

## **Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education**

**7 March 2022 at 6.00 pm in the Council Chamber**

### **Present:**

Mr D. Lomax (Chair)  
Mrs P. Lane (Vice Chair)  
Mrs K. Donnellan  
Mrs Graham  
Dr G. Gomez  
Mr W. Green  
Mrs B. Groombridge  
Mr A. Orlik  
Mrs V. Heydon-Matterface  
Councillor S. Nasreen  
Councillor G. Singh-Sohal  
Councillor Ian Robertson

### **In Attendance:**

Ms F. Moss, RE Today Advisor  
Mr. C. Goodall, Principal Democratic Services Officer

#### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor K. Hussain.

#### **2. Minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2021**

##### **Resolved:**

**That the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2021 be approved and signed as a true record.**

#### **3. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended)**

There were no items for consideration in the private session.

#### **4. SACRE Annual Report 2021/21**

The Chair introduced the annual report to the meeting and thanked Ms. Moss for her assistance in drafting it.

The RE Today Consultant, Ms F. Moss, highlighted elements of the report, principally noting that, due to the cancellation of exams for teacher related assessment, the Annual Report did not include exam results. In addition to this she highlighted findings on collective worship and the setup of SACRE.

A short discussion took place on the funding available from the Council. It was noted that the funding was spent securing the services of RE Today. SACRE Members expressed concern about the amount of funding available to pursue their work.

**Resolved:**

**That the SACRE Annual Report 2020/21 be approved.**

## **5. Review of Walsall OFSTED Reports**

Ms Moss reported on a review of OFSTED inspections of local schools that had been published between 1 May 2021 – 18 February 2022. Her report highlighted where the inspectors had made comments on RE provision in the schools that had been inspected. It was noted that not all schools had their RE teaching inspected due to the way subjects for inspection were selected.

**Resolved:**

**That:**

- 1. The report be noted;**
- 2. The Chair write to congratulate those schools who received positive comments regarding RE teaching in their Ofsted inspection reports.**

## **6. Syllabus Launch**

The Chair reported on the launch of the new RE Agreed Syllabus and explained its purpose.

Mr Orlick highlighted the events success with 91 participants from 75 schools. He felt this was significant and looked forward to the new syllabus being taught in schools.

**Resolved:**

**That the report be noted.**

## **7. NASACRE Training**

Ms. Moss highlighted forthcoming opportunities to attend NASACRE training.

**Resolved:**

**That the training opportunities be noted.**

**8. Religion and World Views**

Ms Moss reported how, at a national level, the suitability of RE, as a subject, was being reviewed to ensure that it continued to be fit for purpose in the modern age. For example, when the Walsall syllabus is next reviewed, it will be important to understand if schools are teaching a diverse range of views. This would include non-religious views and variations within religions.

**Resolved:**

**That the report be noted.**

**9. National RE updates for SACREs**

Ms Moss provided updates on various events and items as referenced in the report.

(annexed)

**10. Dates for Future Meetings**

In closing the meeting Mr Green enquired how 'Humanist' representation could be added to the SACRE membership. Ms. Moss commented on similar developments nationally. Mr. Goodall advised that a report would be required to amend the SACRE constitution to include new members.

**Resolved:**

**That:**

- 1. A report be presented to a future meeting reviewing the membership of SACRE to include the proposal to expand the membership to include a 'Humanist' Member;**
- 2. It was noted that the next meeting was June 2022.**

The meeting terminated at 7.16 pm.

Chair: .....

Date: .....