook, Twitter as well as more conventional dissemination via school usage and existing networks.

Members were advised that such materials would be expected to generate energetic debate and rational thinking about community relations and good behaviour.

Members welcomed the proposal made by Bruce and felt that it would be beneficial to first look at ways in which engagement can be made with pupils without the requirement funding. It was suggested that a proposal for funding could be made through West Hill. It was noted that there had only been 1 other SACRE that had received funding which was 6 years ago. Members recognised the importance of early engagement with pupils and if more people were to see the work of SACRE more responses would be received.

RECOMMENDED that:-

- (1) the paper presented by the Chair on his attendance at NASACRE AGM be noted
- (2) the response and proposal presented by Bruce Gillham be supported and a further detailed presentation on the proposals be submitted to a future meeting

## 17 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25TH MAY, 2016

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th May, 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.



## 18 ANNUAL REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE.

Members discussed the Membership and Attendance of SACRE and highlighted their concerns regarding inquorate meetings. It was suggested that the importance be reiterated to members stating that there needed to be at least 1 representative from each Committee in order for the meetings to be declared quorate and decisions being made. It was also suggested that if a member had not attended 3 consecutive meetings a letter be sent to them seeking their views on whether they still wished to be a Member of SACRE.

The Chair, Reverend McCready reported that the new Minister Adam Priestly may want to attend SACRE as a representative from The Church of England. He stated that he would contact Reverend David Stephens to seek a response.

A suggestion of inviting pupils from a 6th form level who were undertaking studies such as ethics and were perhaps keen to engage with SACRE could be invited to attend future meetings and whether any links could be made with the Youth Council. Members highlighted the importance of engaging with young people at an early stage.

### RECOMMENDED that:-

- (1) the report on Membership and attendance be noted;
- (2) a review be undertaken on the Membership and Attendance and a report be submitted to a future meeting;
- (3) a reminder be added to the agenda regarding the importance of member attendance to ensure a quorum is obtained; and
- (4) a Review of the Constitution and Terms of Reference be undertaken and a report be submitted to a future meeting.

## 19 NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR SACRE

Members were informed that there may be some changes with regard to the arrangements for SACRE. It was noted that SACRE no longer had a clerk who was responsible for SACRE following a re-organisation within the Local Authority directorate. Whilst some support was being provided, it would not be to the extent of what it used to be.

Members expressed their comments and concerns and felt that further clarity needed to be sought on what the Local Authority see as the new arrangement for the future of SACRE.

It was noted that nobody wanted to see SACRE to be disbanded and felt that whilst there were significant challenges ahead, it was clear that SACRE could rise to that challenge. Members were also advised that members also have access to NASACRE which would provide a lot of support material. It was also advised that Doncaster SACRE were much better than neighbouring SACRE's.

RECOMMENDED that further clarity be sought from the Local Authority on the new arrangements for SACRE following recent resource changes and a report be submitted to a future meeting.

## 20 SACRE BRIEFING 12

Members had received a copy of the SACRE Briefing paper and were invited to make comments. Discussion took place in relation to new password details for SACRE members and who would be responsible for providing these. It was suggested that prior to this matter being addressed at the next meeting, further discussions take place outside of the meeting to clarify roles and responsibilities.

The Chair, Reverend McCready stated that he would also like to share and provide a brief report to the Muslim/Christian Faith Group highlighting the information within the Tell Mama Annual Report 2015 on hate crime requesting their views. A report with their responses would be submitted to the next meeting.

RECOMMENDED that:-

- (1) the briefing be noted;
- (2) clarity be sought prior to the next meeting on who was responsible for members log-in's/passwords; and
- (3) a report highlighting responses regarding the Tell Mama Annual Report on hate crime be submitted to the next meeting

## 21 NATRE PRIMARY SURVEY FINDINGS

The Committee considered a paper which presented an analysis of data gathered from a questionnaire on primary religious education conducted by the National Association of Teachers of Religious Education (NATRE).

The report identified key findings from the survey which were as follows:-

1. How suitable is primary teachers' training and preparation to teach RE?
2. How well supported are subject leaders of RE?
3. What issues were causing teachers of RE concern; and
4. What issues help or hinder the effective delivery of RE

A further detailed breakdown of the survey questions were also presented within pages 29-39 of the report.

Members were invited to make comments. It was noted that the findings didn't highlight anything new and were similar to what Members already knew. Members were of the view that there didn't seem to be any commitment from some teachers towards Religious Education particularly at primary school level. It was noted that more specialised teachers of Religious Education were within High Schools. Members were also advised that Teacher training was not providing people with the skills or confidence to deliver the RE subject.

The Chair asked whether he was able to share the information within a report to the Muslim/Christian Faith Group. In response, Pat Cassidy stated that this would not be a problem but to ensure that the information was referenced appropriately.

RECOMMENDED that the report be noted.

## 22 INFORMATION EXCHANGE

The Committee received a copy of the Religious Education and Collective Worship E-Newsletter which had been forwarded to all schools.

The Chair, Rev Tom McCready announced to Members 2 forthcoming events which were as follows:-

- 1-7 February 2017 International Interfaith Harmony Week. He stated that the event would be a festival of minority faiths and he would be contacting people and asking for their participation.
- Refugee week 3rd week in June 2017. He pointed out that this event would also fall within Ramadan and it was suggested that there would be a week of prayer and following the end of Ramadan people would be invited to celebrate cultural diversity.

In addition, Mr S Syed brought to the Members attention his recent visit to Israel and the places he had visited. He stated that the trip was very worthwhile and urged others to attend if they were able to do so.

RECOMMENDED that the E-Newsletter and comments made by Members be noted.

## 23 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

It was recommended that the following items be placed on future agendas:-

- (1) Review of Membership and Attendance;
- (2) Review of the Constitution and Terms of Reference;
- (3) A presentation on the proposals for facilitating involving pupils directly in resourcing the Moral Curriculum;
- (3) Draft SACRE Annual Report 2015-2016 for approval;
- (4) Review of the Local Agreed Syllabus; and
- (5) Presentation Humanism Website.

## 24 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

AGREED that the next meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) be scheduled for Monday 6th March, 2017 in Room 7a&b Civic Office at 4.00 p.m.

CHAIR: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Faith Group/Association	26-Nov-15	* see note 23-Feb-16	25-May-16
<b>Committee A Members (Christian &amp; other religious denominations)</b>				
<b>Vacant</b>	Buddhist			
Gessler J	Jewish	Yes		Yes
Sivaanbu M	Hindu			Yes
Norburn S	Humanist	Yes		Apologies
Saxton L	Roman Catholic			Apologies
Iball R	Methodist	Yes		Yes
Stephenson J	Baptist	Yes		Yes
Syed S	Muslim	Yes		Yes
Teimoori B	Baha'i	Yes		Yes
Gillham B	Balby (Doncaster) Society of Friends	Yes		Apologies
McCready T Rev	Doncaster Interfaith	Yes		Yes
Pahani Kaur	Sikh			Yes
<b>Committee B (The Church of England)</b>				
Scovell K		Apologies		
McGuigan M		Yes		Yes
<b>Committee C (Teachers' Associations)</b>				
Nicholson A	National Union of Teachers			Yes
Cassidy P	National Union of Teachers	Yes		Yes
Coward J	National Union of Teachers			

Walker N	Association of Teachers and Lecturers	Apologies		
Griffiths T	National Association of Headteachers Edge			
Williams M	Association of Teachers and Lecturers	Apologies		
<b>Committee D (Local Authority Representatives)</b>				
<b>Current members</b>				
Councillor Fennelly N		Yes		Yes
Councillor Hart J		Apologies		Yes
Councillor Knowles S		Apologies		Yes
Councillor Rodgers K		Yes		Resigned
Councillor Khan M (replaced Councillor Rodgers 13 May 2016)				Yes
<b>In attendance at the meeting</b>				
Jo Moxon - Assistant Director Learning and Achievement				Yes
John Duhig - Clerk to SACRE				Yes
Akeela Mohammed - Faith and Culture Sub-Group (Pre-Meeting)				Yes
Rosie Faulkner - Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board (Pre-Meeting)				

Page 12 Meeting on 23 February cancelled due to illness of some members

# Challenging RE:

## Imagination, British Values, Thinking, Assessment

The South Yorkshire RE Hub's Third Annual Day Conference

4 SACREs in Sheffield, Barnsley, Doncaster + Rotherham together

Annual Professional Development Day Conference

The Hub, Canklow Road, Rotherham: 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017, 9.15 – 3.45

**Practical and imaginative ideas for RE in every South Yorkshire school**

This conference day for teachers of RE in primary and secondary schools has been planned to give busy teachers across south Yorkshire lots of ready to use activities to help make RE more inspiring.

Support from SACREs in Rotherham, Sheffield, Barnsley and Doncaster and from NATRE and Sheffield Hallam University is gratefully acknowledged.

### Featured speakers and leaders:

- Lat Blaylock, Adviser with RE Today
- Vanessa Gregory, RE leader in Rotherham

### PROGRAMME

8.30 am	Refreshments and registration
9.15 am	Session 1: RE into the Future Keynote 6 practical ways to build up enthusiasm in RE – for pupils and teachers for 5-14s
10.45 am	Refreshments
11.15 am	Session 2: Concepts for learning. How can RE develop pupils' understanding and use of key concepts?
12.45 pm	Lunch
1.45 pm	Session 3: Achieving a lot: RE after levels – what does it mean to set high standards?
3.15pm	RE Next: Where is the subject headed? How the hub can help you.
3.40pm	Evaluation. Conference closes at 3.45pm

A wide range of RE Today resources and books will be available, and schools will be able to take books on the day and pay an invoice sent to school following the event.

To book your place, e-mail [Rockingham.pdc@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:Rockingham.pdc@rotherham.gov.uk) with the following details:-

<b>Course Title and date:</b>	<b>Inspiring RE 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017</b>
<b>Name of delegate(s):</b>	
<b>School of delegate:</b>	
<b>Invoice address to charge for the course</b>	
<b>Email address</b>	

The cost of the course per delegate is: £130 including a buffet lunch and all course materials  
**The location is The Hub, 103 Canklow Rd, Rotherham, South Yorkshire S60 2JF**



NASACRE  
c/o Religious Education Council,  
CAN Mezzanine,  
49-51 East Road  
London  
N1 6AH

## Conference and AGM

- [2017](#)
- [2016](#)
- [2015](#)
- [2014](#)
- [2013](#)

### **2017**

#### **Preparing for life in Britain today: the contribution of RE**

**Date:** Tuesday May 16th 2017

**Venue:** York Hilton, 1 Tower Street, York, YO1 9WD

#### **Keynote Speakers**

**Dr Joyce Miller** is Associate Fellow in the Religions and Education Research Unit at the University of Warwick (WRERU). In 2007 she retired as Head of Diversity and Cohesion at Education Bradford, prior to which she was a Senior Lecturer in religious studies at the University of Wolverhampton. Joyce has taught in secondary schools in Coventry and Northumberland. She is a former Chair of the RE Council, AREIAC, Bradford SACRE and the Schools Linking Network.

Joyce is one of the Commissioners recently appointed by the RE Council to review the legal, education and policy frameworks for RE.

**Prof Aaqil Ahmed** is the only person to have been both BBC and Channel 4 Head of Religion and Ethics. He grew up in the north of England and is a practising Muslim. He is a Professor at the School of Media and Performing Arts, University of Bolton and a Board member of various organisations including Princes Trust mentoring charity, Mosaic. Aaqil has written on the subject of religious literacy, recently delivering contributory chapters to Open Democracy's 'Rethinking the BBC' and Lapido Media's 'Religious literacy for journalists handbook'.

Aaqil explains to modern audiences why religion and ethics are so important in today's world, and how to present the issues fearlessly but fairly without creating phoney controversy: *"The subject matter is so rich, you don't need to be that foolish and set out to do it. You just need to tell the most important stories that are relevant today."*

#### **Provisional conference programme**

11:00 Arrival, registration and coffee  
11:30 Welcome and introductions  
11:40 Keynote address: Dr Joyce Miller  
12:10 Question time  
12:45 AGM  
13:30 Lunch  
14.15 Second Keynote address: Prof Aaqil Ahmed  
15:00 Discussions and questions  
15:35 Table discussions/panel discussion  
16:10 Westhill Awards  
16.15 Closing remarks from Chair  
16:30 Close of conference

**Delegate cost:**

£100 per delegate from NASACRE member SACREs  
£125 per delegate from non-member SACREs and interested others

[MAKE A BOOKING](#)

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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