

To: Members of the Standing Advisory  
Council for Religious Education  
(SACRE)

Date: 18 June 2021

Direct Dial: 01824 712568

e-mail: democratic@denbighshire.gov.uk

Dear Sir / Madam

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)** to be held at **10.00 am** on **THURSDAY, 24 JUNE 2021** in **VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE**.

Yours sincerely

G Williams  
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

## **AGENDA**

### **PART 1 - THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THIS PART OF THE MEETING**

#### **SILENT REFLECTION**

##### **1 APOLOGIES**

##### **2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (Pages 5 - 6)**

Members to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in any business identified to be considered at this meeting.

##### **3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR**

Notice of items which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

##### **4 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (Pages 7 - 12)**

To receive the minutes of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education held on 2 February 2021 (copy attached).

## **5 CONFIRMATION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

To confirm the Chair and Vice-Chair of the current term of office.

## **6 CURRICULUM FOR WALES RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS (RVE) GUIDANCE (Pages 13 - 14)**

To agree a response to the Welsh Government consultation on the publication of Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) guidance. Consultation closes 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021. (copy attached)

a) Consultation Documents:

- <https://gov.wales/guidance-design-and-delivery-mandatory-religion-values-and-ethics-rve>

b) Guidance Document:

- <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2021-05/consultation-document-curriculum-for-wales-religion-values-and-ethics-guidance.pdf>

## **7 ENCOURAGING DIVERSITY OF REPRESENTATION ON SACRE (Pages 15 - 16)**

To discuss how the representation of the diverse beliefs held with Denbighshire could support the work of SACRE as it continues to advise the Local Authority and support schools. (copy attached)

## **8 WASACRE (Pages 17 - 46)**

To receive the minutes of the Spring meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> March and a verbal update of the Summer meeting 16<sup>th</sup> June 2021. (copy attached)

## **9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

20 October 2021

## **PART 2 - NO ITEMS**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Councillors Representing Denbighshire County Council**

Ellie Chard  
Tony Flynn  
Emrys Wynne

Rachel Flynn  
Cheryl Williams  
Meirick Davies

#### **Representing Religious Denominations**

Mr. Dominic Oakes  
Rev. B H Jones  
Rev. Martin Evans-Jones

Jennie Downes  
Collette Owen

**Representing Teacher Associations**

Mrs C Harmsworth

Ms. Ali Ballantyne

**Co-opted Members**

Ms. Tania Ap Siôn

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## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

### Code of Conduct for Members

### DISCLOSURE AND REGISTRATION OF INTERESTS

I, *(name)*

a \*member/co-opted member of

*(\*please delete as appropriate)*

**Denbighshire County Council**

**CONFIRM** that I have declared a **\*personal / personal and prejudicial** interest not previously declared in accordance with the provisions of Part III of the Council's Code of Conduct for Members, in respect of the following:-

*(\*please delete as appropriate)*

Date of Disclosure:

Committee *(please specify)*:

Agenda Item No.

Subject Matter:

Nature of Interest:

*(See the note below)\**

Signed

Date

\*Note: Please provide sufficient detail e.g. 'I am the owner of land adjacent to the application for planning permission made by Mr Jones', or 'My husband / wife is an employee of the company which has made an application for financial assistance'.

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# Public Document Pack Agenda Item 4

## **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)**

Minutes of a meeting of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) held via Zoom on Tuesday, 2 February 2021 at 10.00 am.

### **PRESENT**

#### **Representing Denbighshire County Council**

Councillors Ellie Chard (Chair), Tony Flynn, Emrys Wynne and Rachel Flynn

#### **Representing Religious Denominations**

Jennie Downes and Collette Owen

#### **Representing Teacher Associations**

No representatives in attendance

Councillor Meirick Lloyd Davies was present as an observer.

### **ALSO PRESENT**

RE Adviser (PL) and Committee Administrators (SJ and SLW)

### **POINTS OF NOTICE**

(i) Due to the current restrictions on travel and requirement for social distancing as a result of the coronavirus pandemic the meeting was held remotely by video conference and was not open to the general public

(ii) In the absence of a teacher representative the Council's quorum requirements had not been met. It was agreed to proceed with the meeting on the basis that any decisions made would need to be formally ratified at the Council's next quorate meeting. Report recommendations were taken as read and agreed by consensus with no formal vote undertaken.

### **SILENT REFLECTION**

The meeting began with a few minutes silent reflection.

#### **1 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Dominic Oakes, Rev. B H Jones and Councillor Cheryl Williams

#### **2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

The RE Advisor informed members if members were governors of schools that were discussed in detail to declare an interest at that point.

### **3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR**

No urgent matters had been raised.

### **4 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) meeting held on 14 October 2020 (previously circulated) were submitted.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the SACRE meeting held on 14 October 2020 be received and approved as a correct record.

### **5 DEFERMENT OF DENBIGHSHIRE SACRE QUESTIONNAIRE**

The RE Advisor informed members that SACRE received limited data from an Estyn report. Discussions had taken place to assess how SACRE could receive information from schools about good areas of Religious Education or any areas of improvement. It was decided that a questionnaire would be published to schools to ascertain what support schools required, promote good practices and keep in contact with schools in the County. It was explained due to the Covid-19 pandemic, schools were inundated with new regulations and keeping both pupils and staff safe. It was felt a little insensitive to be producing a questionnaire at the present time.

The RE Advisor asked for support from members to defer sending the questionnaire to schools until later in the year, when schools are hopefully in a more positive position.

**RESOLVED** that members agreed to defer sending the questionnaire to schools until the summer term at the earliest.

### **6 WG AND NEW CURRICULUM UPDATES**

Members were provided with an update from the two consultations that had taken place in the summer and spring. Members heard the first consultation had been to discuss the removal of the parental right to withdraw children from sex education and religious education. The second had been to discuss the requirement for schools of a religious character to provide agreed syllabus religious education alongside the Church based curriculum.

Confirmation that the Curriculum and Assessment Bill was currently being moved through the Sennedd. Confirmation that further information was available online. It was stressed the Bill was currently in the second stage of development.

The RE Advisor updated members on the supporting framework for Religious Education. It was confirmed that Welsh Government had included Religious Education within the humanities area of the curriculum. It was stressed that Religious Education was still statutory and SACRE was still required to have an input into the new syllabus, Welsh Government would supply the supporting framework for Religious Education. It was hoped that this guidance would be published so SACRE could agree for schools to adopt the supporting framework. The Law behind the Curriculum for RE remained unchanged. It was stressed that



WASACRE continued to communicate with Welsh Government to stress the importance of the guidance and the need to receive it as soon as it was available.

Members were informed that a commitment from Welsh Government to provide professional learning as a result of developing the new curriculum. WASACRE had met with Welsh Government to discuss the training that would be offered. The potential to have five specialists across Wales to support teachers may be offered. Further information would be presented to members when acquired.

In response to members questions the RE Advisor expanded upon the following:

- Ethnicity and culture was included in RE in schools. It provided an understanding of a range of beliefs that impacted the way people behave and interaction with others.
- RE in schools included a range of different faiths that were studied by pupils. In the main it was Christianity but to include others. It was felt a good understanding of different faith's was important for children's education.
- The constitution of SACRE states education in schools should represent the belief systems within the locality.
- The history of RE in the UK has been linked to Christianity and the Church. Members discussed the responsibilities of the faith and families to teach young people the beliefs of the faith. Changes within society had taken place and RE in schools needed to adapt and change with the views of the stakeholders involved with RE in schools.
- Members discussed the need to have an understanding of the other faiths and beliefs in our society.

The Chair thanked members and observers for the good debate and conversation on the update to new curriculum in Wales.

***RESOLVED***, that members note the verbal update.

## **7 RE AND BLENDED AND DISTANCE LEARNING**

The RE Advisor presented to members some of the RE resources available for schools to access. Members were shown on screen the information available on the GwE website. It was explained that a vast amount of resources had been made available for schools and teachers to access. It was stressed the information and resources were available in both Welsh and English.

The website and information offered a range of activities for pupils to complete. The website was very interactive and allowed users to download tasks and adapt as needed. Members were shown a range of activities and different units available.

It was also expressed that within the newsletter issued to teaching staff information on the 'airport faith and belief route' activity had been included free for schools. It gave an opportunity for teachers/ schools to design a multi-faith and belief room within an airport.

Members heard the Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) provided schools with the licence to copy 5% of a textbook to issue to pupils. The CLA had created a portal to allow teachers to access textbook information online. It was found to be very helpful for teachers at present.

Members were very supportive of the resources that had been made available for schools and teachers to aid distance learning. Members were pleased to see the expansion of the GwE website and resources available.

**RESOLVED** that members note the verbal report.

## 8 WASACRE

The Chair confirmed she had attended the beginning of the last online WASACRE meeting that was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

The RE Advisor informed members the minutes of the meeting had not been made available for members discussion. He informed the committee there had been 3 main areas of discussion

- The new curriculum and the place of Religious Education within it;
- The supporting framework and
- Professional learning – WASACRE wanted to support teachers with the learning of the new curriculum.

It was confirmed that blended learning and examinations had also been discussed but they change regularly with Religious Education currently being awarded from teacher assessment.

The Chair asked the RE Advisor for some further understanding and information around the number of humanist services conducted in Denbighshire's crematoriums from last April.

In response to the Chair's question the RE Advisor confirmed the Humanist Association had requested if they could have a membership on SACRE committees. Members heard lots of constitutions of the SACRE had stated the membership of the committee had to represent the individuals within that locality. It was noted that it may be difficult to obtain numbers of the different Christian denominations in society, due to the options on the census data it states Christian / Non-Christian and other religions. There was no option for certain denominations of the different faiths. Local knowledge from Councillors had aided the collection of data to provide the constitutional representation on Denbighshire's SACRE. It was highlighted that it may have changed, with an increasing number of pupils and families claiming no faith.

The RE Advisor raised the assumption that an individual that identified as being non-religious did not mean that they had no belief in a deity or the supernatural, rather they did not subscribe to belonging to a major world faith. It was stressed the difficulty in ascertaining numbers of beliefs and people's way of life. It was felt that if figures of the amount of humanist crematorium services was attained it would demonstrate the prevalence of the Humanist belief in Denbighshire.

Members thanked the RE Advisor for the view of obtaining information about the Humanist belief. Members questioned if as a SACRE would information on other beliefs and groups also have to be obtained to be seen as fair to all. Members asked if a survey could be done in Denbighshire that included 'other' with a text box to allow residents to state beliefs clearly. It was felt that other religions and beliefs were followed in Denbighshire.

Members heard that other SACRE committee's in neighbouring authorities had also held similar discussions. The RE Advisor advised members that a question could be sent to local Councillors to enquire information from the community including what belief systems do people follow, what buildings are used to congregate, what meeting rooms are used. SACRE could use that information then to request information from Full Council for a piece of work around that information to potentially look at the Constitution and make up of SACRE membership.

The Chair and the Re Advisor suggested it might be best for an email to be circulated to all councillors to enquire what groups and faiths are in each ward. From that information a directory could be formed to illustrate the findings. The directory would be useful for Denbighshire and SACRE.

The Chair stated she would liaise with the RE Advisor to form an email to councillors to request further information. The questionnaire would be circulated to members for feedback before sending to all councillors.

**RESOLVED** that,

- *members note the verbal update;*
- *and the Chair and RE Advisor liaise to form a questionnaire to send to all Councillors requesting information on faith and belief systems in each ward.*

## **9 DATE OF DENBIGHSHIRE'S NEXT MEETINGS**

The dates of future SACRE meetings in 2021 had been confirmed as follows–

24 June (Thursday) and 20 October (Wednesday).

It was confirmed that next meeting of WASACRE would be Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**The meeting concluded at 11.20 a.m.**

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<p><b>Denbighshire County Council</b>  <b>Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education</b>  <b>(SACRE)</b></p>		
Date of Meeting:	24 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	
Agenda Item:	<b>6</b>	Report Details
<i><u>Background to the Report:</u></i>		
<p>Welsh Government are consulting on the the publication of Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) guidance. This guidance may become a substantial part of Denbighshire Agreed Syllabus.</p>		
<i><u>Purpose of the Report:</u></i>		
<p>Denbighshire SACRE to provide a response to the Welsh Government consultation on the publication of Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) guidance. Consultation closes 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021.</p>		
<p>Consultation Documents:  <a href="https://gov.wales/guidance-design-and-delivery-mandatory-religion-values-and-ethics-rve">https://gov.wales/guidance-design-and-delivery-mandatory-religion-values-and-ethics-rve</a></p>		
<p>Guidance Document:  <a href="https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2021-05/consultation-document-curriculum-for-wales-religion-values-and-ethics-guidance.pdf">https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2021-05/consultation-document-curriculum-for-wales-religion-values-and-ethics-guidance.pdf</a></p>		
<i><u>Recommendations:</u></i>		
<p>To discuss and agree the response.</p>		

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<b>Denbighshire County Council Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)</b>		
Date of Meeting:		24 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
Agenda Item:	<b>7</b>	Report Details
<i><u>Background to the Report:</u></i>		
In the previous meeting, members noted the lack of representation of diversity on SACRE.		
<i><u>Purpose of the Report:</u></i>		
To discuss how the representation of the diverse beliefs held by residents of Denbighshire could support the work of SACRE as it continues to advise the Local Authority and support schools.		
<i><u>Recommendations:</u></i>		
To discuss how SACRE could draw on the diverse views, e.g. representation or presentations received by members.		

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<p><b>Denbighshire County Council</b>  <b>Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education</b>  <b>(SACRE)</b></p>		
Date of Meeting:		24 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
Agenda Item:	<b>8</b>	Report Details
<p><u><i>Background to the Report:</i></u></p> <p>SACRE continues to be a member of the Wales Association of SACREs, and receives reports on meetings from members attending, copies of minutes of meetings and any other reports from the Association.</p>		
<p><u><i>Purpose of the Report:</i></u></p> <p>For members to be informed as to the focus and main outcomes of the previous meeting.</p>		
<p><u><i>Recommendations:</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive the minutes of the Spring meeting 23rd March.</li> <li>• Receive a verbal update of the Summer meeting 16th June 2021.</li> </ul>		

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***Cyfarfod Cymdeithas CYSAGau Cymru,  
Rhithwir, drwy Microsoft Teams Dydd  
Mawrth, 23 Mawrth, 2021 10.15a.m. –  
1.00p.m.***

**Yn bresennol**

DRAFT

<p><b>Ynys Môn / Anglesey</b> Rheinallt Thomas (RT) Gwyneth Mai Hughes (GH) Dylan Rees (DR)</p> <p><b>Blaenau Gwent</b> Paula Webber (PW) Kathy Riddick (KW) Chris Abbas (CA) John Meredith (JM)</p> <p><b>Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr / Bridgend</b> Edward J. Evans (EE) Angela Hill (AH) Alice Parry (AP)</p> <p><b>Caerffili/ Caerphilly</b> Paula Webber (PW) Janet Jones (JJ) John Taylor (JT) Paul Warren (PWn) Cyng Michael Gray (MG) Rebecca Barrett (RB) Janet Jones (JJ) Martyn Western (MW) Carin Quinn (CQ) Teresa Parry (TP)</p> <p><b>Caerdydd / Cardiff</b> Angela Hill (AH)</p> <p><b>Sir Gaerfyrddin / Carmarthenshire</b> Kimberley Perry (KP) Gwyneth Thomas (GT)</p> <p><b>Ceredigion</b> Keith Evans (KE)</p>	<p><b>Conwy</b> Phil Lord (PL) Nicholas Richter (NR)</p> <p><b>Sir Ddinbych / Denbighshire</b> Phil Lord (PL) Janet Axworthy (JA) Dave Mackie (DM)</p> <p><b>Sir y Fflint / Flintshire</b> Vicky Barlow (VB) Janet Axworthy (JA) Dave Mackie (DM)</p> <p><b>Gwynedd</b> Dashu (D) Paul Rowlinson (PR) Eurfryn Davies (ED) Selwyn Griffiths (SG)</p> <p><b>Merthyr Tudful / Merthyr Tydfil</b> Angela Hill (AH)</p> <p><b>Sir Fynwy / Monmouthshire</b> Paula Webber (PW) Louise Brown (LB) Sue Cave (SC) Suzanne Gooding (SG)</p> <p><b>Castell-nedd Port Talbot / Neath and Port Talbot</b> Rachel Samuel (RS) Lee Workman (LW) Debbie Thomas (DT) Tim Hewitt (TH)</p> <p><b>Casnewydd / Newport</b> Paula Webber (PW) Neeta Baicher (NB) Huw Stephens (HS)</p>	<p><b>Sir Benfro / Pembrokeshire</b> Huw George (HG) Amanda Lawrence (AL)</p> <p><b>Powys</b> Ange Williams (AW)</p> <p><b>Rhondda Cynon Taf</b> Angela Hill (AH) Martyn Silezin (MS) Matthew Maidment (MM)</p> <p><b>Abertawe / Swansea</b> Alison Lewis (AL) Mohsen El-Beltagi (ME)</p> <p><b>Torfaen</b> Paula Webber (PW) Marilyn Frazer (MF) Sian Lewis (SL)</p> <p><b>Bro Morgannwg / Vale of Glamorgan</b> Angela Hill (AH) Marged Williams (MW) Edward Williams (EW) Kalpana Natarajan (KN)</p> <p><b>Wrecsam / Wrexham</b> Libby Jones (LJ) Tania ap Siôn (TaS) Pippa Virdee-Lace BL)</p>	<p><b>Sylwedyddion:</b> <b>REMWW</b> Paul Morgan (PM)</p> <p><b>CBAC</b> Andrew Pearce (AP)</p> <p><b>ESTYN</b> Gwawr Meirion (GM)</p> <p><b>Llywodraeth Cymru</b> Peter Kennedy (PK)</p> <p><b>REC</b> Dave Francis (DF)</p> <p><b>Eglwys yng Nghymru</b> Elizabeth Thomas (ET)</p> <p><b>Y Gwasanaeth Addysg Catholig</b> Angela Keller (AK)</p> <p><b>Cymwysterau Cymru</b> Philip Blaker (PB) Catrin Verrall (CV)</p> <p><b>Cofnodion</b> Gill Vaisey (GV)</p> <p><b>Eraill - heb wybod a pha CYSAG mae'n gysylltiedig J M Williams</b> Primary Education</p>
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## 1. Cofnodion a chroeso

Croesawodd RS bawb i'r cyfarfod ac esboniodd y protocol ar gyfer y cyfarfod rhithiol hwn.

Cafwyd croeso gan y Cynghorydd John Taylor, Cadeirydd CYSAG Caerffili, yr awdurdod oedd yn lletya'r cyfarfod. Mynegodd ei siom na allem fod yng Nghaerffili yn y cawd ond er hynny, roedd yn bleser ganddo'n croesawu a dymunodd yn dda i'r cyfarfod. Rhoddodd gydnabyddiaeth i'r gwaith anhygoel y mae ysgolion ac athrawon wedi bod yn ei wneud mewn amgylchiadau mor anodd.

Diolchodd Cyng Taylor i Rebecca Barnet am fod yn glerc effeithiol ac effeithlon i GYSAG Caerffili, ochr yn ochr â Paula Webber, sy'n rhoi cefnogaeth broffesiynol. Mynegodd ei gefnogaeth i'r bwriad o gyfethol dau berson ifanc a fyddai'n ymuno â'r CYSAG cyn hir i roi llais disgyblion i'r pwyllgor.

Cafwyd croeso hefyd gan Paul Warren, Arweinydd Strategol Gwella Ysgolion. Eglurodd ei fod ef yn gyn bennaeth ac yn sylweddoli'n llwyr yr heriau enfawr sy'n wynebu athrawon ar hyn o bryd a dros y misoedd diwethaf. Cydnabuwyd fod athrawon wedi bod nid yn unig yn rheoli dysgu o bell yn ystod y pandemig ond ar yr un pryd yn rheoli'r newid cwricwlwm a'r cynllunio mae hynny'n ei olygu. Roedd yn sylweddoli hefyd yr effeithiau ar ddisgyblion sy'n cael graddfeydd amrywiol o gefnogaeth wrth ddysgu o gartref a'r effaith ar y gymuned ehangach hefyd.

Nododd y newidiadau sydd ar droed i AG sy'n mynd i fod yn Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg (CGM) ac yn orfodol i bob disgybl 3 - 16 oed. Heb hawl yn y dyfodol i rieni dynnu eu plant yn ôl, roedd yn sylweddoli ei bod yn hanfodol fod CGM yn wrthrychol, beirniadol a phlwrailaethol. Bydd hyn yn creu angen am Ddatblygu Proffesiynol Parhaus yn fwy nag erioed.

Soniodd Paul am yr angen i aelodau CYSAG feddu ar y sgiliau i lywio a ffurfio polisi ar lefel genedlaethol. Diolchodd i bawb am wneud eu gorau dros ddysgwyr ledled Cymru.

## **2. Myfyrdod tawel**

Arweiniodd RS yr aelodau drwy fyfyrdod ar y flwyddyn a fu, gan sylweddoli mai'r diwrnod hwn, union flwyddyn yn ôl, oedd diwrnod cyntaf y cyfnod clo yn sgil Covid-19. Cydnabu bawb a oedd wedi colli eu bywydau - sut roedd y nifer wedi cynyddu yn y DU o 364 ym mis Mawrth 2020 i'r ffigwr swyddogol heddiw, sef 126,172. Myfyriodd ynghylch effaith y pandemig, yn gorfforol ac yn emosiynol, ar gynifer o bobl.

Soniodd RS am 'y golau ar ddiwedd y twnnel' gyda rhoi'r rhaglen frechu ar waith. Rhoddodd glod i'r holl weithwyr iechyd a'r gweithwyr allweddol am y cyfan a wnaethant ac y maent yn parhau i'w wneud yn eu gwaith hollbwysig.

Gwahoddodd RS yr aelodau i nodi munud o dawelwch am hanner dydd, yn unol â chynllun Marie Curie i wneud heddiw yn ddiwrnod cofio. Am 8 p.m., anogir pobl i ddal kannwyll ar garreg eu drws, tra bydd adeiladau ledled y wlad yn cael eu goleuo'n felyn.

## **3. Ymddiheuriadau**

Derbyniwyd ymddiheuriadau gan Lucy Grant a John Mitson sy'n Aelodau'r Pwyllgor Gwaith, Jennifer Harding - CYSAG Abertawe, Rita Fiona Thomas - CYSAG Castell-nedd Porth Talbot, Tudor Thomas - CYSAG Sir Fynwy.

#### **4. Cofnodion y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 7 Hydref 2020**

Cytunwyd fod y cofnodion yn adlewyrchiad gwir o'r cyfarfod yn amodol ar ychwanegu enw'r Cyng Keith Evans at y rhestr o'r rhai a oedd yn bresennol.

Diolchodd RT am y manylder oedd yn y cofnodion ac am y ffaith iddynt fod yn barod mor gyflym ar ôl y cyfarfod.

#### **5. Materion yn codi o gofnodion cyfarfod diwethaf CCYSAGauC**

Eitem 7 – Dysgu Cyfunol – adroddodd RS fod PYCAG wedi bod yn ystyried sut i symud ymlaen ar hyn. Rhoddir diweddariad yn nes ymlaen yn y cyfarfod.

Eitem 10 - cafwyd pryderon gan Ddyneiddwyr Cymru am aelodaeth ar GYSAGau. Mewn ymateb i hyn, roedd y Cadeirydd wedi ysgrifennu at bob ALI yn eu hatgoffa am y llythyr gan LIC yn datgan y gellir rhoi lle i gynrychiolwyr o gredoau anghrefyddol megis dyneiddiaeth, ar Bwyllgor A.

#### **6. Ymgynghoriad Cymwysterau Cymru (CC) (Alice Parry)**

<https://qualificationswales.org/english/qualified-for-the-future---have-your-say/>

Rhodddodd AP drosolwg o'r ymgynghoriad cyfredol ar y cymwysterau TGAU newydd.

Adroddodd fod Pwyllgor Gwaith CCYSAGauC wedi dechrau ystyried ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad. Roedd aelodau'r Pwyllgor Gwaith sy'n athrawon wedi ystyried hyn i ddechrau, ac yna cafwyd cyfarfod gyda'r Cyngor Addysg Grefyddol i rannu barn.

Nododd AP fod yr ymgynghoriad yn cynnwys tri phrif gynnig ar gyfer Maes Dysgu a Phrofiad y Dyniaethau:

1. Adolygu a diwygio TGAU mewn Busnes, Daeryddiaeth, Hanes ac Astudiaethau Crefyddol.

Nododd AP y byddai angen sicrhau y gellir cymharu pob un o'r TGAU. Dylid rhoi'r un dyraniad amser i'r pynciau TGAU i gyd. Byddai CCYSAGauC yn dymuno fod TGAU Astudiaethau Crefyddol yn cael ei gyhoeddi yr un pryd â'r pynciau eraill. Mae angen ystyried CGM statudol ac Astudiaethau Crefyddol opsiynol. Mae angen i'r fanyleb fynd i'r afael â chynhwysiant - dylai fod yn drylwyr ac yn heriol ond hefyd rhaid iddi fod yn hygyrch i bob dysgwr. Yn hytrach na bod y cwrs Llawn neu Fyr yn 100% arholiad, byddai asesu parhaus gyda dull dysgu digidol a chyfunol yn well. Yn ogystal, mae angen i'r TGAU fod yn ddigon heriol fel bod myfyrwyr yn barod i fynd ymlaen at astudio pellach megis Safon Uwch.

2. Os yw'n ymarferol, creu TGAU newydd mewn Astudiaethau Cymdeithasol.

Mae AP yn sylweddoli y gallai hwn fod yn gwrs poblogaidd. Fodd bynnag, bydd angen iddo fod yn eglur ac yn wahanol i bynciau eraill. Er y deallir y gall fod cysylltiadau posibl rhwng

disgyblaethau, mae angen i'r cysylltiadau hyn fod yn gyflenwol ac nid yn gystadleuol. Mae angen i bob pwnc fod ar wahân. Ni ddylid caniatáu cuddio Astudiaethau Crefyddol o fewn Astudiaethau Cymdeithasol.

Mae angen i Gymwysterau Cymru ymgynghori â'r Rhanddeiliaid a sicrhau fod arbenigwyr yn cael eu defnyddio i greu'r cymwysterau newydd.

### 3. Os yw'n ymarferol, creu TGAU integredig newydd mewn Dyniaethau.

Ar gyfer y dull hwn, awgrymodd AP y byddai angen sicrhau fod y cysylltiadau yn gyflenwol a bod y pynciau gwahanol sy'n rhan o'r Dyniaethau yn dal i allu cael eu gweld ar wahân. Mae cyfle yma i wreiddio Datganiadau Yr Hyn sy'n Bwysig mewn TGAU. Byddai dull amlochrog trwy amryw o safbwyntiau yn fuddiol cyn belled â bod y gwahaniaethau rhwng y pynciau eu hunain yn dal yn amlwg.

Nodwyd nad yw rhai ysgolion yn bosibl yn addysgu mewn modd thematig felly ni fydden nhw eisiau arholiad Dyniaethau. Gellid ymdrin â'r CGM statudol mewn cymhwyster Dyniaethau integredig.

Bydd ymatebion pellach gan y Pwyllgor Gwaith ac aelodaeth CCYSAGauC yn ehangach yn cael eu hystyried wrth ffurfio ymateb terfynol CCYSAGauC i'r ymgynghoriad a fydd yn cael ei anfon i Gymwysterau Cymru erbyn 9 Ebrill 2021, cyn dyddiad cau 16 Ebrill. Bydd crynodeb o'r ymateb yn cael ei rannu gyda phob CYSAG pan mae ar gael.

Codwyd cwestiynau a chawsant eu hateb gan wahanol aelodau.

Dywedodd LB fod ei ChYsAG hi wedi edrych ar yr ymgynghoriad. Roedd PW, ymgynghorydd y CYSAG, wedi darparu ymateb drafft i'w ystyried. Roedd athrawon, yn arbennig, yn pryderu am TGAU Dyniaethau gan ddweud pe na bai disgyblion yn cael y cyfle i arbenigo mewn pynciau penodol, byddai hyn yn eu hatal rhag gwneud Safon Uwch neu gymhwyster pellach yn y pwnc e.e. Astudiaethau Crefyddol. Awgrymodd LB fod athrawon yn dymuno cadw arholiadau pynciau ar wahân.

Holodd PL a fyddai Datganiadau Yr Hyn sy'n Bwysig yn cael eu hadlewyrchu yn y TGAU newydd. Cadarnhaodd PW y byddent.

Awgrymodd PL hefyd y byddai'r ddarpariaeth arholiad gynyddol yn y Dyniaethau yn ymdrin â chryn dipyn o gynnwys ac mae angen bod yn ofalus i beidio ag ailadrodd ar draws yr arholiadau.

Cadarnhaodd PW fod dal angen i lawer mwy o gynllunio ddigwydd ar gyfer y cymwysterau newydd. Esboniodd mai'r rheswm y mae CC yn dilyn y llwybr hwn yw i gynnwys y sybsidiaredd a fydd gan ysgolion. Bydd angen darparu ystod o opsiynau arholiad i fod yn addas i'r dewisiadau / dulliau gwahanol o ddylunio a darparu'r cwricwlwm y bydd ysgolion yn eu mabwysiadu.

Dywedodd DF ei fod yn gwerthfawrogi'r cyfarfod diweddar gyda CCYSAGauC yr oedd ef a Deborah Weston wedi eu gwahodd i fynychu ar ran y Cyngor Addysg Grefyddol i drafod y cymwysterau newydd. Yn sgil hynny mae'r Cyngor yn ysgrifennu at yr holl sefydliadau sy'n aelodau i'w gwneud yn ymwybodol o'r ymgynghoriad a'u hannog i ymateb yn eu ffordd eu hunain os ydynt yn dymuno gwneud hynny.

Atgoffodd EE yr aelodau fod CCYSAGauC wedi cyfarfod CC dros nifer o flynyddoedd. Yn y gorffennol mae CCYSAGauC wedi awgrymu dau fath o TGAU – TGAU Dyniaethau a hefyd ail TGAU Dyniaethau sydd â phwnc arbennig megis Astudiaethau Crefyddol. Cynigiodd y dylid atgoffa CC o'r awgrym hwn.

Holodd HS am yr amserlen o ran CYSAG yn sefydlu Maes Llafur Cytunedig newydd a pha gymwysterau newydd fyddai ar gael.

Eglurwyd y bydd yn rhaid datblygu Meysydd Llafur Cytunedig cyn ein bod yn gwybod i sicrwydd sut bydd y cymwysterau newydd yn edrych – er bydd yna rywfaint o ymwybyddiaeth gan y byddant yn seiliedig ar y cwricwlwm newydd.

Dylai Cynadleddau y Maes Llafur Cytunedig gael eu cynnal yn 2022. Cyhoeddir y cymwysterau newydd yn 2024 i'w haddysgu gyntaf ym mis Medi 2025 a'r arholiadau cyntaf yn 2027.

Dywedodd MW ei fod yn croesawu llwybrau ehangach o feddwl ac athroniaeth ond yn gobeithio nad yw AC yn cael ei lastwreiddio ormod.

Yn ôl KR, mae'r mater o Gynadleddau y Maes Llafur Cytunedig yn bwynt pwysig. Os yw ysgolion yn cyflwyno'r cwricwlwm newydd yn 2022, dylai pob CYSAG drefnu Cynhadledd cyn Medi 2022 fel bod ysgolion yn ymwybodol o ofynion CGM lleol ac y gallant gynnwys CGM wrth gynllunio'r cwricwlwm.

## **7. Diweddariad a lansio gwefan CCYSAGauC (Tania Ap Siôn)**

Rhoddodd TapS ddiweddariad ar gynnydd gyda'r wefan newydd. Dangoswyd 'tudalen gartref' y safle drwy rannu sgrin. Mae rhan Saesneg y wefan wedi'i chwblhau erbyn hyn. Mae'r ochr Gymraeg wrthi'n cael ei datblygu. Mae'r ddewislen yn cadw'r un strwythur â'r wefan bresennol. Mae'r safle newydd yn fwy ffres a chyfoes ac yn hawdd ei lywio dros 5 neu 6 o feysydd.

Mae botymau Twitter a Facebook yn caniatáu integreiddio â'r Cyfryngau Cymdeithasol sy'n rhan bwysig o barhau i godi proffil a hygyrchedd CCYSAGauC.

Bydd y safle'n mynd yn fyw pan mae'r rhannau yn y ddwy iaith wedi'u cwblhau. Nodwyd fod angen ystyried gallu mynd ato drwy chwiliad Google yn Gymraeg.

Diolchodd TapS i bawb a oedd wedi bod â rhan mewn datblygu'r safle ac yn arbennig i waith ardderchog Nick Evans sydd wedi ymgymryd â'r prosiect hwn i CCYSAGauC.

## **8. Materion llywodraeth Cymru:**

### **Cyfarfodydd (Rachel Samuel)**

Cyfeiriodd RS at adroddiad cryno y cyfarfodydd gyda Llywodraeth Cymru a oedd wedi'i gynnwys yn y papurau ar gyfer y cyfarfod heddiw.



Cynhaliwyd dau gyfarfod ers cyfarfod diwethaf CCYSAGauC – 22.10.20 a 17.12.20. Codwyd nifer o gwestiynau ac ymatebwyd iddynt:

□ Diweddariad ar Fframwaith AG – mae'r cwestiwn hwn yn dal i fynd rhagddo a'r ateb yw y bydd canllawiau ar gael cyn gynted â phosibl – bydd Libby Jones yn rhannu diweddariad pellach yn ystod cyfarfod CCYSAGauC.

□ Effaith Covid 19 – fe'i gwnaed yn glir fod pob deddfwriaeth yn parhau yn ôl y bwriad ac na fyddai oedi i'r Bil Cwricwlwm.

□ Ymgynghoriad y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg – cadarnhawyd y camau nesaf ar waith y pwyllgor a gellir gweld y canlyniadau o fewn y gwelliannau i'r bil cwricwlwm ac asesu fel y rhannwyd gan Paula Webber heddiw.

□ Cynnwys datblygiad Ysbrydol, moesol, diwylliannol, meddyliol, corfforol a chymdeithasol disgyblion yn y canllaw – gwnaed cais i gyfeirio at hwn o fewn y dogfennau i sicrhau meddwl cydgyssylltiedig, hyd yn oed pan nad yw'n cael ei grybwyll. Nid yw'r term mwyach yn yr eirfa. Cytunwyd bod angen ystyried hyn ymhellach, ond nid oedd yn glir pwy fyddai'n gwneud hyn.

□ Diolchodd LIC i CCYSAGauC am y papurau briffio a baratowyd. Cynigiodd Edward Evans, ar ran CCYSAGauC, edrych ar sefyllfa addoli ar y cyd yn 10/94 nad yw'n cael ei ystyried yn y bil newydd ac felly fydd yn dal yn ofyniad cyfreithiol. Diolchwyd am gwblhau'r papur hwn.

□ Papur briffio dyddiedig Chwefror 2020 - mewn ymateb i hwn, cadarnhaodd LIC fod cyllid wedi mynd i'r consortia ar gyfer Datblygu Proffesiynol. O ganlyniad, yr ALLau unigol fyddai'n penderfynu a oedd angen iddynt gyflogi ymgynghorwyr. Awgrymodd LIC ein bod yn siarad yn uniongyrchol â CCAC am y sefyllfa hon.

□ Trafodaeth ar y llythyr gan y Gweinidog dyddiedig 16 Tachwedd 2020 yn arbennig 'bydd canllaw pellach i gefnogi Awdurdodau Lleol, CYSAGau a Chynadleddau Maes Llafur Cytunedig yn cael ei ddatblygu dros y misoedd sy'n dod. Fe holon ni hefyd beth sy'n gwneud grŵp gydag argyhoeddiad anghrefyddol penodol yn grŵp 'swyddogol' sydd angen cynrychiolaeth ar GYSAG. Fe'n hysbyswyd y gallai hyn gael ei esbonio yn y fframwaith, o bosibl gweithgor cyd-awduro er mwyn rhoi'r canllawiau angenrheidiol i ALLau fel y gall pob un wneud eu penderfyniadau eu hunain.

□ Diweddariadau ar gymwysterau yn awr ac yn y dyfodol - mae hwn eto yn gwestiwn parhaus gyda'r holl ymgynghoriadau sy'n cael eu cynnal yn gysylltiedig â'r cwricwlwm newydd a newidiadau i arholiadau TGAU a lefel A eleni.

□ Mynediad i HWB i CCYSAGuC – Cytunwyd y byddai LIC yn ymchwilio i hyn ac yn trefnu i aelod o dîm HWB siarad â ni.

### **Fframwaith AG (Libby Jones)**

Esboniodd LJ fod toriad hir wedi bod mewn gwaith ar y Fframwaith CGM oherwydd sefyllfa Covid-19. Yn y diwedd craffwyd ar y canllawiau drafft ym mis Ionawr 2021 ac fe'i gwelwyd gan y Bwrdd Rhaglen. Roedd rhai gwelliannau wedi cael eu hawgrymu ac roedd grŵp o arbenigwyr yn cynnwys LJ ei hun, wedi gweithio ar hwn ers Chwefror 2021. Bydd yr ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus llawn ar y Fframwaith yn dechrau yng nghanol Mai ac yn para am 8 wythnos. Bydd yr ymatebion yn cael eu dadansoddi hyd at fis Medi / Hydref 2021. Bydd y

Fframwaith terfynol ar gael ym mis Rhagfyr 2021. Felly, bydd angen i GYSAGau gynnal Cynadleddau y Maes Llafur Cytunedig o fis Rhagfyr 2021. Adroddodd LJ fod Cynhadledd y Maes Llafur Cytunedig Wrecsam yn cyfarfod ym mis Ionawr 2022.

Mewn ymateb i gwestiwn gan PW, esboniodd PK fod y Bwrdd Rhaglen yn grŵp arweiniad mewnol ehangach. Dywedodd PW ei bod yn teimlo'i bod yn bwysig fod y Fframwaith newydd yn mynd at y Bwrdd Cydlyniant i sicrhau ei fod yn unol â'r cyfan o'r cwricwlwm newydd. Pwysleisiodd ei bod yn bwysig gwneud yn siŵr fod yn Fframwaith yn cyd-fynd â Datganiadau Yr Hyn sy'n Bwysig.

Ychwanegodd LJ fod LIC, ar 18 Mawrth, wedi anfon copi o'r Fframwaith Drafft i bob un o'r 22 Cyfarwyddwr Addysg. Mae LIC yn gwahodd ymatebion i'r drafft gan yr ALI erbyn 9 Ebrill 2021. Nododd yr aelodau fod hon yn amserlen afrealistig o ystyried y bydd y staff allweddol ar eu gwyliau yn y cyfnod hwn gan ei bod yn Basg.

Mynnodd KP fod LIC yn hyderus eu bod wedi rhoi cymaint o amser ag y gallant ei ganiatáu i'r adborth cychwynnol hwn o ystyried yr amserlen y maen nhw'n gweithio iddi. Atgoffodd yr aelodau y bydd yr ymgynghoriad llawn ar agor tan ganol Mai.

Awgrymodd LB ei bod yn ymddangos nad yw rhai Cyfarwyddwyr Addysg wedi anfon y Fframwaith i Glercod CYSAGau i'w anfon ymlaen i aelodau'r CYSAG. O ystyried nad oedd CCYSAGauC wedi derbyn copi o'r Fframwaith yn swyddogol, esboniodd LJ nad oedd CCYSAGauC mewn sefyllfa i'w anfon i Glercod CYSAG. Awgrymodd LJ y gallai'r aelodau oedd yn bresennol ofyn i'w Clerc CYSAG ofyn i'w Hadran Addysg am gopi y gellir ei ddsbarth i'r aelodau CYSAG.

Pryder KR oedd nad yw'r Fframwaith yn esbonio'r ddeddfwriaeth newydd yn ddigonol. Mae hi'n teimlo fod angen i unrhyw un sy'n defnyddio'r Fframwaith ac yn dehongli ei derminoleg, gael eu gwarchod rhag unrhyw her gyfreithiol. Awgrymodd y dylai fod diffiniadau cyfreithiol o dermau megis 'beirniadol, gwrthrychol a phlwrailaethol er enghraifft. Holodd KR hefyd pam fod y term 'argyhoeddiadau athronyddol' yn cael ei ddefnyddio yn y Fframwaith yn hytrach na 'bydolygon' fel yn y Datganiadau o'r Hyn sy'n Bwysig.

Roedd PW yn cytuno a mynegodd bryder tebyg i un KR. Dywedodd LJ fod rhesymau cyfreithiol pam fod y term 'argyhoeddiadau athronyddol' yn gorfod cael ei ddefnyddio yn y Fframwaith ond roedd hi'n cydnabod y byddai athrawon, yn arbennig, angen cymorth i ddeall y derminoleg.

Nododd DF y bydd yn rhaid i'r REC aros nes bod y ddogfen ymgynghori ar gael cyn y gall ef ei gweld.

Dywedodd CA ei bod hi'n gallu cysylltu'n hawdd â Chlerc y CYSAG ond nad oedd CYSAG Blaenau Gwent wedi cynnal unrhyw gyfarfodydd yn y flwyddyn ddiwethaf.

### **Dysgu Proffesiynol (Libby Jones)**

Roedd PW ac LJ wedi cyfarfod â KP eto ac wedi cyflwyno canfyddiadau arolwg athrawon CCYSAGauC. Gyda bron i 400 o ymatebion, derbyniwyd hyn fel tystiolaeth ddefnyddiol iawn a dywedodd KP fod y ffigyrau'n profi fod yna angen am Ddysgu Proffesiynol i athrawon.

Mynegodd LJ ei diolchgarwch i bob CYSAG am anfon yr arolwg i'w hysgolion. Roedd yr ymatebion yn dystiolaeth fod angen dysgu proffesiynol i gefnogi addysgu CGM.

Fel y gofynnwyd gan KP, mae CCYSAGauC wedi darparu model i ddarlunio dull cydweithredol o Ddysgu Proffesiynol i CGM. Anfonwyd hwn i KP a bwriedir cael cyfarfod arall i drafod y model.

Rhannwyd cyflwyniad PowerPoint i amlinellu cynnwys y model.

Cafodd ystod eang o bartneriaid cydweithredol posibl eu cynnwys megis CCYSAGauC, Estyn, PYCAG, Esgobaethau, ysgolion ayb.

Awgrymodd KR y dylai ystod o grwpiau cred – crefyddol ac anghrefyddol – gael eu cynnwys hefyd fel partneriaid posibl i gefnogi Dysgu Proffesiynol. Esboniodd LJ y rhesymeg dros gynnwys esgobaethau – byddant yn darparu Dysgu Proffesiynol i'w hysgolion eglwys – ond roedd LJ yn cydnabod y cyfraniad gwerthfawr y gallai grwpiau crefyddol ac anghrefyddol eraill ei wneud i Ddysgu Proffesiynol.

Nododd LJ arwyddocâd y newid enw a fydd yn cael effaith ar y pwnc ac ar ddealltwriaeth athrawon o natur y pwnc. Awgrymodd y bydd y Fframwaith yn cynnig rhywfaint o arweiniad i CGM ac y bydd hwn yn adnodd defnyddiol ond ni fydd yn ddigonol ohono'i hun i gefnogi athrawon.

Dywedodd TapS y bydd Dysgu Proffesiynol yn allweddol i sicrhau llwyddiant gweithredu'r cwricwlwm newydd.

## **9. Cyflwyniad PYCAG – Bil y Cwricwlwm (Paula Webber)**

Rhannodd PW gyflwyniad PowerPoint i amlinellu'r sefyllfa gyfredol gyda Bil y Cwricwlwm.

Nodwyd y canlynol:

- Cymeradwywyd y Bil gan y Senedd ar 02.03.21 gyda 32 pleidlais o blaid, 18 pleidlais yn erbyn, ac yn yn atal ei bleidlais.
- Cytunwyd ar y gwelliannau disgwylidiedig i CGM.
- Ni dderbyniwyd gwelliannau ychwanegol a gynigiwyd, ynglŷn â'r hawl i dynnu'n ôl o CGM a'r cyfrifoldeb am gostau a wynebir drwy ddarparu dau faes llafur CGM mewn ysgolion gwirfoddol a gynorthwyir sydd o gymeriad crefyddol.
- Bydd angen i'r bil gael Cydsyniad Brenhinol ar 6 Ebrill

Amlinellodd PW y prif newidiadau mewn deddfwriaeth a fydd yn effeithio ar CGM.

Tynnodd PW sylw at y newid enw i GYSAGau a fydd yn cael eu hadnabod fel Cynghorau Ymgynghorol Sefydlog.

Bydd y ddeddfwriaeth bellach yn adlewyrchu'r gyfarwydddeb flaenorol gan LIC fod cyrff sy'n cynrychioli argyhoeddiadau athronyddol anghrefyddol i'w cynnwys yn aelodaeth Pwyllgor A, h.y.

- (i) crefyddau Cristnogol a chrefyddau ac enwadau eraill o grefyddau o'r fath, ac
- (ii) argyhoeddiadau athronyddol anghrefyddol.

Yna canolbwyntiodd PW ar y camau nesaf i GYSAGau. Awgrymodd PW fod angen i GYSAGau ymateb i ymgynghoriad y Fframwaith CGM. Bydd angen iddynt drefnu a chynnal Cynhadledd Maes Llafur Cytunedig. Awgrymodd PW sut byddant yn delio â'r newid enw. Mae'n bosibl y bydd angen diweddarau Cylchoedd Gorchwyl a Chyfansoddiadau CYSAG i adlewyrchu newidiadau deddfwriaethol. Bydd angen i GYSAGau baratoi i gynghori ysgolion wrth iddynt ddatblygu eu Cwricwlwm Dyniaethau. Dylid croesawu datganiadau Yr Hyn sy'n Bwysig a chynghori ysgolion ar sut y gellir eu defnyddio i ddarparu'r CGM gorau o fewn y Dyniaethau. Gallai CYSAGau ac ysgolion archwilio hefyd y cysylltiadau a'r rhyng-ddibyniaethau rhwng CGM (o fewn y Dyniaethau) a'r Meysydd Dysgu a Phrofiad eraill.

Awgrymodd PW fod angen ystyried sut gall CYSAGau a CCYSAGauC weithio mewn partneriaeth gyda'r ALLau, consortia, mudiadau eraill ac ysgolion i ddarparu Dysgu Proffesiynol a phrofiadau dysgu cyfoethog a dilys o amgylch y cysyniadau allweddol o fewn CGM/Dyniaethau.

Gallai CYSAGau fyfyrion a gwerthuso sut gallant ddod yn fwy effeithlon ac effeithiol. Dylai fod sgwrs barhaus gydag athrawon a dysgwyr, i adeiladu perthnasau, yn ei lle.

Holodd PL a oes angen yswiriant indemniad ar GYSAGau gan eu bod yn rhoi cyngor. Bydd angen iddynt sicrhau fod y cyngor o'r safon uchaf.

Eglurodd EE o ran CYSAGau, dim ond un grŵp A sydd, a fydd yn cynnwys cynrychiolwyr crefyddol ac anghrefyddol.

Gan y bydd enw newydd i GYSAGau, awgrymodd RT y gall fod angen enw newydd a logo newydd ar CCYSAGauC.

Nododd LB fod heriau cyfreithiol yn bosibl ar bob adegau gyda heriau posibl o ran y ddeddfwriaeth ei hun, gan nad yw'n caniatáu optio allan i rieni. Yn neddfwriaeth y ddeddf cydraddoldeb, roeddent yn darparu eithriad i wahaniaethu mewn perthynas â chynnwys addysg crefyddol ac mae angen cadw hynny mewn cof.

Rhannodd GT bryder y gall fod mwy o bwyslais ar athroniaeth a hynny yn lle AG. Dywedodd PW fod datganiadau'r Hyn sy'n Bwysig yn cynnig cyfle mwy cyfoethog am astudiaethau crefyddol mwy pwrpasol a bod angen i ni sicrhau fod athrawon yn cael yr hyfforddiant a'r gefnogaeth i adnabod a gwneud defnydd o'r cyfleoedd hyn.

Cadarnhaodd PK y bydd CGM yn dal i fod yn statudol. Nid yw yn mynd i gael ei lastwreiddio. Nid yw'r newid enw yn tynnu oddi ar AG dda – y bwriad yw ail-bwysleisio'r hyn sy'n golygu AG dda yn barod.

## **10. Diweddariadau:**

## **Y Cyngor Addysg Grefyddol (Dave Francis)**

Dywedodd DF fod y Cyngor wedi bod yn falch cael cydweithio â CCYSAGauC ar y materion ynghylch adolygu cymwysterau.

Cyfeiriodd at y prosiect a sefydlwyd i archwilio'r ddealltwriaeth o'r term 'bydolygon'. Mae'r Ymddiriedolwyr yn cynnig cyfres o sgysiau i rannu'r canfyddiadau hyd yma. Bydd y Pwyllgor Addysg yn parhau i edrych ar y model bydolygon yn hytrach na model crefydd. Gall canlyniad terfynol y prosiect gael ei gofnodi naill ai mewn cyhoeddiad neu ffilm wedi'i hanimeiddio.

Tynnodd DF sylw at brosiectau eraill megis prosiect y Llysgenhadon Ifanc a oedd bellach wedi'i gcontractio i AREIAC. Soniodd am y Marc Ansawdd Addysg Grefyddol ac atgoffodd CCYSAGauC fod hwn ar agor i ysgolion yng Nghymru yn ogystal â Lloegr.

Cynhelir Cyfarfod Blynyddol y Cyngor Addysg Grefyddol ar 11 Mai 2021.

Bydd 3 sedd i'w hethol ar y bwrdd.

Nododd DF hefyd ei bod yn amser adnewyddu tanysgrifiadau aelodaeth REC.

## **AREIAC (Gill Vaisey)**

Adroddodd GV fod trafodaethau'n mynd rhagddynt ar gynhadledd yr haf a bydd y newyddion yn cael ei ledaenu yn fuan.

Erbyn hyn mae pump o bobl yn grŵp rhanbarthol AREIAC Cymru. Pwysleisiodd GV werth AREIAC fel corff proffesiynol ac anogodd aelodaeth, sy'n £70 y flwyddyn. Ceir manylion pellach ar [wefan AREIAC](#).

Roedd GV wedi anfon Newyddlen AREIAC ymlaen i aelodau Cymru er y byddent wedi'i derbyn yn uniongyrchol hefyd. Mae'n cynnwys gwybodaeth ddefnyddiol a chyfleoedd i fynychu gweminarau amrywiol ar-lein – a'r clwb llyfrau.

Roedd manylion Rhaglen Arweinyddiaeth St Gabriel wedi cael ei rannu ag aelodau Cymru. Nodwyd fod y rhaglen hon ar agor i bob ymarferwr yng Nghymru yn ogystal â Lloegr ac y byddai croeso i geisiadau o Gymru. Y prif feini prawf yw bod athro sy'n dymuno gwneud cais yn cefnogi AG y tu hwnt i'w ysgol ei hun (e.e. rhoi cefnogaeth i athrawon mewn ysgolion eraill - yn rhedeg grŵp Rhwydweithio efallai). Ceir manylion yn <https://www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/the-culham-st-gabriel-s-leadership-programme/> neu <https://www.reonline.org.uk/leading-re/leadership/leadership-programme/> er bod y dyddiad cau ar 31 Mawrth.

## **EFTRE (Gill Vaisey)**

Mae EFTRE wedi parhau i gynnal ei gyfarfodydd bwrdd ar-lein. Bwriedir cynnal y gynhadledd ddwy flynyddol yn Rhufain ar 25-28 Awst 2022. Y thema fydd 'Crefydd Fyw' sy'n cyd-fynd â'r pwyslais mewn AG yng Nghymru a Lloegr.

### **MAGC (Paul Morgan)**

Adroddodd PM fod MAGC wedi parhau i ganolbwyntio ar ddyfodol y cyhoeddiad *RE Ideas*. Roedd wedi cael cyngor gan PYCAG. Bydd *RE Ideas* yn cael ei ohirio am y dyfodol agos o leiaf. Cydnabuwyd y bydd angen asesu pa newidiadau fydd angen eu gwneud os yw'r cyhoeddiad am barhau.

### **Rhwydwaith Rhyng-ffydd (Libby Jones)**

Adroddodd LJ fod y Rhwydwaith Rhyng-ffydd yn datblygu rhai adnoddau ar gyfer CA3. Roedd Pwyllgor Gwaith CCYSAGauC wedi cael gwahoddiad i ystyried yr adnodd a chynnig

adborth – er enghraifft a oes angen ei addasu i Gymru. Anfonwyd sylwadau i'r cyhoeddwr ac maent yn ystyried a fydd ar gael i ysgolion yng Nghymru.

Nododd LJ fod aelodaeth newydd y Rhwydwaith yn cynnwys Caplaniaeth Prifysgol y Drindod Dewi Sant.

Adroddodd LJ fod y mewnbwn gan CCYSAGauC bob amser yn cael ei groesawu a'i werthfawrogi.

### **Diweddariad PYCAG (Libby Jones)**

Adroddodd LJ fod aelodau PYCAG wedi trafod ymgynghoriad Cymwysterau Cymru yn eu cyfarfod diwethaf. Maent wedi llunio ymateb sy'n debyg i ymateb CCYSGauC. Ond, mae'n tynnu sylw at yr ymatebion amrywiol gan aelodau unigol. Cydnaybdir nad yw'r aelodau bob amser yn cytuno ar bob pwynt ond maent yn cael dadl a thrafodaeth werthfawr am y pwyntiau a godwyd. Cyfeiriodd LJ at y cytundeb y gallai PYCAG gyflwyno cais i CCYSAGauC am gyllid i greu adnoddau dysgu cyfunol. Fodd bynnag, cytunwyd fod diffyg capasiti ymhlith aelodau PYCAG i wneud gwaith ar adnoddau dysgu cyfunol. Cytunodd PYCAG y byddai'n fwy defnyddiol dwyn ynghyd rhestr o ddolenni defnyddiol ac addas i'r adnoddau sy'n bodoli'n barod.

Nodwyd bod y gwahanol gonsortia yn coladu rhestrau o adnoddau. Bydd LJ yn hwyluso crynhoi'r rhestr hon ac yn cysylltu â Phwyllgor Gwaith CCYSAGau / RS fel Cadeirydd.

Nododd LJ yr ystod o eitemau a drafodwyd yng nghyfarfod PYCAG a oedd yn cynnwys ail-ystyried ei gyfansoddiad a'i aelodaeth.

Gofynnodd KN sut mae disgyblion o gefndir lleiafrifol yn cael eu cynnwys o ran addysg grefyddol mewn ysgolion. Nododd LJ fod sybysidiaredd yn y cwricwlwm newydd yn golygu y gall ysgolion sicrhau fod cynllunio'u cwricwlwm yn adlewyrchu eu hardal a'u dysgwyr eu hunain. Awgrymodd PW fod natur gynhwysol gyffrous y cwricwlwm newydd a'i bwyslais ar amrywiaeth yn rhywbeth i'w ddathlu. Awgrymodd KR, yn unol â hyn, fod angen i GYSAGau gymryd y cyfle hwn i gynnwys cynrychiolwyr o amrywiaeth eang o gefndiroedd.

### **Adroddiad o'r Pwyllgor Gwaith a gynhaliwyd ar 26 Ionawr (Rachel Samuel / Tania Ap Sion)**

I ddechrau diolchodd RS i bawb ar y Pwyllgor Gwaith am eu holl waith a oedd yn fwy anodd oherwydd Covid-19 a'r holl newidiadau gyda'r cwricwlwm.

Amlinellodd RS yr eitemau fel yn ôl yr adroddiad a gyflwynwyd gydag agenda heddiw. Nodwyd fod y rhan fwyaf o'r pwyntiau hyn wedi cael eu trafod yn barod fel rhan o'r agenda.

Nododd yn arbennig, lwyddiant CCYSAGauC mewn sicrhau fod ffi talu'n hwyr CBAC wedi cael ei hepgor ac nad yw'n weithredol mwyach.

Nododd RS fod y Pwyllgor Gwaith wedi cael llythyr gan Gyngor Eglwysi Rhyddion Cymru yn gofyn am gymorth CCYSAGau i gyfieithu adnoddau i athrawon a baratowyd gyda *RE Today* ar themâu gwrth-hiliol a BAME. Bydd hwn yn cael ei gynnwys ar yr agenda i'w drafod yn y pwyllgor gwaith nesaf. Yn dilyn hyn, rhoddir ymateb i'r Cyngor Eglwysi Rhyddion a bydd adborth yn cael ei rannu yng nghyfarfod nesaf CCYSAGauC.

### **11. Gohebiaeth (Alice Parry)**

Croesawodd AP Gwawr Meirion, cynrychiolydd Estyn, i'w chyfarfod CCYSAGauC cyntaf ac fe'i gwahoddwyd i siarad. Adroddodd GM fod Estyn yn ymgysylltu ag ysgolion ynghylch y cwricwlwm newydd. Mae Estyn yn edrych hefyd ar sut mae ysgolion wedi addasu gwaith i ymdopi â'r pandemig. Hysbysodd GM yr aelodau y gellir cyrchu adroddiadau thematig ac adroddiadau o ymgysylltiad diweddar Estyn ag ysgolion o wefan Estyn.

Roedd gohebiaeth wedi'i derbyn fel a ganlyn.

Dyneiddwyr Cymru ynglŷn â llefydd ar GYSAGau (fel y nodwyd ynghynt)

Mudiadau ynglŷn ag adnoddau – bydd hyn yn cael ei drafod gan y Pwyllgor Gwaith.

Y grefydd Baha'i yn estyn cyfarchion Blwyddyn Newydd ar 20 Mawrth 2021.

Rhyng-ffydd Cymru gyda gwahoddiad i rai dathliadau rhithiol – anfonir hwn i'r CYSAGau.

### **12. Unrhyw fater arall (i'w gytuno arno cyn y cyfarfod gyda'r Cadeirydd)**

Dim

### **13. Dyddiad y cyfarfod nesaf: Haf 2021 i'w Gadarnhau**

16 Mehefin 2021 – i'w letya gan Powys

Diolchwyd i Gyngor Bwrdeistref Caerffili am letya'r cyfarfod, i bawb oedd yn bresennol ac i'r holl gyflwynwyr a chyfranwyr.

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 13.05.

**Attendance**

<p><b>Ynys Môn / Anglesey</b> Rheinallt Thomas (RT) Gwyneth Mai Hughes (GH) Dylan Rees (DR)</p> <p><b>Blaenau Gwent</b> Paula Webber (PW) Kathy Riddick (KW) Chris Abbas (CA) John Meredith (JM)</p> <p><b>Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr / Bridgend</b> Edward J. Evans (EE) Angela Hill (AH) Alice Parry (AP)</p> <p><b>Caerffili/ Caerphilly</b> Paula Webber (PW) Janet Jones (JJ) John Taylor (JT) Paul Warren (PWn) Michael Gray (MG) Rebecca Barrett (RB) Janet Jones (JJ) Martyn Western (MW) Carin Quinn (CQ) Teresa Parry (TP)</p> <p><b>Caerdydd / Cardiff</b> Angela Hill (AH)</p> <p><b>Sir Gaerfyrddin / Carmarthenshire</b> Kimberley Perry (KP) Gwyneth Thomas (GT)</p> <p><b>Ceredigion</b></p>	<p><b>Conwy</b> Phil Lord (PL) Nicholas Richter (NR)</p> <p><b>Sir Ddinbych / Denbighshire</b> Phil Lord (PL) Janet Axworthy (JA) Dave Mackie (DM)</p> <p><b>Sir y Fflint / Flintshire</b> Vicky Barlow (VB) Janet Axworthy (JA) Dave Mackie (DM)</p> <p><b>Gwynedd</b> Dashu (D) Paul Rowlinson (PR) Eurfryn Davies (ED) Selwyn Griffiths (SG)</p> <p><b>Merthyr Tudful / Merthyr Tydfil</b> Angela Hill (AH)</p> <p><b>Sir Fynwy / Monmouthshire</b> Paula Webber (PW) Louise Brown (LB) Sue Cave (SC) Suzanne Gooding (SG)</p> <p><b>Castell-nedd Port Talbot / Neath and Port Talbot</b> Rachel Samuel (RS) Lee Workman (LW) Debbie Thomas (DT) Tim Hewitt (TH)</p>	<p><b>Sir Benfro / Pembrokeshire</b> Huw George (HG) Amanda Lawrence (AL)</p> <p><b>Powys</b> Ange Williams (AW)</p> <p><b>Rhondda Cynon Taf</b> Angela Hill (AH) Martyn Silezin (MS) Matthew Maidment (MM)</p> <p><b>Abertawe / Swansea</b> Alison Lewis (AL) Mohsen El-Beltagi (ME)</p> <p><b>Torfaen</b> Paula Webber (PW) Marilyn Frazer (MF) Sian Lewis (SL)</p> <p><b>Bro Morgannwg / Vale of Glamorgan</b> Angela Hill (AH) Marged Williams (MW) Edward Williams (EW) Kalpana Natarajan (KN)</p> <p><b>Wrecsam / Wrexham</b> Libby Jones (LJ) Tania ap Siôn (TaS) Pippa Virdee-Lace BL)</p>	<p><b>Observers:</b> <b>REMW</b> Paul Morgan (PM)</p> <p><b>WJEC</b> Andrew Pearce (AP)</p> <p><b>ESTYN</b> Gwawr Meirion (GM)</p> <p><b>Welsh Government</b> Peter Kennedy (PK)</p> <p><b>REC</b> Dave Francis (DF)</p> <p><b>Church in Wales</b> Elizabeth Thomas (ET)</p> <p><b>Catholic Education Service</b> Angela Keller (AK)</p> <p><b>Qualification Wales</b> Philip Blaker (PB) Catrin Verrall (CV)</p> <p><b>Minutes</b> Gill Vaisey (GV)</p> <p><b>Others – unknown to which SACRE associated:</b> J M Williams Primary Education</p>
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Keith Evans (KE)	<b>Casnewydd / Newport</b> Paula Webber (PW) Neeta Baicher (NB) Huw Stephens (HS)		
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**Minutes of the meeting 1. Introduction and welcome**

RS welcomed everyone and explained the protocol for this virtual meeting.

Cllr John Taylor, Chair of Caerphilly SACRE gave a welcome as the host authority for this meeting. He expressed his disappointment that we could not be in Caerphilly physically but none the less, was pleased to act as host and wished the meeting well. He acknowledged the amazing work that schools and teachers have been undertaking in such difficult circumstances.

Cllr Taylor thanked Rebecca Barret as the efficient and effective clerk to Caerphilly SACRE, alongside Paula Webber who provides the professional support. He expressed his support for the planned co-option of two young people who were to soon join the SACRE to give pupil voice to the committee.

A welcome was also given by Paul Warren, Strategic Lead for School Improvement. He explained that he was an ex headteacher and fully appreciated the immense challenges on teachers at present and over recent months. He acknowledged that teachers have been not only managing remote learning during the pandemic but at the same time managing curriculum change and the planning that that entails. He also recognised the effects on pupils who have varying degrees of support when learning from home and the impact on the wider community also.

He noted the changes taking place for RE which is to become RVE and mandatory for all pupils 3 – 16 years. With no future right of withdrawal for parents to exercise, he recognises that it is crucial that RVE is objective, critical and pluralistic. This will demand a need for CPD more than ever before.

Paul spoke of the need for SACRE members to have the skills to steer and shape policy at a national level. He expressed thanks to all those involved in doing their best for learners across Wales.

## **2. Quiet reflection**

RS led members through a reflection on the last year, recognising that this day, one year ago, was the first day of the first lockdown due to Covid-19. She acknowledged all those who had lost their lives – how this number had increased in the UK from 364 in March 2020 to the current official figure of 126,172. She reflected on the impact of the pandemic both physically and emotionally on so many people.

RS spoke of ‘the light at the end of the tunnel’ with the roll out of the vaccines. She commended all the health workers and key workers for all that they had done and continue to do in their crucial work.

RS invited members to mark a minute’s silence at midday, in line with the Marie Curie initiative to make this a day of remembrance. At 8p.m. people are encouraged to hold a light on their doorsteps, whilst buildings around the country will be lit by a yellow light.

## **3. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Lucy Grant and John Mitson as Executive Members, Jennifer Harding - Swansea SACRE, Rita Fiona Thomas – Neath Port Talbot SACRE, Tudor Thomas - Monmouthshire SACRE.

#### **4. Minutes of meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting subject to the addition in the attendance list of Cllr Keith Evans who indicated that he had been present, and on page 18, second sentence needing inverted commas added to “regard”.

RT expressed thanks for the detail included in the minutes and the speed in which they had been made available following the meeting.

#### **5. Matters arising from minutes of the last WASACRE meeting**

Item 7 – Blended Learning – RS reported that NAPfRE has been considering how to take this forward. An update will be given later in the meeting.

Item 10 – concerns had been raised from Wales Humanists about membership of SACREs. In response to this, the Chair wrote to all LAs reminding them of the letter from WG stating that representatives from non-religious beliefs such as humanism, can be given a place on Committee A.

#### **6. Qualifications Wales Consultation (Alice Parry)**

<https://qualificationswales.org/english/qualified-for-the-future---have-your-say/>

AP gave an overview of the current consultation on the new GCSE qualifications.

She reported that the WASACRE Exec has begun to consider a response to the consultation. The teaching members of the Exec had firstly considered this followed by a meeting with REC representatives to share views.

AP noted that the consultation includes three main proposals for the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience:

4. Review and reform GCSEs in Business, Geography, History and Religious Studies.

AP noted that there would be a need to ensure comparability between all the GCSEs. The same time allocation should be given to all the subject GCSEs. WASACRE would want the RS GCSE to be published at the same time as other subjects. Both statutory RVE and optional Religious Studies needs to be considered. The specification needs to address inclusivity – it should retain rigour and challenge but also has to be accessible to all learners. Rather than the Full or Short course being 100% examination, ongoing assessment with a digital and blended learning approach would be preferred. The GCSE also needs to provide sufficient challenge to allow students to be prepared to go on to further study such as the A Level.

5. If feasible, create a new GCSE in Social Studies.

AP recognises that this could be a popular course. However, it will need to be appropriately clear and distinguishable from other disciplines. Whilst it is acknowledged that there will be potential links between disciplines, these links need to be complimentary and not competitive. Each discipline needs to be distinct. RS should not be allowed to be disguised within Social Studies.

QW needs to consult with the Stakeholders and ensure that specialists are deployed to create the new qualifications.

6. If feasible, create a new integrated GCSE in Humanities.

AP suggested that for this approach, it would need to be ensured that links are complimentary and there remains a distinctiveness of the various subjects that make up the Humanities. This is an opportunity to embed the What Matters Statements within a GCSE. A multi-dimensional approach through a range of lenses would be beneficial as long as the differences between the subject disciplines are still evident.

It was noted that some schools may not teach in a thematic way so would not want a Humanities examination. The statutory RVE could be covered in an integrated Humanities qualification.

Further responses from the Exec and wider WASACRE membership will be considered in formulating the final WASACRE response to the consultation which will be submitted to QW by 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021, before the deadline of 16<sup>th</sup> April. A summary of the response will be shared with all SACRE when it is available.

Questions were raised and responses given by various members.

LB stated that her SACRE had looked at the consultation. PW, as the SACRE adviser, had provided a draft response for consideration. Teachers, in particular, were concerned about a Humanities GCSE and that if pupils were not given the opportunity to specialise in specific subjects, this would deter them from pursuing an A Level or further qualification in the subject e.g. Religious Studies. LB suggested that teachers wanted to keep separate subject examinations.

PL questioned whether the What Matters Statements would be reflected in the new GCSE. PW confirmed that that would be the case.

PL also suggested that the increased examination provision within Humanities would cover a considerable amount of content and there is need to be careful of repetition across the exams.

PW confirmed that a lot more planning still needs to take place for the new qualifications. She explained that the reason why QW is going down this route is to accommodate the subsidiarity that schools will have. It will be necessary to provide a range of examination options to suit the different choices / approaches to curriculum design and provision that will be adopted by schools.

DF stated that he appreciated the recent meeting with WASACRE that he and Deborah Weston had been invited to attend on behalf of the REC to discuss the new qualifications. He advised that subsequently the REC is writing to all member organisations to make them aware of the consultation and encouraging them to respond in their own way should they wish to do so.

EE reminded members that WASACRE has met with QW over many years. In the past

WASACRE has suggested two types of GCSE - a Humanities GCSE and also a second Humanities GCSE which has a particular discipline such as RS. He proposed that QW could be reminded of this suggestion.

HS queried the timescale in relation to SACRE establishing a new Agreed Syllabus and the availability of the new qualifications.

It was clarified that Agreed Syllabuses will have to be developed before it is known for sure what the new qualifications will look like – although there will be some awareness as they will be based on the approach of the new curriculum.

Agreed Syllabus Conferences should take place in 2022. The new qualifications will be published in 2024 for first teaching in September 2025 and the first examinations in 2027.

MW stated that he welcomes wider avenues of thought and philosophies but hopes that RS is not watered down too much.

KR stated that the issue of ASCs is an important point. If schools are rolling out the new curriculum in 2022, all SACREs should set up ASCs in advance of September 2022 so that schools are aware of the local RVE requirements and can include RVE within their curriculum planning.

## **7. WASACRE website update and launch (Tania Ap Sion)**

TapS gave an update on the progress with the new website. The 'home page' of the site was shown through screen share. The English part of the site is now complete. The Welsh side of the site is being developed. The menu retains the same structure as the current website. The new site is much fresher and more contemporary with easy navigation over 5 or 6 areas.

The Twitter and Facebook buttons allow for integrated Social Media facilities which is an important part of continuing to raise WASACRE's profile and accessibility.

The site will go live when both language areas are complete. It was noted that there needs to be consideration of accessibility through a Google search in Welsh.

TapS thanked all those involved in developing the site and in particular the excellent work of Nick Evans who has undertaken this project for WASACRE.

## **8. Welsh government matters:**

### **Meetings (Rachel Samuel)**

RS referred to the summary report of meetings with Welsh Government which was included in the meeting papers for today.

Two meetings have taken place since the last WASACRE meeting – 22.10.20 and 17.12.20. A range of questions were raised and received a response:

□ Update on the RE framework – this is an ongoing question with a response that guidance will be available as soon as possible – Libby Jones will be sharing a further update during the WASACRE meeting.

□ Impact of Covid 19 – it was made clear that all legislation was continuing as planned and there would be no delays in the Curriculum Bill.

□ Consultation of the CYPE Committee – the next steps on the committee’s work was confirmed and results can be seen within amendments to the curriculum and assessment bill as shared by Paula Webber today.

□ The inclusion of Spiritual, moral, cultural, mental physical and social development of pupils in the guidance – a request was made to signpost within the documentation to ensure joined up thinking, even when it is not mentioned. Term is no longer in the glossary. It was agreed that this needs further consideration, but it was not made clear as to who would do this.

□ WG thanked WASACRE for briefing papers that had been prepared. Edward Evans offered, on behalf of WASACRE, to look at the position of collective worship within 10/94 that is not being considered within the new bill and thus will still be legal requirements. Thanks was given on the completion of this paper.

□ Briefing paper dated February 2020 – in response to this, WG confirmed that funding went to consortia for Professional Development. As a result, it would be down to individual LA’s to decide if they required to employ advisors. WG suggested we spoke directly to ADEW regarding this situation.

□ Discussion on the letter from the Minister dated 16th November 2020 in particular ‘Further guidance to support Local Authorities, SACRE’s and Agreed Syllabus Conferences (ASC’s) will be developed over the coming months. We also enquired regarding what makes a group with a specific non-religious conviction an ‘official’ group that requires representation on SACRE. We were informed that this could be explained in the framework, possibly a co-construction working group in order to provide the necessary guidance for LAs so that they can each make their own decisions.

□ Updates on qualifications both current and future – this again is an ongoing question with all the consultations that are being carried out linked to the new curriculum and amendments to this year’s GCSE and A level examinations.

□ Access to HWB for WASACRE – it was agreed that WG would look into this and arrange for a member of the HWB team to speak with us.

### **RE Framework (Libby Jones)**

LJ explained that there had been a long break in working on the RVE Framework due to the Covid-19 situation. The draft guidance was finally scrutinised in January 2021 and seen by the Programme Board. Some amendments had been suggested and a group of experts including LJ herself, had worked on this in February 2021. The full public consultation on the Framework will commence mid May and will last for 8 weeks. Responses will be analysed up to September / October 2021. The final Framework will be available in December 2021.

Therefore, SACREs will need to hold Agreed Syllabus Conferences from December 2021. LJ reported that Wrexham ASC is meeting in January 2022.

In response to a question from PW, PK explained that the Programme Board is a wider internal guidance group. PW stated that she felt it was important for the Framework to go to the Coherence Board to ensure that it is in line with the whole of the new curriculum. She emphasised it is important to make sure that the Framework is in line with the What Matters Statements.

LJ added that on 18<sup>th</sup> March, WG had sent a copy of the draft Framework to all 22 LA Directors of Education. WG invites responses to the draft from the LA by 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Members noted that this is an unrealistic time frame given that key personnel will be on leave during this period due to the Easter break.

KP stated that WG is confident that they have given all the time that they can allow for this initial feedback given the timeframe they are working with. He reminded members that the full consultation will be open until mid May.

LB suggested that some Directors of Education do not seem to have sent the Framework to the SACRE clerks to pass on to SACRE members. Given that WASACRE had not officially received a copy of the Framework, LJ explained that WASACRE was not in a position to send it to SACRE Clerks. LJ suggested that members present could ask their SACRE Clerk to ask their DoE for a copy which can be distributed to its SACRE members.

KR raised concern that the Framework does not explain the new legislation adequately. She feels that anyone using the Framework and interpreting its terminology, needs to be protected from any legal challenge. She suggested their needs to be legal definitions of terms such as 'critical, objective and pluralistic' for instance. KR also questioned why the term 'philosophical convictions' is being used in the Framework instead of 'worldviews' as in the Statements of What Matters.

PW agreed and expressed her similar concern as that of KR. LJ stated that for legal reasons the term 'philosophical convictions' had to be used in the Framework but recognised that teachers, in particular, would need support with understanding the terminology.

DF noted that the REC will have to wait until the consultation document is available before it can have sight of it.

CA made a comment that she has easy access to the SACRE Clerk but that Blaenau Gwent SACRE had not held any meetings in the last year.

### **Professional Learning (Libby Jones)**

PW and LJ had met with KP again and presented findings of the WASACRE teacher survey. With nearly 400 responses this was received as very helpful evidence and KP accepted that the figures prove that there is a need for Professional Learning for teachers.

LJ expressed gratitude to all the SACREs for sending the survey to their schools. The responses had provided evidence that professional learning is needed to support the teaching of RVE.

As requested by KP, WASACRE has provided a model to illustrate a collaborative approach to PL for RVE. This has been submitted to KP and another meeting is planned to discuss the model.

A PowerPoint presentation was shared to outline the contents of the model.

A wide range of potential collaborative partners have been included such as WASACRE, Estyn, NAPfRE, Dioceses, schools etc.

KR suggested that a range of belief groups – both religious and non-religious – should also be included as potential partners to support Professional Learning. LJ explained the rationale for having included dioceses – they will be providing PL for their church schools – but LJ also acknowledged the valuable contribution that other religious and non-religious groups could make to PL.

LJ noted the significance of the name change which will have an impact on the subject and teachers' understanding of the nature of the subject. She suggested that the Framework will provide some guidance for RVE and this will be a useful resource but will not in itself be adequate to support teachers.

TapS stated that Professional Learning will be key to ensuring the success of the implementation of the new curriculum.

## **9. NAPfRE Presentation - Curriculum Bill (Paula Webber)**

PW shared a PowerPoint presentation to outline the current situation with the Curriculum Bill.

It was noted that:

- The Bill was approved by the Senedd on 02.03.21 with 32 votes in favour, 18 votes against, and one abstention
- The expected amendments for RVE were agreed.
- Additional proposed amendments, concerning the right to withdraw from RVE and the responsibility for costs incurred by the provision of two RVE syllabuses in voluntary aided schools with a religious character, were not accepted.
- This now needs to gain Royal Assent on the 6<sup>th</sup> April

PW outlined the main changes in legislation which will affect RVE.

PW highlighted the change of name for SACREs which will become known as Standing Advisory Councils (SACs).

The legislation will now reflect the previous directive from WG that organisations representing non-religious philosophical convictions are to be included in membership of Committee A i.e.

- (i) Christian denominations and other religions and denominations of such religions, and
- (ii) non-religious philosophical convictions.



PW then focussed on the next steps for SACREs. PW suggested SACREs need to respond to the RVE Framework consultation. They will need to arrange and hold an Agreed Syllabus Conference. PW suggested SACREs could consider how they will embrace the name change. SACRE Terms of Reference and Constitutions may need to be updated to reflect legislative changes. SACREs will need to prepare to advise schools as they develop their Humanities Curriculum. The statements of what matters should be embraced and schools advised on how they can be used to provide the best RVE within the Humanities. SACREs and schools should also explore the links and interdependencies between RVE (within Humanities) and the other Areas of Learning and Experience.

PW suggested there needs to be thought given to how SACREs and WASACRE can work in partnership with the LAs, consortia, other organisations and schools to provide Professional Learning and rich, authentic learning experiences around the key concepts within RVE/Humanities.

SACREs could reflect and evaluate how they can become more efficient and effective. An ongoing dialogue with teachers and learners, to build relationships, should be in place.

PL questioned whether SACREs need indemnity insurance as they give advice. They will need to ensure that advice is of the highest quality.

EE clarified that with regard to SACREs, there is only one group A, which will comprise of both religious and non-religious representatives.

RT suggested that as there will be a new name for SACRES, WASACRE may need a new name and a new logo.

LB noted that legal challenges possible at all times with possible challenges regarding the legislation itself by not allowing an opt out for parents. In the legislation of the equalities act they did provide for an exemption to discrimination in relation to the content of religious education that needs bearing in mind.

GT shared a concern that philosophy may be given a greater emphasis and take the place of RE. PW advised that the statements of what matter provide a richer opportunity for more purposeful religious studies and that we need to ensure that teachers have the training and support to recognise and to make use of these opportunities.

PK confirmed that RVE will remain statutory. It is not to be diluted. The name change does not detract from good RE – it is intended to re-emphasise what already constitutes good RE.

## **10. Up-dates:**

### **REC (Dave Francis)**

DF stated that the REC had been pleased to collaborate with WASACRE on the issues around the revision of qualifications.

He referenced the project which had been set up to explore the understanding of the term 'worldviews'. The Trustees are offering a series of talks to share findings so far. The Education Committee will continue to look at the worldviews paradigm as opposed to a

religion paradigm. The final project outcome may be recorded either in a publication or an animated film.

DF highlighted other projects such as the Young Ambassadors project which had now been contracted to AREIAC. He mentioned the REQM and reminded WASACRE that this is open to schools in Wales as well as those in England.

The REC AGM is scheduled to take place on 11th May 2020.

There will be 3 places for election on the board.

DF also noted that REC membership subscriptions are due for renewal.

### **AREIAC (Gill Vaisey)**

GV reported that the summer conference is under discussion and news will be disseminated soon.

There are now five people in the Wales regional AREIAC group. GV stressed the value of AREIAC as a professional body and encouraged membership which is £70 per year. Further details can be seen on the [AREIAC website](#).

GV had forwarded the AREIAC Newsletter to the Wales members although they would have received it direct also. It contains useful information and opportunities to attend various online webinars - and the book club.

Details of the Culham St Gabriel's Leadership Programme had been shared with Wales members. It was noted that this programme is open to all practitioners in Wales as well as England and applications from practitioners in Wales would be welcome. The main criteria is that a teacher who wishes to apply is supporting RE beyond their own school (e.g. providing support to other teachers in other schools - maybe running a Network group for instance). Details can be seen at <https://www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/the-culham-st-gabriel-s-leadership-programme/> or <https://www.reonline.org.uk/leading-re/leadership-programme/> although the application deadline is 31st March.

### **EFTRE (Gill Vaisey)**

EFTRE has continued to have its board meetings online. The bi-annual conference is being planned for Rome - 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> August 2022. The theme will be 'Living Religion' which is line with the emphasis in RE for England and Wales.

### **REMW (Paul Morgan)**

PM reported that REMW had continued to focus on the future of the publication RE Ideas. It had taken advice from NAPfRE. RE Ideas will be suspended for at least the immediate future. It was recognised that it will be necessary to assess what changes will need to be made if the publication is to go forward.

### **IFN (Libby Jones)**

LJ reported that the Interfaith Network is developing some resources for KS3. The WASACRE Exec had been invited to consider the resource and offer feedback – for instance whether it needs adapting for Wales. Comments have been submitted to the publisher and they are considering whether it will be available to schools in Wales.

LJ noted new membership of the IFN included that of Trinity St David, University Chaplaincy

LJ reported that the input from WASACRE is always welcomed and valued.

### **NAPfRE Update (Libby Jones)**

LJ reported that at its last meeting, NAPfRE members discussed the QW consultation. They have drawn up a response which is similar to the WASACRE response. However, it highlights the various responses from individual members. It is acknowledged that members don't always agree on all points but have valuable debate and discussion over the points raised. LJ referred to the agreement that NAPfRE could submit a bid to WASACRE for funding to create blended learning resources. However, it was agreed that there is a lack of capacity amongst members of NAPfRE to carry out work on blended learning resources. NAPfRE agreed it would be more manageable to pull together a list of useful and appropriate links to existing resources.

It was noted that the different consortia are collating lists of resources. LJ will facilitate the compiling of this list and liaise with the WASACRE Exec / RS as Chair.

LJ noted the range of items covered at the NAPfRE meeting which included re-considering its constitution and membership.

KN asked how pupils from a minority background are accommodated in terms of religious education in schools. LJ noted that subsidiarity within the new curriculum means that schools can ensure that their curriculum design reflects their own locality and their learners. PW suggested that the exciting inclusive nature of the new curriculum and its emphasis on diversity is to be celebrated. KR suggested that in line with this, SACREs need to take this opportunity to include representatives from a wide range of backgrounds.

### **Report from the Executive Committee held on 26th January (Rachel Samuel / Tania Ap Sion)**

RS firstly gave thanks to all the Exec committee for all their work made especially more demanding because of Covid-19 and all the changes with the curriculum.

RS outlined the items as per the submitted accompanying report for today's agenda. It was noted that most of these points had been discussed already on the agenda today.

She noted, in particular, WASACRE's success in ensuring that the WJEC late payment fee for schools is waived and no longer applies.

RS noted that the executive had received a letter from the Free Church Council of Wales requesting assistance from WASACRE with the translation of teacher resources which had been prepared together with RE Today on anti-racist and BAME themes. This will be

included on the agenda to be discussed in the next executive meeting. Following this, a response will be given to the Free Church Council and feedback will be shared in the next WASACRE meeting.

### **11. Correspondence (Alice Parry)**

AP welcomed Gwawr Merion, as an Estyn representative, to her first WASACRE meeting and invited her to speak. GM reported that Estyn is engaging with schools around the new curriculum. Estyn is also looking at how schools have adapted work to cope with the pandemic. GM notified members that thematic reports and reports from Estyn's recent engagement with schools can be accessed from the Estyn website.

Correspondence had been received as follows.

Humanists Wales regarding places on SACREs (as noted previously).

Organisations regarding resources – this will be considered by the Executive Committee.

The Baha'i faith offering New Year greetings for 20<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

Interfaith Wales with an invitation to some virtual celebrations – this will be circulated to SACREs.

### **12. Any other business (to be agreed in advance of the meeting with the Chair)**

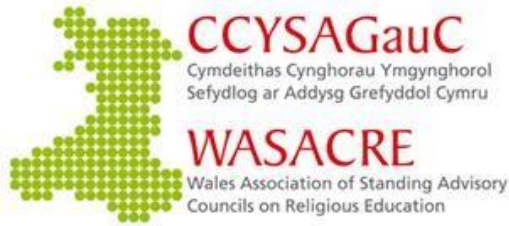
None

### **13. Date for next meeting: Summer 2021 TBC June**

16<sup>th</sup> 2021 – to be hosted by Powys

Thanks were extended to Caerphilly County Borough for hosting the meeting, to all those in attendance and to all presenters and contributors.

The meeting ended at 13.05.



Cyfarfod CCYSAGauC Cyfarfod rhithiol Powys Dydd Mercher, 16 Mehefin, 2021 (10.15 – 12.15yp). Bydd y cyfarfod yn agor am 10.00 i sicrhau mynediad i ddechrau'r cyfarfod yn syth am 10.15yb.

**Bilingual Agenda** (Please scroll down for English version)

1. Cyflwyniad a chroeso
2. Myfyrdod tawel
3. Ymddiheuriadau
4. Cofnodion y cyfarfod diwethaf rhithiol trwy Microsoft Teams 23 Mawrth 2021
5. Materion sy'n codi o'r cyfarfod
6. Cyflwyniad PYCAG – Ymgynghoriad Llywodraeth Cymru ar ganllaw Crefydd, Gwerthoedd a Moeseg. <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2021-05/consultation-document-curriculum-for-wales-religion-values-and-ethics-guidance.pdf>
7. Diweddariad Llywodraeth Cymru: Datblygiad Proffesiynol.
8. Adroddiad o'r pwyllgor gwaith cynhaliwyd ar 12 Mai 2021
9. Diweddariad:
  - CAG
  - ARIAC
  - EFTRE
  - MAGC
  - RRF
  - NAPfRE
10. Gohebiaeth
11. Unrhyw Faterion Arall (wedi ei gytuno a'r cadeirydd cyn y cyfarfod).
12. Dyddiad cyfarfod nesaf: Hydref 2021 (i'w gadarnhau)



***Wales Association of SACREs Powys virtual meeting, Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2021 (10.15am – 12.15pm). The meeting will open from 10.00am to ensure access (you can bring your own refreshments). The meeting will start promptly at 10.15am.***

## Agenda

1. Introduction and Welcome
2. Quiet Reflection
3. Apologies
4. Minutes of the last meeting Microsoft Teams 23 March 2021
5. Matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting
6. NAPfRE presentation - Welsh Government consultation on the Religion, Values and Ethics guidance <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2021-05/consultation-document-curriculum-for-wales-religion-values-and-ethics-guidance.pdf>
7. Welsh Government Update – Professional Learning
8. Report from the Executive Committee held on 12 May 2021
9. Up-dates:
  - REC
  - ARIAC
  - EFTRE
  - REMW
  - IFN
  - NAPfRE
10. Correspondence
11. Any other business (to be agreed in advance of the meeting with the Chair)
12. Date for next meeting: October 2021 TBC