

County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

16 November 2015

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

A meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education will be held on **Tuesday, 24 November 2015** in **Committee Room Three, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YL** at **2.00 pm** for the transaction of business set out on the attached Agenda.

Yours sincerely



Tony McArdle
Chief Executive

Membership of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Christian and Other Religious Denominations (Group A)

Councillor C Burke, Roman Catholic Church
Mrs C Dring, Baptist Church
Mrs L Gaylard, Ground Level Network of Churches in Lincolnshire
Mr A Hornsby, Methodist Church
Mr N McFarlane BEM, Salvation Army
Mr F Sperring, Society of Friends
Mrs S Sreenivasan, Hindu Community
Professor B Winston, Lincolnshire Jewish Community
Dr T Ahmed MBA, Islamic Association of Lincoln
1 Vacancy (United Reformed Church)

Church of England (Group B)

Mr D Clements, Church of England
Mr D R Scoffield, Church of England
Mrs J Sheldrake, Church of England

The Teachers Panel (Group C)

Mrs C A Williamson, Secondary Schools
Mrs E Moore, Primary Schools
Ms S Thornton, Primary Schools

1 Vacancy (National Association of Head Teachers)

Lincolnshire County Council (Group D)

Councillors Mrs J Brockway, Mrs E J Sneath and C L Strange

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AGENDA
TUESDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2015**

Item	Title	Report Reference
1	Opening Reflections - Mrs S Screenivasan	
2	Apologies for Absence	
3	Declarations of Members' Interests	
4	Minutes of the previous meeting of SACRE held on 23 June 2015	(Pages 5 - 10)
5	Updates from the Minutes (if any)	(Verbal Report)
5a	SACRE Constitution - Update (minute 14) <i>(The new constitution for SACRE was approved by Executive Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell (Executive Councillor for Adult Care and Health Services, Children's Services) is attached for information)</i>	(Pages 11 - 22)
6	Chairman's Correspondence (if any)	(Verbal Report)
7	Summary of the Accord Inclusive Schools Award with recommendations of which schools to nominate <i>(A report by Wendy Harrison, RE Adviser, which summarises the requirements for the Award)</i>	
8	Summary of Ofsted Inspections of Lincolnshire Schools with reference to the provision for Pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development <i>(A report by Wendy Harrison, RE Adviser, on the outcome of inspections carried out by Ofsted)</i>	(Pages 23 - 28)
9	"A New Settlement: Religion and Beliefs in Schools" <i>(A report by Wendy Harrison, RE Adviser and Gillian Georgiou, Diocese and Cathedral Religious Adviser, in connection with the paper launched by the Rt Hon Charles Clarke and Professor Linda Woodhead on 15th June 2015 as part of the Westminster Faith Debates. The paper focuses on three issues: Collective worship, Religious Education and Faith Schools)</i>	(Pages 29 - 32)
10	Agreed Syllabus - Update <i>(An update by Wendy Harrison, RE Adviser)</i>	(Verbal Report)
11	SACRE Action Plan <i>(A report by Wendy Harrison, RE Adviser and Jill Chandar-Nair, Inclusion and Attendance Team Manager, which provides an update on the latest situation in connection with the action plan)</i>	(Pages 33 - 44)

- 12 SACRE/RE Conference**
(A verbal report by Wendy Harrison, RE Adviser, informing SACRE that the Conference did not take place as planned) (Verbal Report)
- 13 The Westhill/NASACRE Awards 2015/16 - Outcome**
(A report by Wendy Harrison, RE Adviser, on the outcome of the submission of suitable projects to NASACRE for grant aid of up to £4,000 to help young people to develop their skills of listening to each other without prejudice) (Verbal Report)
- 14 Diocesan Matters - Update**
(A report by Gillian Georgiou, Diocese and Cathedral Religious Adviser, which provides an update of matters affecting the Diocese and Cathedral) (Pages 45 - 46)
- 15 Suggested Future Dates and Times of Meetings of SACRE - Spring Term - 8 March 2016 and Summer Term - 7 July 2016 (at 2.00pm)**

Democratic Services Officer Contact Details

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Please Note: for more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services Officer responsible for servicing this meeting

- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports

Contact details set out above.

All papers for council meetings are available on:
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/committeerecords



A New Settlement: Religion and Belief in Schools

Lincolnshire SACRE meeting 24.11.15



Westminster
FAITH DEBATES

A New Settlement: Religion and Belief in Schools

CHARLES CLARKE AND LINDA WOODHEAD

Swineshead St Mary's



A New Settlement - Religion and Belief in Schools

In June 2015 Charles Clarke and Linda Woodhead published 'A New Settlement: Religion and Belief in Schools'. Their proposals have been widely recognised as adding to the important debate on the law as it relates to RE.

The full report can be found here:
<http://tinyurl.com/q7x7pbz>

Recommendations

Clarke & Woodhead's paper contains 18 policy recommendations. One recommendation is related to collective worship, eleven to the curriculum for RE and six to faith schools.

The focus today is on those recommendations which relate to RE and collective worship. NASACRE has asked for responses.

Acts of collective Worship

- The current requirement for a daily act of collective worship should be abolished.
- Decisions about assemblies should be left to governors – assemblies would form part of the whole school strategy for SMSC.

Recent paper on ACWs

'Collective Worship and Religious Observance in Schools: An Evaluation of Law and Policy in the UK' (AHRC), November 2015

Sets out 3 options:

1. Maintain the status quo
2. Abolish the duty
3. Reform the duty

<http://collectiveschoolworship.com>

National rather than local syllabus (1)

The Religious Education syllabus in county and voluntary controlled schools should no longer be set by a system of agreed local syllabuses, but by an agreed national syllabus which would have a similar legal status to the requirements of other subjects in the National Curriculum.

National rather than local syllabus (2)

- The nationally agreed syllabus would be determined by the Secretary of State in agreement with a newly created 'National Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (NASACRE-comprised of experts on religion and education).
- The new syllabus would be drawn up after formal consultation and input from the relevant established professional bodies and representatives of religions, humanism and other belief systems. This nationally-agreed syllabus should be reviewed every 5/7 years.

Prompts

1. What is your reaction to this recommendation? Would you prefer to continue to have a locally agreed syllabus? Why? Why not?
2. Would becoming a National Curriculum subject help RE have parity with other subjects?
3. Do you think an 'agreed national syllabus' would help raise standards in RE?
4. What would be the potential benefits and risks of such a change?

SACREs

Local SACREs to be given a new role which includes participating in the consultations about the content of the national RE curriculum, helping local implementation of the national RE syllabus, promoting community cohesion and educating for diversity, and advising on local availability of religious instruction.

Prompts

1. What is your reaction to this recommendation?
2. Are there things that current SACREs do that would be lost within these changes? If there are share examples.
3. Are there other roles that SACREs could fulfill?

Right of withdrawal

If the recommendations are accepted, there is a proposal is to remove the parental right of withdrawal.

What is not clear is what would happen to schools NOT following the national RE curriculum.

- **Even if the recommendations are not accepted, should the right of withdrawal be abolished?**
- **If they are accepted, should all parents have the right to withdraw their children from RE (and collective worship)?**

Caring, Affirming Religious Education

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British Values film Leicester



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