



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

## CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE MEETING

27 April 2009

Report of the Corporate Director for Children and  
Young People

## ITEM 4

### APPROVAL OF THE 2009-2014 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AGREED SYLLABUS

#### SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of the new Religious Education Agreed Syllabus 2009- 2014 for Derby City Council and its schools. The report also explains the context of such a review.

#### RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **To approve** a new Religious Education Agreed Syllabus 2009 – 20014, for Derby City Council and its schools and to request that the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) oversees its effective implementation in Derby Schools and monitors the impact of this provision.

#### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 All Local Authorities have a statutory obligation to revise their local Religious Education on a five yearly basis. SACRE convened an Agreed Syllabus Conference in order to undertake this revision starting in 2008.
- 3.2 Prior to the start of the revision the Education Officer responsible for Religious Education consulted with schools regarding the nature and scope of the revision. 80% of schools responded to the consultation. The vast majority of schools requested that the existing schemes of work be retained in the new syllabus, together with the current assessment guidance and strategies for raising standards in RE. Schools requested additional units of work and further guidance around developing higher order thinking skills across the key stages. These requests have all been met together with the need to ensure that the syllabus is consistent with the non-statutory National Framework for Religious Education (2004)

3.3 The Agreed Syllabus Conference approved the final recommendations at its meeting on Thursday February 12 and the revised material was 'agreed' by all the appropriate committees on that evening. The four committees who together constitute SACRE are:

- Church of England
- Other faiths represented in Derby City
- Teachers' Associations
- Elected Members

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<b>Background papers:</b>	None (TBC)
<b>List of appendices:</b>	

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial**

- 1.1 Funding for this revision came from within existing budgets in the Children and Young People's Department

**Legal**

- 2.1 Derby City Council has a legal obligation to provide an 'Agreed' Religious Education Syllabus for its schools, revised every five years. The Local Authority were obliged to begin the revision of the current RE Agreed Syllabus in 2008 which was done successfully and completed in February 2009.

**Personnel**

- 3.1 The implementation of the new syllabus and training for teachers will be managed by the Education Officer for Religious Education within the Children and Young People's Department and overseen by the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE).

**Equalities Impact**

- 4.1 The syllabus is consistent with Equalities Impact best practice and has been approved by all four committees of SACRE

**Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 5.1 This scheme will contribute to the corporate priority of supporting everyone in learning and achieving.