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County Offices Newland Lincoln LN1 1YL

14 November 2016

#### **Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education**

A meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education will be held on **Tuesday**, **22 November 2016** 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 (Committee "A" upto 10 members)

Neville McFarlane BEM (Chairman), Salvation Army
Chris Burke, Roman Catholic Church
Christina Dring, Baptist Church
Lynette Gaylard, Ground Level Network of Churches in Lincolnshire
Andrew Hornsby, Methodist Church
Swathi Sreenivasan, Hindu Community
Dr Tanweer Ahmed MBA, Islamic Association of Lincoln
Chris Rose, Society of Friends
2 Vacancies

#### **Church of England (Committee "B" upto 4 members)**

David Clements Cherry Edwards OBE David Scoffield 1 Vacancy

#### <u>Associations Representing Teachers (Committee "C" upto 4 members)</u>

Catherine Williamson, NAS/UWT Elizabeth Moore, NAS/UWT Sarah Thornton, NUT 1 Vacancy, NAHT

#### **Lincolnshire County Council (Committee "D" upto 4 members)**

Councillors Mrs J Brockway, Mrs E J Sneath, C L Strange and 1 Vacancy

#### STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AGENDA TUESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2016

| Item | Title  | Report<br>Reference |
|------|--|---------------------|
| 1    | Opening Reflections by Cherry Edwards                        |                     |
| 2    | Election of Chairman   |                     |
| 3    | Election of Vice-Chairman                                    |                     |
| 4    | Declarations of Members' Interests                           |                     |
| 5    | Minutes of the previous meeting of SACRE held on 7 July 2016 | (Pages 7<br>- 12)   |

# 6a A Change to the Constitution and Terms of Reference of SACRE (minute 7)

Actions Arising from the Minutes (if not already on the

(Since the previous meeting of SACRE, Councillor Mrs Bradwell, Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services, following legal advice, has decided not to make any changes to SACRE's Constitution in connection with the political balance of the Local Authority's representatives on SACRE as the Education Act 1996 is silent in terms of political balance. So the Act neither requires nor prohibits political balance for the local authority group. This is information is for SACRE to note only)

#### 6b The Filling of Vacancies on SACRE

(Christopher (known as "Chris") Rose, Society of Friends has been appointed to Committee A (Christian Denominations and Other Religious Denominations) by Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell, Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services. Committee A are in the process of giving consideration to the nomination of representatives to fill the two remaining vacancies on this Committee)

### 6c RE/SACRE Conference, Bishop Grossteste University, 20 October 2016

(A verbal update by organisers on why it was necessary to cancel the Conference and lessons to be learnt for the future)

#### 7 SACRE Action Plan

6

agenda)

(A report by Jill Chandar-Nair Inclusion and Attendance Manager and Wendy Harrison, RE Adviser, in connection with the new Action Plan for SACRE. The views of SACRE are sought on the new format and are requested to adopt it)

(Pages 13 - 16)

# 8 Review of SACRE Membership in accordance with SACRE's Constitution

(Pages 17 - 18)

(In accordance with SACRE's Constitution the membership of SACRE is to be reviewed annually and members should have an interest in education in general and religious education in particular and must either live, work or worship in Lincolnshire. A copy of the current membership of SACRE is attached)

#### 9 Summary of Ofsted Inspections of Lincolnshire Schools with Reference to the Provision for Pupil's Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

(Pages 19 - 30)

(A report by Wendy Harrison, RE Adviser, which summarises inspectors' judgements on schools' provision for pupils' SMSC development in those schools inspected by OFSTED since the last report presented to SACRE on 7 July 2016. Please note the slightly new format following the discussion about Boston Grammar School at the last meeting)

## Notes of Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) meeting, held on 17 October 2016

(Pages 31 - 36)

(Pages 37 - 38)

(Notes of a meeting in connection with the Agreed Syllabus which are submitted for comment by SACRE)

#### 11 Diocesan Update

(A report by Gillian Georgiou, Diocese RE Adviser, in connection with the latest update of Diocesan matters)

#### 12 Summary of National Reports and Initiatives in RE

(A report by Wendy Harrison, RE Adviser, in connection with national reports and initiatives in RE)

(Pages 39 - 40)

#### 13 Dates and Times of Future Meetings

(SACRE normally has four meetings a year. The pattern of meetings is one each School Term and therefore it is suggested that meetings are arranged for 21 February, 25 April, 11 July and 14 November 2017 at 2.00pm)

#### **Democratic Services Officer Contact Details**

Name: Steve Blagg
Direct Dial 01522 553788

E Mail Address <u>steve.blagg@lincolnshire.gov.uk</u>

**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: <a href="https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/committeerecords">www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/committeerecords</a>





STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 7 JULY 2016

#### **PRESENT:**

Christian Denominations and Other Religious Denominations (Committee A)

Chris Burke (Roman Catholic Church), Christina Dring (Baptist Church), Lynette Gaylard (Ground Level Network of Churches in Lincolnshire), Andrew Hornsby (Methodist Church) and Dr Tanweer Ahmed MBA (Islamic Association of Lincoln)

The Church of England (Committee B)

David Clements, David Scoffield and Cherry Edwards OBE

Associations Representing Teachers (Committee C)

Catherine Williamson (Secondary Schools) and Sarah Thornton (Primary Schools)

The Local Authority (Committee D)

Councillor Mrs Elizabeth Jane Sneath

#### Officer/Advisers

Steve Blagg (Democratic Services Officer), Gillian Georgiou (Diocesan Religious Education Adviser) and Wendy Harrison (RE Adviser)

#### 1 OPENING REFLECTIONS BY GILLIAN GEORGIOU

Gillian Georgiou gave the opening reflections.

#### 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jackie Brockway (Lincolnshire County Council), Elizabeth Moore (Primary Schools), Neville McFarlane BEM (Salvation Army) and Swathi Sreenivasan (Hindu Community).

#### 3 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

None were declared at this stage of the meeting.

#### 2 STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 7 JULY 2016

# 4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF SACRE HELD ON 8 MARCH 2016

#### RESOLVED

That the minutes of the previous meeting of SACRE held on 7 July 2016, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to the following amendments:-

Minute 38 – first paragraph, after "lifted", add "from collective worship" and under the heading of "Comments by SACRE....following:-", paragraph No. 2, delete "requirement" and add "opportunity".

Minute 39 – second paragraph, delete "servicing" and add "serving".

Minute 40 – third paragraph, delete "Gold" and add "Silver" and in the resolution delete "Gold" and add "Silver".

Minute 42 – paragraph one, delete "The Christianity Project" and add "Understanding Christianity" and in the second paragraph delete "religious matters" and add "RE".

#### 5 CHAIRMAN'S CORRESPONDENCE (IF ANY)

None.

#### 6 <u>CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS</u>

# 7 <u>A CHANGE TO THE CONSTITUTION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE OF SACRE</u>

SACRE received a report from Steve Blagg in connection with a revision to its Constitution. Under "Membership" it stated that "Committee D: the LA: to be politically balanced". SACRE was informed that the need for the Local Authority representatives to be politically balanced was not a requirement under the provisions of the Education Act 1996. The County Council's Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services would be recommended to make the necessary change to the Constitution to show that this was not a requirement.

#### RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

#### 8 THE FILLING OF VACANCIES ON SACRE

SACRE considered a paper in connection with the filling of vacancies on Committee "A" (Christian and Other Denominations). SACRE noted that the filling of vacancies on this Committee was the responsibility of Committee "A" in accordance with SACRE's Constitution.

It was the view of Committee "A" that following consideration of the statistics from the 2011 Census, detailed in the paper, that Chris Rose, representing the Society of Friends should be recommended to the County Council's Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services, for approval, to serve on Committee "A".

SACRE noted the paper. In the meantime, Committee "A" agreed to have a premeeting at 1.30pm on 22 November 2016, to discuss and make recommendations to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services, with regard to the remaining two vacancies on Committee "A".

#### **RESOLVED**

- (a) That arrangements be made for Committee "A" to have a pre-meeting at 1.30pm on 22 November 2016, before the next meeting of SACRE, in order to make recommendations to fill the vacancies on Committee "A".
- (b) That it be noted that Committee "A" wish to recommend the appointment of Christopher Rose, the Society of Friends, to fill the vacancies on Committee "A", to the Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health and Children's Services.

#### 9 <u>SHOWING OF A FILM ABOUT BRITISH VALUES PRODUCED BY</u> LEICESTER SACRE

SACRE viewed a film about British Values produced by Leicester SACRE.

Wendy Harrison stated that the film had raised many issues and reminded members that British Values were now taken into consideration in OFSTED inspection.

# 10 SUMMARY OF OFSTED INSPECTIONS OF LINCOLNSHIRE SCHOOLS WITH REFERENCE TO THE PROVISION FOR PUPIL'S SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

SACRE received a report which summarised inspectors' judgements on schools' provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC) and which now included judgements about the way schools promoted British Values and prepared pupils for life in modern Britain.

Wendy Harrison stated that since the publication of the report she had received an email from the headteacher of Boston Grammar School complaining about how the SMSC analysis had been reported in the Lincolnshire Echo and Boston Target newspapers. The article had implied that the teaching of RE in his school was inadequate. In fact, the word "inadequate" was used by Ofsted to describe the overall effectiveness of the school and had nothing whatever to do with the teaching of RE. Wendy Harrison stated that she had spoken to the headteacher to inform him that the newspapers had misinterpreted the report and the fact that it was about provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. She stated that the headteacher had asked what action SACRE proposed to take on this matter.

# 4 STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 7 JULY 2016

Comments made by SACRE included the damage done to the school's reputation especially as the reports had appeared on the internet sites for these newspapers and the possibility of issuing a press statement to counter the inaccurate report. Members also commented that sometimes newspaper reports sensationalised issues in order to sell copies.

Wendy Harrison stated that the headteacher had explained that data for Religious Studies at the school showed that achievement was good and that it was noted that the 2015 GCSE results in RE ranked the school in the top category for this subject. The headteacher was happy that Wendy Harrison had addressed the issue quickly and she would be visiting the school in the autumn term to see good practice in RE at first hand.

Wendy Harrison agreed to examine the format of the SMSC report for future meetings and to clarify what the term "overall effectiveness" referred to.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (a) That Wendy Harrison examine the format of the SMSC report for future meetings.
- (b) That Wendy Harrison speak to the headteacher of Boston Grammar School to inform him that this matter had been considered by SACRE and that, if required, the Chairman was prepared to give a statement on this matter to the press.
- (c) That letters of congratulation be sent to the Lincoln Bishop King Church of England Primary School, Moulton Chapel School and Swineshead St Mary's Church of England School.

# 11 BRITISH HUMANIST ASSOCIATION (BHA) AND HIGH COURT RULING ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wendy Harrison gave a presentation on the outcome of the High Court ruling in connection with the case brought by the British Humanist Association (BHA), on behalf of parents, who had argued that the study of non-religious world views such as humanism should be included in Religious Studies GCSE syllabuses. Wendy Harrison summarised the main points of the argument from the DfE and BHA's points of view.

SACRE agreed that the implications of the High Court ruling would need to be taken into consideration in the new Agreed Syllabus, though in fact the syllabus already stated that non-religious world views should be taken into account. It was noted that the BHA had produced teaching materials for schools.

#### 12 AGREED SYLLABUS UPDATE

Wendy Harrison gave a verbal update in connection with the Agreed Syllabus. She stated that the teachers' working party had met twice and that she and Gillian

Georgiou would be working on the document during the summer. It was hoped to present the first draft of the new syllabus to the Agreed Syllabus Conference at the next meeting of SACRE and the first meeting of the SACRE agreed syllabus working party would be arranged shortly.

#### 13 DIOCESAN MATTERS UPDATE

SACRE received a paper from Gillian Georgiou in connection with an update of Diocesan matters. The paper made reference to "Understanding Christianity" which was a new resource from the Church of England Education Office and RE Today and whose key purpose was to support pupils in developing their understanding of Christianity. The document set the bar for the quality of teaching and learning Christianity in church schools but was also intended for non-church schools.

Gillian Georgiou also made reference to the weakening of the teaching of RE in secondary schools and academies across the Diocese of Lincoln and the need for her to work in consultation with SACRE to address this problem. She outlined three examples from around the county of measures to overcome this problem, including the involvement of local faith communities. Wendy Harrison agreed to speak to Jill Chandar-Nair about this matter and Gillian Georgiou agreed to investigate the issues specifically raised in her paper.

#### 14 <u>ACTION PLAN UPDATE</u>

SACRE received a report from Wendy Harrison on the SACRE Action Plan.

It was agreed that SACRE members should examine the new format of the Action Plan and that it should be considered at the next meeting and placed higher on the agenda.

#### 15 NASACRE CONFERENCE FEEDBACK

SACRE received a verbal report from Wendy Harrison in connection with the outcome of the key points from the NASACRE Conference held in May 2016 with a particular focus on the presentation from Professor Adam Dinham. He made reference to the fact that if a national curriculum for RE replaced locally agreed syllabuses then this would have implications for SACRE and their role would need to change. Other issues raised in his presentation included acts of collective worship and the right of withdrawal, the role of RE in the wider life of the school and the significant question – "What is the point of RE?"

Wendy Harrison stated that Professor Adam's presentation raised a number of issues for consideration at future meetings.

#### 16 <u>RE/SACRE CONFERENCE, BISHOP GROSSTESTE UNIVERSITY, 20</u> <u>OCTOBER 2016 UPDATE</u>

In Mark Plater's absence, Gillian Georgiou gave a verbal update in connection with the RE/SACRE Conference to be held at Bishop Grossteste University on 20 October

# 6 STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 7 JULY 2016

2016. She stated that flyers about the conference had been sent to schools. Mark Plater and Wendy Harrison had met Young Ambassadors from Nottingham Redhill Academy who were to take part in the conference. Another planning meeting for the event was due to be held in September, panel members and speakers had been arranged and the conference was open to all with an interest in RE.

Wendy Harrison stated that Jill Chandar-Nair had been asked if SACRE could make a contribution of £1500 towards the cost of the conference and SACRE agreed to this contribution being made.

#### 17 <u>INVITATION TO ATTEND A MEETING WITH LEICESTER SACRE</u>

Wendy Harrison stated that the City of Leicester SACRE proposed to arrange a meeting of their SACRE in Autumn 2016 and members of this SACRE would be invited to attend.

#### 18 <u>DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING OF SACRE - 22 NOVEMBER</u> 2016 AT 2.00PM

It was noted that the next meeting of SACRE had been arranged for 2.00pm on 22 November 2016.

A pre-meeting of Committee "A" would be arranged for 1.30pm on 22 November 2016.

The meeting closed at 4.00 pm

NAME OF COMMITTEE: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DATE OF MEETING: 22 November 2016** SUBJECT: **SACRE Action Plan REPORT BY:** Wendy Harrison/Jill Chandar-Nair NAME OF CONTACT OFFICER: **Wendy Harrison CONTACT OFFICER TEL NO:** 07540 604842 **CONTACT OFFICER EMAIL ADDRESS:** wendyanneh@aol.com IS THE REPORT EXEMPT? No IS THE REPORT CONFIDENTIAL? No **SUMMARY** Update of items currently included in the Action Plan. DISCUSSION Members are requested to consider the new version of the Action Plan dated 2016-18 and to approve its adoption. **RECOMMENDATION** This item is for discussion only. APPENDICES – these are listed below and attached at the back of the report. Appendix A – SACRE Action Plan 2016-18 **BACKGROUND PAPERS PAPER TYPE** TITLE DATE **ACCESSIBILITY** 

Purpose of the action plan: to identify areas of work for the SACRE advisor and members that meets current and future requirements of the SACRE

#### Objectives:

- Promotion to schools and the role of SACRE members in supporting schools
- Teaching and Learning of RE including revision of Agreed Syllabus
- Recognising and Celebrating diversity of Faith in Lincolnshire schools

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| riority | Action  | By When | Owner | Progress (RAG rated) |
|---------|---|---------|-------|----------------------|
| 1(i)    | Promotional material on SACRE and what it does and faith communities it represents – supporting material from NASACRE |         |       |                      |
| 1(ii)   | Create an offer of visits to schools from SACRE members – related to different faiths                                 |         |       |                      |
| 1(iii)  | Review of offer of visits from RE Adviser – see above   |         |       |                      |
| 1(iv)   | Bi annual newsletter from SACRE   |         |       |                      |
| 1(v)    | Awards and recognition of good practice from SACRE – SMSC analysis- Westhill awards                                   |         |       |                      |
| 1(vi)   | Promotion of REQM standards award – through school visits, training, RE conference                                    |         |       |                      |
| 1(vii)  | Training for SACRE members  |         |       |                      |
| 1(viii) | SACRE/RE conference   |         |       |                      |

### 2. Teaching and Learning of RE including revision of Agreed Syllabus

| Priority | Action   | By When | Owner | Progress (RAG rated) |
|----------|--|---------|-------|----------------------|
| 2(i)     | Review of Agreed Syllabus  |         |       |                      |
| 2(ii)    | Annual conference to promote agreed theme - 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2016, in partnership with Diocese and Mark Plater at BG University. |         |       |                      |
| 2(iii)   | Training session for RE Coordinators – after launch of syllabus, summer 2017 – involvements of SACRE members?                            |         |       |                      |
| 2(iv)    | Production of 'Train the Trainer' pack for Primary RE Co-<br>ordinators to deliver to non- specialist teachers                           |         |       |                      |
| 2(v)     | RE training with Riaz Ravat from St Philips, Leicester + possible visits to places of worship (for teachers) in Leicester                |         |       |                      |
| 2 (vi)   | Specific workshop for working towards REQM award   |         |       |                      |

### 3. Recognising and Celebrating Diversity of Faith in Lincolnshire Schools

| Priority | Action  | By When | Owner | Progress (RAG rated) |
|----------|---|---------|-------|----------------------|
| 3(i)     | Lincolnshire children – how do you celebrate your faith?  |         |       |                      |
| 3(ii)    | Good practice in Lincolnshire schools   |         |       |                      |
| 3(iii)   | Celebrating World Faith day (?) – or inter-faith week (November)  |         |       |                      |
| 3(iv)    | Engaging with Supplementary schools/communities of different faith (Islam, Hindu, Catholic) – possible film |         |       |                      |
| 3(v)     | Safe, secure environments for discussing Faith or no faith  |         |       |                      |

## LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP OF THE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (S.A.C.R.E.)

#### CHRISTIAN AND OTHER RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS (COMMITTEE A)

| Tanweer Ahmed (Islamic Association of Lincoln)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Lynette Gaylard (Ground Level Network)            |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Christina Dring (Baptist Church)                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Andrew Hornsby (Methodist Church)                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Neville McFarlane BEM (Salvation Army) (CHAIRMAN) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Swathi Sreenivasan (Hindu Community)              |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chris Burke (Roman Catholic) (VICE-CHAIRMAN)      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chris Rose (Society of Friends)                   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 vacancies                                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CHURCH OF ENGLAND (COMMITTEE B)                   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| David Clements                                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| David Scoffield                                   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cherry Edwards OBE                                |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| THE TEACHERS PANEL (COMMITTEE C)                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sarah Thornton (NUT, Primary Schools)             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Elizabeth Moore (NASUWT, Primary Schools)         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Catherine Williamson (NASUWT, Secondary Schools)  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 vacancy (NAHT)                                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (COMMITTEE D)         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Councillor Jackie Brockway                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Councillor Elizabeth Sneath                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Councillor Lewis Strange                          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 vacancy   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



NAME OF COMMITTEE: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** 

DATE OF MEETING: 22nd November 2016

SUBJECT: Summary of OFSTED Inspections of

Lincolnshire Schools with reference to provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

REPORT BY: Religious Education Adviser

NAME OF CONTACT OFFICER: Wendy Harrison

CONTACT OFFICER TEL NO: 07540 604842

CONTACT OFFICER EMAIL ADDRESS: wendyanneh@aol.com

IS THE REPORT EXEMPT? No

IS THE REPORT CONFIDENTIAL? No

**SUMMARY:** The report summarises inspectors' judgements on schools' provision for pupils' SMSC development in those schools inspected by OFSTED since the last report presented to SACRE on 7th July 2016

**DISCUSSION:** The present inspection framework (Section 5) does not require inspectors to grade SMSC but asks for it to be embedded throughout the report. SMSC now includes judgements about the way schools promote British values and prepares pupils for life in modern Britain.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the report be noted and any comments made as

necessary.

#### **APPENDICES - None**

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** The following background papers, as defined in the Local Government Act 1972, were relied upon in writing this report.

| PAPER TYPE        | TITLE | DATE    | ACCESSIBILITY              |
|-------------------|-------|---------|----------------------------|
| OFSTED Inspection |       | Various | School Improvement Service |
| Reports           |       |         | County Offices             |

# Analysis of SMSC in Ofsted reports for Lincolnshire May - September 2016

#### Please note: Overall effectiveness (OE) grade

This grade is not specifically about RE, SMSC or British values, though it includes these aspects. It is included in the above analysis to give SACRE members an idea of the overall context of the school and how the SMSC judgement sits alongside that. Inspectors must use all their evidence to evaluate what it is like to be a pupil in the school. In making a judgement about a school's OE inspectors will consider whether the standard of education is good or whether it exceeds good and is outstanding. If it is not good, then inspectors will consider whether it requires improvement or is inadequate. In judging OE inspectors first make judgements on:

- the quality of teaching, learning and assessment
- · personal development, behaviour and welfare
- outcomes for pupils
- leadership and management.

Before making the final judgement on OE, inspectors must evaluate:

- the effectiveness and impact of the provision for pupils' SMSC development
- the extent to which the education provided by the school meets the needs of pupils with disabilities and special educational needs.

| School                            | NOR | Date<br>inspected        | Overall<br>Effectiveness<br>grade | SMSC/British values  |
|-----------------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| PRIMARY                           |     |                          |                                   |  |
| Mareham le Fen CE<br>PS<br>Boston | 85  | 15th -16th<br>April 2015 | Good                              | The school's ethos, values and its curriculum promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well. The school's curriculum places suitable emphasis on ensuring that pupils learn to adopt British values and are well prepared for living in modern Britain. Pupils show understanding of and empathy for other ways of life, and know the importance of showing tolerance and respect for others. |

|                      |     |  |                      | Pupils readily talk about respecting other ways of life and different cultures and beliefs. Worship leaders and others with leadership roles take their jobs seriously and are pleased to be able to help.   |
|----------------------|-----|--|----------------------|--|
| Tetney PS<br>Grimsby | 103 | 17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> May<br>2016 | Requires improvement | The school's curriculum ensures that pupils receive an appropriate balance and breadth to their learning. Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is well catered for because teachers take every opportunity to include the value of the school in lessons. The school's values clearly promote the fundamental British values of tolerance, respect and democracy, with older pupils explaining how these values are reflected in their everyday school life, for example through elections to roles of responsibility such as the school council and house captain. Pupils are confident when talking to adults, showing courtesy and respect towards each other and their opinions. Older pupils enjoy a variety of opportunities to undertake roles of responsibility, recognising that their election to these posts is a good example of British values in action. Pupils explain the role of 'values councilors' and the development of this position in response to concerns that the school's values did not have a high enough profile with pupils. |
| Alford PS            | 363 | 17 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> May<br>2016 | Good                 | Pupils are well prepared for life in modern Britain. The curriculum ensures that they have a good understanding of British values. For example, to help pupils appreciate the importance of tolerance and respect there have been visits from ministers and parents to talk about Christianity, Islam and the Hindu faith. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural curriculum successfully helps pupils become thoughtful, caring and active citizens.   |

| School                                     | NOR | Date<br>inspected                               | Overall<br>Effectiveness<br>grade | SMSC/British values  |
|--|-----|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| Kidgate Primary<br>Academy<br>Louth        | 396 | 17 <sup>th -</sup> 18 <sup>th</sup> May<br>2016 | Outstanding                       | Across the curriculum, teachers are committed to 'broaden the horizons' of pupils. Pupils receive a wealth of opportunities to learn about, and from, other faith communities. Regular visits to places of worship, such as a mosque in Grimsby, and visitors, such as the local rabbi from the synagogue, enhance pupils' understanding of British culture in all its diversity. The development of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding is woven throughout the curriculum. Pupils understand that within their school community there will be many different views. The importance of inclusion as a moral principal is threaded throughout assemblies and in personal and social education. |
| The<br>Gainsborough<br>Parish Church<br>PS |     | 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2016                       | Short<br>inspection<br>report     | The school prepares the pupils well for life in modern Britain. Pupils are respectful of people who may have different lifestyles from their own. Pupils regularly visit the local church, and have visited a Hindu temple and a synagogue. Consequently, pupils are respectful of other faiths.   |
| The Tydd St<br>Mary CE PS<br>Wisbech       | 100 | 24 <sup>th</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup> May<br>2016  | Outstanding                       | The headteacher and the dedicated staff team go the extra mile to provide a wide range of learning opportunities for the pupils to enjoy, which successfully promotes their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. They relish and value learning about different religions and cultures. The inspector enjoyed listening to stories enjoyed by children with different beliefs from their own.  |

|   |     |  |                               | Pupils understand that this aspect of the curriculum helps them to appreciate the views of others and they recognise those views that are not in keeping with British values. This prepares them well for life in modern Britain. During the inspection, Year 4 pupils visited the Lincoln Deanery and Year 6 pupils spent time at Lincoln Cathedral with pupils from schools across the diocese.   |
|---|-----|--|-------------------------------|---|
| North Thoresby<br>Primary<br>Academy<br>Grimsby |     | 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2016                      | Short<br>inspection<br>report | The spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness is very strong and pupils are keen to talk about the range of religions about which they have learned. On more than one occasion, pupils told the inspector that it was 'important to be open-minded about other religions and cultures'. They enjoy the roles of responsibility and this also exposes them to British values such as service to others.  |
| The<br>Skegness<br>Seathorpe PS                 | 381 | 7 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> June<br>2016 | Good                          | Pupils, especially the older pupils, show a good understanding of British values. They are well prepared for the next stage of their education and life beyond school. Their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is strong and is nurtured through lessons and assemblies, alongside the overall school's values and ethos. British values are promoted well through special event days, in lessons and through classroom displays and special assemblies. Pupils are well prepared for life in modern Britain. When talking to inspectors, pupils spoke sensitively about the importance of respecting those from other cultural traditions or with other beliefs. |

| School                                | NOR | Date<br>inspected                              | Overall effectiveness grade | SMSC/British values   |
|---------------------------------------|-----|--|-----------------------------|---|
| Deeping St<br>Nicholas PS<br>Spalding | 60  | 7th -8th June<br>2016                          | Good                        | Pupil's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is strong. They show a good understanding of British values. Pupils are well prepared for the next stage of their education and life beyond school. Positive steps are taken to widen pupils' understanding of different cultures and religions, which help them well to prepare for life in modern Britain.  |
| Benjamin<br>Adlard PS<br>Gainsborough | 216 | 7th -8th June<br>2016                          | Good                        | In some subjects such as religious education, work is not always as challenging as it could be. Pupils have the opportunity to learn about a range of religions as well as Christian teaching but some of this work does not challenge pupils sufficiently to write at length or develop logical and convincing arguments. It is sometimes too easy for the most able pupils. The school's values are known and well understood by the pupils, who explained very articulately what it means to be a 'rights-respecting school'. Careful teaching and modeling of these values ensure that pupils are well prepared for life in modern Britain. |
| Gedney Church<br>End PS<br>Spalding   | 49  | 7th <sub>-8</sub> th June<br>2016              | Good                        | Visits from local clergy and regular assemblies provide pupils with a good chance to cover spiritual issues. They are given the opportunity to reflect on different themes and ideas about the world beyond the school.   |
| Lutton St<br>Nicholas PS<br>Spalding  | 92  | 9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> June<br>2016 | Good                        | Pupils have limited experiences and awareness of the diversity of modern Britain and the school needs to enhance pupils' experiences of the different cultures. Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted well. Pupils learn about core British values through their work in different subjects and topics and have frequent opportunities to reflect and sensitively offer their views.  |

| School  | NOR | Date<br>inspected                               | Overall<br>Effectiveness<br>grade | SMSC/British values  |
|---|-----|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| Huntingtower<br>Community<br>Primary<br>Academy<br>Grantham |     | 13 <sup>th</sup> June<br>2016                   | Short<br>inspection               | British values such as respect, tolerance, collaboration and cooperation are ever-present because the school's values are communicated effectively by school staff and well understood pupils and parents. The school's use of the curriculum to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development ensures that they are well prepared for life beyond their primary school.   |
| Boston West<br>Academy                                      | 373 | 14 -15 <sup>th</sup> June<br>2016               | Outstanding                       | The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils is very strong. Pupils have a clear sense of personal responsibility. They demonstrate this as they reflect upon ways of improving their work. They understand about religions and cultures that are different from their own. Leaders ensure that pupils' understanding of British values is closely linked to the school's values. Staff are excellent role models so that pupils demonstrate the qualities of tolerance and respect on a daily basis. Pupils reflected sensibly and respectfully as the teacher leading an assembly linked the words of the songs to the school's values. |
| Westgate<br>Academy<br>Lincoln                              | 436 | 21 <sup>st</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup><br>June 2016 | Good                              | Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is well promoted. Westgate is a harmonious and friendly school and pupils learn about other's faiths, beliefs and cultures through their topic and pastoral work, supported by a tailored programme of trips and visits. School values, such as respect, teamwork and positivity, are highly visible and reflect British values, which pupils know and celebrate.  |

| School                                      | NOR | Date<br>inspected                                | Overall<br>Effectiveness<br>grade | SMSC/British values   |  |
|---|-----|--|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| Helpringham PS                              | 102 | 22 <sup>nd</sup> -23 <sup>rd</sup><br>June 2016  | Requires improvement              | Provision in both lessons and assemblies promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development appropriately. Pupils' care and support for charities demonstrates their commitment to support and care for others in need.  |  |
| The Lincoln<br>Manor Leas<br>Junior Academy | 320 | 28 <sup>th</sup> <sub>- 29</sub> th<br>June 2016 | Good                              | Leaders effectively promote Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development through a variety of thoughtfully planned learning opportunities. Leaders promote the understanding of British values well. Pupils develop an understanding of faiths and cultures represented in Britain and throughout the world. They speak clearly about how their lessons and assemblies help them to understand about respect, prejudice and discrimination.  |  |
| Gosberton<br>Academy                        | 138 | 6th <sub>- 7</sub> th<br>July 2016               | Requires improvement              | The school provides well for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Spiritual development has been enhanced through leading services in the local church, which have been well attended by parents. Pupils show tolerance and respect to others who may have different lifestyles to that of their own. Following an assembly on British values, one pupil wrote, 'I am proud to be part of a tolerant community'. Pupils study a range of different faiths, including Buddhism and Judaism, as part of RE lessons, which prepares them well for life in modern Britain. However, pupils have not had the opportunity this year to visit places of worship, other than Christianity, to deepen their knowledge and understanding of different faiths. |  |

| School                     | NOR | Date<br>inspected                               | Overall<br>inspection<br>grade | SMSC/British values   |
|----------------------------|-----|---|--------------------------------|---|
| Wyberton PS<br>Boston      | 228 | 6 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> July<br>2016   | Outstanding                    | The pupils receive a rich cultural experience. Their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is excellent. For example, the staff invites pupils' parents from many different countries into school and uses them to teach other pupils about contrasting cultures. The teachers ensure that the pupils have a very good understanding of British values. They were very clear also that everyone should respect others whose cultures and beliefs are different from their own and why 'diversity is such a good thing'.   |
| Long Sutton PS<br>Spalding | 406 | 12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> July<br>2016 | Good                           | The well-planned curriculum offers many extra-curricular activities and promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively. Pupils know how to behave and learn much about British values. They have may opportunities to learn about different world religions and their developing understandings of the wider world are secure. However, although most pupils show a good understanding of what they have learned, a few pupils cannot speak accurately about one or two of the religions they have studied.   |
| Scampton CE PS<br>Lincoln  |     | 26 <sup>th</sup> July 2016                      | Short<br>inspection<br>report  | Pupils are courteous and respectful towards each other and adults, and are well equipped for life in modern Britain. They are tolerant towards others and knowledgeable about faiths and cultures that are different to their own. Leaders and teachers are very effective at promoting diversity and equality of opportunity within the curriculum and the school community. In addition to using the school's outdoor environment to support the learning of pupils of all ages, visits to places of interest and of worship ensure that pupils are prepared for life beyond the school and its locality. |

| School   | NOR  | Date<br>inspected                               | Overall effectiveness grade   | SMSC/British values  |
|--|------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Our Lady of<br>Lincoln Catholic<br>PS<br>Lincoln |      | 8 <sup>th</sup> September<br>2016               | Short<br>inspection<br>report | The school helps pupils develop a sense of self-worth and a clear set of values, particularly of tolerance, respect and caring for others. The attention they give to the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, combined with effective teaching, enables the pupils to become thoughtful and responsible young people. This aspect of the school was identified as strength at a previous inspection; this remains the |
| SECONDARY  |      | <u> </u>  |                               |  |
| Branston<br>Community<br>Academy<br>Lincoln      | 1049 | 24 <sup>th —</sup> 25 <sup>th</sup> May<br>2016 | Outstanding                   | The school promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding extremely well. Teachers make the most of opportunities to encourage pupils to debate, discuss and reflect on issues of interest. Such opportunities ensure that they are well prepared for life in modern Britain. As one pupil explained, 'You have to understand different points of view, and respect the fact that people think differently'.           |

In addition to the above schools, South Witham Community PS received a Section 8 inspection on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2016. In the inspection that took place in December 2015 the school was told to 'improve leadership and management at all levels by....'developing pupils' understanding of British values and knowledge of different faiths.' WH visited the school twice to support this. The Section 8 report states that, 'Pupils are developing a better understanding of British values. However, although we saw evidence in books that pupils learn about different faiths and cultures, this is limited,'

#### **Suggested letters of commendation**

- Tydd St Mary CE PS, p.22
- Skegness Seathorpe PS, p.23
- Deeping St Nicholas, p.24
- Boston West Academy, p.25
- Wyberton Primary Academy, p.25
- Branston Community Academy, p.28

#### **Schools requiring support**

- Benjamin Adlard PS (RE), P.24
- Lutton St Nicholas PS (RE), p.24
- Gosberton Academy (RE), P.26
- Long Sutton PS (RE), P.27
- South Witham PS, P.28

W Harrison RE Adviser October 2016

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NAME OF COMMITTEE: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL

ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

DATE OF MEETING: 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016

SUBJECT: Notes of Agreed Syllabus

Conference (ASC) meeting,

17.10.16

REPORT BY: Religious Education Adviser

NAME OF CONTACT OFFICER: Wendy Harrison

CONTACT OFFICER TEL NO: 07540 604842

CONTACT OFFICER EMAIL ADDRESS: wendyanneh@aol.com

IS THE REPORT EXEMPT? No

IS THE REPORT CONFIDENTIAL? No

**SUMMARY:** The report summarises the initial meeting of the ASC, set up to oversee the review of the Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus for RE.

**DISCUSSION:** Circular 1/94 requires that all RE syllabuses are reviewed every 5 years. The Local Authority is required to set up an Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) for this purpose. The full SACRE will receive regular reports from the ASC.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the report be noted and that the views of SACRE

be sought.

**APPENDICES** – Appendix A

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** The following background papers, as defined in the Local Government Act 1972, were relied upon in writing this report.

| PAPER TYPE        | TITLE | DATE    | ACCESSIBILITY          |
|-------------------|-------|---------|------------------------|
| OFSTED Inspection |       | Various | School Improvement     |
| Reports           |       |         | Service County Offices |

**Review of Lincolnshire Agreed syllabus** 

First meeting of Agreed Syllabus conference: 17.10.16, 10.00am –2.30pm County Offices, Newland.

**Present** 

Committee A: Christina Dring, Swathi Sreenivasan, Neville McFarlane

**Committee B:** 

Committee C: Catherine Williamson

**Committee D:** 

Also in attendance: Gillian Georgiou (Diocesan RE Adviser), Wendy Harrison (RE Adviser, LCC), Mark Plater (Bishop Grosseteste University)

**Apologies:** Tanweer Ahmad (Committee A), Jill Chandar-Nair (LA), Lynette Gaylard (Committee A)

The meeting was chaired by Wendy Harrison

#### **Background information**

WH provided the context for the setting up of the Agreed Syllabus Conference, referring to Circular 1/94, p.26-31, which states:

- There are statutory duties on every LA to establish a SACRE as well as an occasional body which must be convened to produce and recommend an agreed syllabus (AS) for RE – an Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC).
- The ASC is a separate legal entity from SACRE and, although common membership is permissible, it must be separately convened.
- The role of a conference is to produce and recommend an AS for RE which meets fully the requirements of the 1988 Act and is educationally sound.
- The task of producing a syllabus cannot be delegated except to a subcommittee which must include at least one member of each of the committees constituting the conference.
- Advice may be taken from other outside groups and/or individuals we have established a teachers' working party.
- The aim is to have the AS in schools by the autumn term 2017.

#### For discussion

- Would the ASC benefit from having councillor representation? To be discussed at full SACRE meeting.
- Frequency of meetings it was agreed that there should be a maximum of two meetings during both the spring and summer terms 2017.
- The group is happy to receive recommendations from teachers but will have the final say on what is included in the AS.

- LA support the LA has a statutory duty to fund the review of the syllabus but it is hoped that the proposed slimmed down version will keeps costs down. A budget has been provided but it is limited. WH also outlined the constraints of time, for her and Gill Georgiou.
- It was agreed that an official launch of the AS would include training for teachers. This might be the means whereby the AS is distributed to all schools.

#### Why change is needed

The present AS has remained virtually unchanged for over 10 years – during this time there have been significant changes in education and RE, for example:

- 1. Arrangements for Ofsted inspections a move away from inspecting compliance, greater emphasis on SMSC and the introduction of British values.
- 2. Emphasis on the importance of religious literacy, backed up by national reports, e.g. Improving Religious Literacy (July 2016), REforREal (November 2015)
- **3.** Increase in numbers of new types of schools such as academies and free schools.
- **4.** Increase in number of non-specialist teaching in RE.
- **5.** Increasing issues around ITT.
- **6.** Changes in patterns of belief reflected in the 2011 Census –religion and belief in Lincolnshire increase of non-religious world views.
- 7. Ofsted surveys/reports highlighting the needs for all round improvement in teaching of RE.
- 8. The removal of levels for assessment purposes.
- 9. Changes to GCSE requirements.
- 10. Changes to EYFS requirements.

Although the present AS has served us well it is not now supporting teaching and learning as effectively as we would like and is not providing a rigorous enough structure to increase pupils' religious literacy or prepare them for life in modern Britain. Many schools are over-reliant on the non-statutory schemes of work which do not necessarily represent the way we would like to see RE being taught now.

#### Proposed changes – these were outlined in detail by Gillian Georgiou

- The present AS requires schools to focus on Christianity throughout the key stages (this is a legal requirement) with one other religion at key stage 1 and two at key stage 2. It is largely up to schools to decide which religions they will study. The new AS would have a tighter structure, with more compulsory units.
- It is proposed that schools are provided with a clearer structure for planning. As well as Christianity schools would follow compulsory units on Islam and Hinduism at key stages 1 and 2 and 3, with one other

- religion at key stage 3. New 'optional' units would also form part of the structure as well as units on religion/belief in Lincolnshire.
- The new AS will not contain as much detailed content as the present one – teachers will have more freedom to decide how they approach the different units and will be provided with training to help them to do this – with an emphasis upon planning for progression and deeper learning. It may be possible at a later date to produce additional support/guidance materials to help with planning.
- There would be one over-riding aim for RE: To produce pupils who are religiously literate and able to hold balanced and informed conversations about religions and beliefs.
- The compulsory options would be studied under the headings of God, Being Human, Community and Life Journey. These may be amended as work progresses.

#### **Summary of response from ASC**

Overall, members were in favour of the new aim for RE and the basic construction of the new AS. Many members made very positive comments about the structure, believing it to be more current in its approach and having the potential to produce more rigour in teaching and learning. The following points were raised:-

- No mention of Judaism in compulsory elements but could still be referred to and taken up in detail in the optional elements.
- SACRE members would be able to make a positive contribution to studies of religion in the locality.
- The inclusion of Islam as a compulsory element is necessary to deepen pupils' understanding about a faith that is often mis-represented, e.g. in the media and about which the majority of pupils have no first hand knowledge. The new AS includes a section on places of worship in the locality, including mosques.
- Time allocation how would teachers manage to plan for both compulsory and optional elements? It was explained that over a school, year there would be flexibility in how the units were covered. The teachers' working party would be looking at this in more detail.
- WH and GG acknowledge that good CPD will need to be in place to support teachers as they introduce and implement the new AS.

#### **Next steps**

- Teachers' working party meets on November 18<sup>th.</sup> They will be doing more detailed work on the structure and thinking about what the compulsory units might look like.
- WH to continue working on other sections of the AS i.e. the statutory requirements and appendices these will be presented to the ASC at the next meeting date TBC.

W Harrison

RE Adviser, Lincolnshire County Council November 2016



NAME OF COMMITTEE: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL

ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

DATE OF MEETING: 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016

SUBJECT: Diocesan Update

REPORT BY: Diocesan RE Adviser

NAME OF CONTACT OFFICER: Gillian Georgiou

**CONTACT OFFICER TEL NO:** 

**CONTACT OFFICER EMAIL** 

ADDRESS: gillian.georgiou@lincoln.anglican.org

IS THE REPORT EXEMPT? No

IS THE REPORT CONFIDENTIAL? No

**SUMMARY:** This update provides SACRE members with an update of education matters affecting the Diocese.

**DISCUSSION:** N/A, report is for information.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the report be noted and any comments made as

necessary.

APPENDICES - Appendix A

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** There are no background papers, as defined in the Local Government Act 1972, which were relied upon in writing this report.

In June, the Church of England Education Office released the most recent version of the Statement of Entitlement for RE. This sets out the expectations in relation to RE in C of E schools and academies. There are several key elements to note:-

- 1. Specific reference to secure religious and theological literacy as the key aim to be achieved
- 2. A greater emphasis on the responsibility of senior leadership teams, including governors, to promote and support RE as a core subject. This includes reference to the expectation that senior leadership teams will aim for 10% curriculum time for RE and that at least one member of staff will be supported to gain RE-related qualification.
- 3. Reference to the recently launched Understanding Christianity resource as one way of meeting the expectations in relation to the teaching of Christianity in RE.

In this Diocese, we have recently begun the Understanding Christianity training with representatives from a wide variety of schools. We will begin a second tranche of training in March 2017.

I recently supported Dr Mark Plater with the *Places of Worship Learning Walk*. This was an alternative offered to those delegates who had booked a place on the conference that we, unfortunately, could not run. The walk was very successful and really helped the participants to recognise, not only the range of places of worship in Lincoln, but also the rich internal diversity of some of the religions represented in Lincolnshire.

I continue to carry out school visits, run and participate in networking meetings and provide the termly RE newsletter (the latest edition will be sent out within the next fortnight).

NAME OF COMMITTEE: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL

ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

DATE OF MEETING: 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016

SUBJECT: Summary of national reports and

initiatives in RE

REPORT BY: Religious Education Adviser

NAME OF CONTACT OFFICER: Wendy Harrison

CONTACT OFFICER TEL NO: 07540 604842

CONTACT OFFICER EMAIL ADDRESS: wendyanneh@aol.com

IS THE REPORT EXEMPT? No

IS THE REPORT CONFIDENTIAL? No

**SUMMARY:** This update provides SACRE members with information about recent reports and initiatives in RE.

**DISCUSSION:** N/A, report is for information.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the report be noted and any comments made as

necessary.

**APPENDICES** – Appendix A

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** The following background papers, as defined in the Local Government Act 1972, were relied upon in writing this report.

| PAPER TYPE        | TITLE | DATE    | ACCESSIBILITY          |
|-------------------|-------|---------|------------------------|
| OFSTED Inspection |       | Various | School Improvement     |
| Reports           |       |         | Service County Offices |

#### **National updates**

#### 1. 2015 GCSE results

- Generally, appears to be a move away from non-Ebacc subjects
- Religious Studies GCSE Full Course bucking this trend with another year on year increase in entries.
- Short Course entries declining.
- Lincolnshire results not yet available.

#### 2. Commission on RE

- Independent commission to make wide-ranging recommendations for RE.
- Will review the legal, education and policy frameworks for RE in all schools and FE colleges in England.
- Includes looking at the changing role of SACRE, e.g. in relation to academies, free schools, etc.
- Ultimate aim: to improve the quality and rigour of RE and its capacity to prepare pupils for life in modern Britain.'
- More details on Religious Education Council's website

#### 3. Woodhead/Clarke: Acts Of Worship research results

- 3476 online surveys distributed, 354 completed. These include Lincolnshire schools.
- Analysis of results: Respondents think assemblies are important they would prefer to keep the law as it is.
- Reasons are mainly ethical and social, not religious.
- About two thirds hold regular Acts of Worship.
- The schools would continue to hold assemblies whether or not there was a statute.
- Opinion divided as to whether assemblies should be inspected.
- Next step: Wendy Harrison (WH) to follow up with Lincolnshire schools which took part and agreed to an interview (8 schools) – WH also to work with Charles Clarke on assemblies and academies.

Wendy Harrison November 2016