

CITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
COUNCIL

City of Wolverhampton Council

SACRE

28 February 2019

Time 6.00 pm **Public Meeting?** YES **Type of meeting** Advisory Groups
Venue Committee Room 5, Ground Floor, Civic Centre

Membership

Martin Gomberg (Chair)	Representative of the Jewish Community
Akeel Ahmed	Representative of the Muslim Community
Sue Blackmore	Representative of the Church of England
Jaswinder Singh Chaggar	Representative of the Sikh Community
Mark Cooper	Representative of the Church of England
Kay Cresswell-Green	Association of Teachers and Lecturers Representative
Ourmala Devi	Uplands Junior School Representative
Yvonne Fegan	National Association of Schoolmasters / Union of Women Teachers Representative
Fr. Craig Fullard	Representative of the Roman Catholic Church
Charlotte Harding	City of Wolverhampton Council
Rev. Stephen Jackson	Representative of the Baptist Church
Daniel Lee	Representative of the Pentecostal Church
Councillor Lynne Moran	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
Ven. Bante Tejwant	Representative of the Buddhist Community
Rebecca Wood	Representative of the United Reformed Church

Information

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the Democratic Services team:

Contact Shelley Humphries
Tel/Email Tel: 01902 554070 email: shelley.humphries@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Agenda

PART 1 – Items open to all attendees

Item No. *Title*

MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1 **Welcome and Introductions**
- 2 **Apologies**
- 3 **Minutes of the previous meeting** (Pages 1 - 6)
[To approve the minutes of 22 October 2018 as a correct record]
- 4 **Matters Arising**
[To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 22 October 2018]
- 5 **Membership**
[To receive a verbal update on the current SACRE membership]
- 6 **Report from Religious Education (RE) Today**
[To receive an update report from RE Today] **[to be tabled]**
- 7 **Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) Theatre Event**
[To receive a verbal update on the SACRE Theatre Event]
- 8 **Secondary Education**
[To discuss RE provision for Secondary Education]
- 9 **2019 - 2020 Provision of Services**
[To approve Provision of Services for 2019 – 2020]
- 10 **Ofsted Findings During the Last Quarter**
[To receive an update on Ofsted findings during the last quarter]
- 11 **Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) and Inspection 48 Findings During the Last Quarter**
[To receive a presentation on findings from SIAMS and Inspection 48 visits]
- 12 **Dates of further meetings**
 - 23 May 2019



City of Wolverhampton Council SACRE

Minutes – 22 October 2018

Attendance

Martin Gomberg (Chair)	Representative of the Jewish Community
Rev. Stephen Jackson	Representative of the Baptist Community
Fr. Craig Fullard	Representative of the Roman Catholic Community
Ven. Sramner Tejwant	Representative of the Buddhist Community
Rebecca Wood	Representative of the United Reformed Community
Jaswinder Singh Chagger	Representative of the Sikh Community
Akeel Ahmed	Representative of the Muslim Community
Charlotte Harding	City of Wolverhampton Council

In attendance

Mike Shelley-Smith	Interfaith Wolverhampton
Lat Baylock	RE Today
Philippa Salmon (Clerk)	City of Wolverhampton Council

Item No. *Title*

MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Welcome and Introductions

Charlotte Harding informed the meeting that, as SACRE was a statutory meeting, the Council's Democratic Services team would be administrating and clerking the meetings going forward.

SACRE welcomed Mike Shelley-Smith from Interfaith Wolverhampton, who had been invited to attend to explore opportunities for closer working.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Councillor Lynne Moran, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, and Mark Cooper, representative of the Church of England.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

That the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 20 June 2018, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to the following amendments:

1. The correction of the spelling of Akeel Ahmed in paragraphs 4.7 and 5.1.

2. The amendment of the action in paragraph 5.3 to read as 'For Charlotte Harding and Rev. Ray Gaston to start planning for an event to take place during Interfaith week in November'.

4. Matters arising

Item 4 – Matters arising and action points

Charlotte Harding reported that Rev. David Wright had been approached to join SACRE but he was unable to accept due to time constraints.

Item 5 – Interfaith Week

Charlotte Harding reported that the Khayaal Theatre Company had been engaged and an event had been organised for 15 November 2018. The Council would be working in partnership with the Wolves Community Trust and the event would be held at the Molineux Stadium with the Trust to fund press and communications. It was confirmed that all places were now filled, and invitations would be circulated to members of SACRE.

Item 9 – SACRE Art Competition

Charlotte Harding reported that they had received photographs from the Key Stage 2 winners, St Michaels CofE Primary School of their trip to Harry Potter World. The School had also stated that the competition had inspired them to work with students on visits to places of worship and then following up with written work.

5. SACRE Annual Report and Action Plan

The Chair introduced the SACRE Annual Report and Action Plan for 2017-2018 for approval. In the past the Annual Report had been submitted to the Department for Education who would then report nationally. The current process was to submit the Annual Report to NASACRE who would then publish the reports. The Annual Report would also be published on the Council's website as it was a statutory document.

Charlotte Harding stated that as the budget for SACRE was public money, the Action Plan helped to keep accountability. There were certain requirements for the Annual Report and Action Plan but all items included had been discussed and agreed at previous meetings. It was noted that the National Union of Teachers and the Association of Teachers and Lecturers had merged to form the National Education Union and that this change needed to be reflected in the report. It was also agreed to add any action that SACRE had taken in relation to the monitoring of take-up of RE.

It was agreed to add 'SACRE members' to relevant actions in the Action Plan to reflect the responsibility of members, and that the inclusion of SACRE members next to individual actions would also be considered in the formation of future action plans. It was also agreed that members of SACRE should be referred to as the 'Representative of (relevant body)' in the Annual Report and Action Plan and any subsequent documents.

The Chair extended thanks to Charlotte Harding for her work on the Annual Report.

Resolved:

That the SACRE Annual Report and Action Plan be approved with the following amendments:

1. To reflect the formation of the National Education Union and update any references in the Annual Report and Action Plan.
2. To add any action that SACRE had undertaken in relation to the take-up of RE to section 5 of the Annual Report.
3. To add 'SACRE members' to relevant actions in the Action Plan.
4. To add Jaswinder Singh Chagger to the action 'Policy for all Wolverhampton schools on the wearing of Kirpans'.
5. To ensure that all members of SACRE were referred to as the 'Representative of (relevant body)' in the Annual Report and Action Plan and any future documents.

6. Kirpan Policy

Jaswinder Singh Chagger, Representative of the Sikh Community, introduced the draft Kirpan Policy for approval. Charlotte Harding and Jaswinder Singh Chagger had created the draft using examples of other Kirpan Policies across the country. Charlotte Harding informed the meeting that the need for a policy had arisen to ensure schools received consistent advice from the Council. The draft policy was currently with the Council's Safeguarding and Legal teams for approval and would then go through internal approval processes. The final Kirpan Policy would be presented at a future SACRE meeting.

Following questions, it was confirmed that the draft policy was similar to others across the country. Jaswinder Singh Chagger informed the meeting that it was not likely that there would be high numbers of children wearing a Kirpan as baptism was not encouraged before puberty in the Sikh faith. If a school required confirmation or a certificate from the Gurdwara as proof of baptism there was no reason why it could not be provided. It was agreed that a Frequently Asked Questions document would be useful to publish alongside the Kirpan Policy to assist schools and that any queries or requests for further information should be referred to SACRE.

Resolved:

1. That the draft Kirpan Policy be approved.
2. That a Frequently Asked Questions document be created to publish alongside the Kirpan Policy.
3. That SACRE be added to the Policy as a contact for further information.

7. RE Today report

Lat Baylock, RE Today, presented the National News for SACREs, Autumn 2018.

The final report of the Commission on RE had been published on 9 September 2018 and submitted to the Department for Education who had welcomed the report. RE Today had provided a summary document setting out some responses and broad implications. Commission suggested that the programme of study for RE should be taken away from SACREs and instead produced by a national body of professionals. It was also suggested that SACREs be renamed as Local Advisory Networks for Religion and

Worldviews, with membership groups to be reformed away from faith bodies. Since the report had been submitted, the Department of Education had announced a £9000 bursary for each student who trained to become a secondary school RE teacher, which would assist with the issue of recruitment to RE teaching positions.

It was agreed that SACRE members had concerns about the recommendations of the Commission's report, including the appointment of professionals to the national body and lack of representation of faith bodies. Concerns were also raised about the removal of community from the syllabus and the use of 'Worldviews' as it was something separate from faith. It was agreed that SACRE would respond to the report and Lat Baylock would draft a general letter on the concerns that had been raised in the meeting.

Charlotte Harding would circulate the draft letter to SACRE members for comment and then it would be sent to the RE Council and the Department for Education.

Lat Baylock informed the meeting that he had met with the Primary Network earlier in the day and had shared clips from resources that were available. Many had not been aware of the resources but would utilise them going forward. Lat Baylock and Charlotte Harding would liaise to add a paragraph to the newsletter to raise awareness of the resources available. Lat Baylock also suggested that SACRE could sponsor two Wolverhampton teachers for the NATRE Strictly RE Conference 2019 and then invite the teachers to feed back to a SACRE meeting.

Resolved:

1. That Collective Worship be added to the next SACRE meeting for Lat Baylock to provide a briefing.
2. That Lat Baylock draft a general response to the final report of the RE Commission for comment by SACRE members before sending to the RE Council and Department for Education.
3. That the final report of the RE Commission be included on the agenda for the next SACRE meeting.
4. That Lat Baylock and Charlotte Harding liaise to add a paragraph to the next newsletter to raise awareness of RE resources available.

8. RE at Key Stage 4

Charlotte Harding reported that, following agreement at the previous meeting, an email had been sent to all secondary schools requesting a breakdown of teaching hours for Key Stages 3, 4 and 5 where appropriate. Three responses had been received out of the 18 schools contacted and the email had been followed up at the start of the new term. Following discussion, it was agreed that Charlotte Harding would take advice from the Director of Education as to how best to deliver a further message to the schools that had not responded. It was agreed that a further letter would be taken as more of a priority by schools if endorsed by the Director or Cabinet Member. Lat Baylock informed the meeting that RE Today requested the information held by the Department of Education on RE teaching hours each year through Freedom of Information requests. It was agreed that SACRE could use this information to form the basis of the next contact with schools.

Resolved:

1. That Charlotte Harding seek direction from the Director of Education as to how best to contact schools that had not responded.
2. That Charlotte Harding consult with the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills to request her support for future contact with schools that had not responded.
3. That RE Today present the latest information on RE teaching hours in secondary schools at the next meeting.

9. Ofsted findings for the last quarter

Charlotte Harding presented the Ofsted findings for the last quarter. Five Ofsted reports had mentioned spiritual or moral work but the only Ofsted inspection that specifically mentioned RE teaching was for the West Midlands Vocational Training Centre. It was noted that this inspection had been the only full inspection and that short inspections did not focus on non-core subjects such as RE.

Resolved:

That the update on the Ofsted findings for the last quarter be noted.

10. SIAMS/Inspection 48 findings for the last quarter

Charlotte Harding reported that there had been no SIAMS or Inspection 48 findings since the last SACRE meeting. There had been a change in inspection framework for SIAMS which could mean that there would be a higher number of inspections in the near future.

Resolved:

That the update on SIAMS/Inspection 48 findings for the last quarter be noted.

11. Any other business

Charlotte Harding informed the meeting that some SACREs were inviting representatives from the Humanist Society to attend meetings. It was noted that a representative from the Humanist Society had attended a previous SACRE meeting but had not attended again. It was agreed that Charlotte Harding would contact the Humanist Society in Wolverhampton to extend an invitation to SACRE meetings.

Charlotte Harding reported that Green Park School had queried if SACRE knew of any groups that could enrich the RE curriculum in their school, outside of classroom work. Ven. Sramner Tejwant informed the meeting that he provided a fortnightly mindfulness session at Aston University and would be happy to offer this as a trial to Green Park School.

Rev. Stephen Jackson stated that he had approached contacts but had not yet been successful in identifying a deputy. It was agreed that all members should continue to look to identify deputies should they be unable to attend a SACRE meeting.

Resolved:

1. That Charlotte Harding contact the Humanist Society in Wolverhampton to invite a representative to future SACRE meetings.

2. That Ven. Sramner Tejwant provide Charlotte Harding with information about mindfulness sessions to offer to Green Park School.
3. That all members continue to look to identify deputies.

12. Dates of further meetings

The dates of future meetings were noted.