

# ITEM 4

Time Commenced:	7:18 pm
Time Adjourned:	8:00 pm
Time Recommenced:	8:18 pm
Time Adjourned:	8:50 pm
Time Recommenced:	8:55 pm
Time Finished:	9:20 pm

## STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - 25 NOVEMBER 2010

Present:

### **Group A - Christianity and Other World Faiths**

Ruth Dolby	Jewish Faith (in the Chair)
Maryam Djavid	Bahai Faith
Raj Bali	Hindu Faith
Joan Price	Pentecostal Church
Lucy Care	Religious Society of Friends
Wendy Jordan	Roman Catholic Church
Rev. Mrs. Mair Bradley	United Reformed Church
Aslam Siddiqi	Islamic Faith
Arshid Rafiq	Islamic Faith

### **Group B - Church of England**

Rosemary Wibberley  
Viv Lawrence  
Alison Brown  
Maxine Bull

### **Group C - Teachers' Associations**

Jane Oldershaw	ATL
Kate McRae	NAHT
Kelly Bradley	NUT

### **Group D - Local Education Authority**

Councillor Turner

### **Co-opted Members**

Mike Lake	British Humanist Association
Laura Connelly	The Open Centre

In attendance:

Graham Falgate	Education Officer, Derby City Council
Fasal Hussain	Derby Community Safety Partnership

## 19/10 Appointment of Chair

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair, Ruth Dolby, was appointed Chair of the meeting.

## 20/10 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Higginbottom, F Khan and Atwal, Maxine Bull, Cathy Mayer and Dr. Phil Henry.

## 21/10 Introductions

Members of the SACRE introduced themselves and were welcomed by the Chair.

## 22/10 Late Items to be introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

## 23/10 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

## 24/10 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 22 June 2010 were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair, subject to:

“Phil Royal” being amended to read “Phil Royle” in the attendance list and “National SACRE conference” to “Jewish SACRE conference” in minute 9/10.

## 25/10 Autumn Term Presentation

The SACRE received a presentation from Alison Brown on “What is RE?”. Members were shown a video produced by the National Association of Teachers in Religious Education and available at <http://www.natre.org.uk/explore/video.php>, on various young people’s opinions of Religious Education. A discussion on this issue ensued. It was agreed that the video would be a useful tool in promoting a positive image of Religious Education and should be shared more widely with parents.

**Resolved to note the presentation**

## 26/10 Parental withdrawal from Children's Visits to Inner City Places of Worship

The SACRE considered a report from Mike Lake, on behalf of The Open Centre, on the parents' right to withdraw their children from visits to inner city places of worship. He explained that children should be given the opportunity to find out about other beliefs and that children were visiting places of worship for educational purposes, not to worship there. He added that he believed that most objections were possibly due to ignorance, with few resulting from parents holding very strong religious beliefs. Members of the SACRE agreed that this was an important issue and raised the possibility of parents being invited to visit places of worship themselves. They also noted that talking to parents to understand their concerns is often enough to alleviate fears. Mike Lake asked for the SACRE's support in developing a strategy to address the issue.

### **Resolved:**

- 1. to recommend that Derby City Council develop a strategy to anticipate and address the issues raised by the parental right to withdraw their children from inner city places of worship;**
- 2. to establish a sub-group to further explore the issues raised by the parental right to withdraw their children from visits to inner city places of worship and assist with the development of a strategy to address any such issues;**
- 3. that the sub-group would include: Fasal Hussain, Viv Lawrence, Kate McRae, Arshid Rafiq, Phil Royle, Wendy Jordan, Maxine Bull, Maryam Djavid and Rosemary Wibberley.**

## 27/10 Faith Schools

Mike Lake (British Humanist Association) tabled a report on the anticipated proposal for a Derby Islamic Faith School. He explained that children should be educated in an inclusive environment and that the first step towards understanding why a faith school had been proposed should be to understand the concerns of parents in Derby. One could then establish if a free or faith school was the best way to address this. He added that the people who proposed the school were still open to discussion. Members of the SACRE expressed a desire for more information on the proposals, to find out what parental concerns were and to see a counter-argument to the report by Mike Lake. The meeting broke into individual committee groups twice during this discussion and each voting group then expressed its views to the full SACRE.

### **Resolved:**

- 1. to seek further details on the anticipated proposals for an Islamic Faith School;**

2. to establish a sub group of the SACRE to further explore the anticipated proposal for an Islamic Faith school and report back to a future meeting of the SACRE;
3. that the sub group would include Arshid Rafiq, Fasal Hussain, Viv Lawrence, Kate McRae, Laura Connelly, Mike Lake, Maxine Bull and Joan Price;
4. to notify Derby City Council that SACRE is considering the anticipated proposal for an Islamic faith school and is seeking further details on the proposal

## 28/10 Faith Matters

Fasal Hussain reported that the publication "Faith Matters" had been withdrawn due to a printing error which had been brought to his attention via a SACRE committee member on reading the booklet circulated. He noted that concern had been raised that the SACRE had not been involved at an earlier stage at the drafting of the publication. Members of the SACRE were advised that there would be a launch of the re-printed document on 2 December 2010.

## 29/10 Ofsted's Inspection Report –Transforming Religious Education

This item was withdrawn.

## 30/10 SACRE Action Plan 2010-2013

Graham Falgate reported that the planned SACRE development day, which was to be used to create a SACRE Action Plan, had been cancelled and asked members of the SACRE whether they would be willing to meet outside of the usual SACRE meetings. It was agreed that Graham Falgate would contact members of the SACRE with proposed dates for a meeting to produce an Action Plan.

**Resolved to request that Graham Falgate contact members of the SACRE with proposed dates for a meeting to produce a SACRE Action Plan.**

## 31/10 Dates of Future Meetings

Spring Term: 10 March 2011  
 Summer Term: 22 June 2011 (subject to the availability of the Multi-Faith Centre)