STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 19 JUNE 2013

Present:

Group A – Christianity and Other World Faiths

Maryam Djavid Bahai Faith
Raj Bali Hindhu Faith
Phil Royle Methodist Church
Joan Price Pentecostal Church

Lucy Care Religious Society of Friends

Wendy Jordan Salvation Army

Rev Roy Ninkovic Serbian Orthodox Church

Group B – Church of England

Rosemary Wibberley Alison Brown Maxine Bull

Group C – Teachers' Associations

Kate McRae NAHT

Group D – Local Education Authority

Councillors Higginbottom, Turner and Wood

Co-opted Members

Laura Connolly The Open Centre Dr Phil Henry Multi Faith Centre

Peter Harvey British Humanist Association

01/13 Appointment of Chair

Resolved that Councillor Higginbottom be appointed as Chair of the SACRE for the 2013/14 municipal year.

02/13 Appointment of Vice Chair

Resolved:

1. that Phil Royle be appointed as Chair of Group A for the 2013/14 municipal year;

- 2. that Alison Brown be appointed as Chair of Group B for the 2013/14 municipal year;
- 3. that Kate McRae be appointed as Chair of Group C for the 2013/14 municipal year; and
- 4. that Phil Royle be appointed as Vice-Chair of the SACRE.

03/13 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mair Bradley, Ruth Dolby, Wendy Hardy, Ash Venkatesh, Councillor Campbell and Councillor F Winter.

04/13 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

05/13 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

06/13 Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2013 were noted.

Members wished to express their thanks to the former Mayor, Councillor Higginbottom, for the reception held in the Jacob Rivers Room at the Council House on Tuesday 9 April 2013, to thank Members for their work on the SACRE.

Members wished it to be noted that the Celebration of Judaism event, held at the Multi Faith Centre on Monday 20 May 2013, had been a great success. It was reported that the event had been very well attended, with double the expected numbers and that there had been representations from many of the major faith groups in Derby. It was noted that attendees had enjoyed stories, history music and dance and that the food had been excellent and plentiful, despite having many more attendees than expected. Members wished to express their thanks to all involved.

07/13 SACRE Membership and Vacancies

The clerk to the SACRE updated Members on the SACRE membership and outstanding vacancies. It was reported that some Members had not confirmed whether or not they wanted to continue as a Member of the SACRE. The clerk confirmed that letters would be sent to Members who had not confirmed. Members noted that Jane Oldershaw had resigned as the representative of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers (ATL) in group C (Teachers' Associations). The clerk confirmed that Wendy Hardy had been appointed as the ATL representative at their AGM.

Resolved:

1. to agree that the clerk to the SACRE would contact Members who had

- not confirmed whether or not they wished to continue as a Member of the SACRE; and
- 2. to agree that the clerk to the SACRE will continue to work on appointments for any vacancies.

08/13 Locally Agreed Syllabus

The RE adviser to the SACRE updated Members on the current situation with the locally agreed syllabus. Members questioned what resources were available the last time it was reviewed. Members discussed whether or not a major review would be required. It was agreed that consultation with schools and interested groups would be important but that it would not start until more information was available regarding financial resources and whether or not the review would be a major one.

Resolved to note the update.

09/13 SACRE Action Plan Update

The RE adviser to the SACRE reported that a new action plan needed to be agreed upon. It was reported that the last one had focused on the relationship between the SACRE and schools and a procedure and protocol had been put together for school visits. Members were invited to contact the RE adviser to the SACRE with possible new actions. It was suggested that new actions could be linked to the pending review of the locally agreed syllabus.

Members noted that school visits would continue in the next school term. Kate McCrea reported that an invite to schools had gone out in the school circular, to identify schools who wanted the SACRE to visit. It was noted that three schools had responded. It was agreed that the visits would take place in October 2013.

Resolved:

- to agree that suggested new actions for the action plan be forwarded to the RE adviser to the SACRE; and
- to agree that the clerk to the SACRE will email Members to ascertain there availability to attend school visits in October 2013.

10/13 National Updates

The RE adviser to the SACRE reported on the NASACRE AGM that was held on 23 May 2013 and summarised two major presentations that were made. Members noted that there were 152 SACRE's across the country and recognised the possible confusion of having 152 different locally agreed syllabuses. Members discussed whether the pending review of the locally agreed syllabus provided an opportunity to create something that would have national relevance. It was confirmed that the Derbyshire SACRE's would be different to Derby's and so the possibility of having national relevance was limited.

The RE adviser to the SACRE updated Members on the RE Subject Review.

Members noted that the review had moved to Phase 2 and a public consultation was currently open and was available to be completed on the Religious Education Council website. It was reported that when the results of the national review were published, they could help guide the SACRE's locally agreed syllabus review.

Members were updated on the findings of the All Party Parliamentary Group inquiry on RE and noted that they contained a number of points to bear in mind in relation to the review of the locally agreed syllabus. Members agreed that the SACRE had a responsibility to nurture pupils to allow them to explore RE, think for themselves and have an opinion.

Resolved to note the national updates.

11/13 Local Updates

Members discussed the Open Access Centre and recognised the important work that was done through it. Laura Connolly wished it to be noted that the support of the Council was appreciated in relation to the 'Our Heritage' exhibition. Members noted that the Council had agreed to provide temporary exhibition space in the Council House.

Resolved to note the local updates.

12/13 Determinations

The RE adviser to the SACRE and the clerk to the SACRE reported that they had been reviewing the wording of the determination form. Members noted that there was a need for a total revision of the document and that this would be brought before the next meeting of the SACRE.

Resolved to agree that the RE adviser to the SACRE and the clerk to the SACRE would bring a revised determinations form before the next meeting of the SACRE.

13/13 Annual Report

The Re adviser to the SACRE reported that It was time to produce the annual report of the SACRE 2012/13 and invited Members to submit articles.

Resolved to agree that any Member articles for the annual report 2012/13 be submitted to the RE adviser to the SACRE.

14/13 Future Meeting Dates

Members considered the following re-organised meeting dates for the current municipal year:

- Monday 14 October 2013
- Monday 10 February 2014

Resolved to agree that the February meeting date be moved to a Tuesday

15/13 Any Other Business

None.

MINUTES END