

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

Minutes of a meeting of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) held in VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE on Thursday, 24 June 2021 at 10.00 am.

### **PRESENT**

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

Councillors Ellie Chard (Chair), Rachel Flynn, Meirick Lloyd Davies, Emrys Wynne and Cheryl Williams

#### **Representing Religious Denominations**

Jennie Downes, Collette Owen, Rev. Brian Jones and Dominic Oakes

#### **Representing Teacher Associations**

Leah Crimes, Sarah Griffiths and Katie Mason

### **ALSO PRESENT**

RE Adviser (PL), Democratic Services Manager (SP) and Committee Administrators (SLW and KE)

### **POINTS OF NOTICE**

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.

#### **1 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Tony Flynn

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

No Declarations of Interest.

#### **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 2 February 2021 (previously circulated) were submitted.

***RESOLVED** that the minutes of the SACRE meeting held on 2 February 2021 be received and approved as a correct record.*

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

The RE Advisor advised Members that the Chair and Vice-Chair would change in the Autumn term. The current Vice-Chair, Dominic Oakes, would not be able to

take on the role of Chair due to work commitments. Therefore, the RE Advisor requested nominations be sent to him prior to the October meeting.

**RESOLVED** that nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair be sent to the RE Advisor prior to the October SACRE meeting.

## **6 CURRICULUM FOR WALES RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS (RVE) GUIDANCE**

The RE Advisor presented the Curriculum for Wales Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) Guidance report.

The RE Advisor informed Members that the Welsh Government were consulting on the publication of Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) guidance. This guidance may become a substantial part of Denbighshire Agreed Syllabus.

Prior to the meeting, links had been circulated to all SACRE members which were the consultation documentation together with guidance to the consultation.

St. Giles Church in Wales, Wrexham had put together a video which gave a clear overview of the consultation.

The consultation video contained the seven lenses:

- Search for meaning and purpose
- The natural world and living things
- Identity and belonging
- Authority and influence
- Relationships and responsibilities
- Values and ethics
- The journey of life

The RE Advisor went through the questionnaire which contained 10 questions and stated that if Members could take the time to re-watch the video again and go through the consultation document they could forward further questions or statements to him prior to the first week in July.

Members responded during the meeting to the various questions and confirmed they would scrutinise the consultation document and respond to the RE Advisor prior to the first week in July.

**RESOLVED** that SACRE Members discussed and agreed responses to the Consultation document.

## **7 ENCOURAGING DIVERSITY OF REPRESENTATION ON SACRE**

The RE Advisor presented the Encouraging Diversity of Representation on SACRE report.

In the previous meeting, members had noted the lack of representation of diversity on SACRE.

Members discussed how the representation of the diverse beliefs held by residents of Denbighshire could support the work of SACRE as it continued to advise the Local Authority and supported schools.

It was confirmed that there had been changes in a large number of schools to provide for a variety of faiths. It had been difficult to have representations on SACRE from some faiths eg: Muslim and humanists. To be a representative on SACRE would be an opportunity for members of different faiths to have their voices heard.

As Councillors were aware of the different faiths within their relevant communities, a list could be compiled of a contact for the different faith representatives. City Town and Community Councils could be contacted to ascertain which faith utilised the community centres.

It was confirmed an action plan would be put together during the summer and it would be utilised as a living document for the future.

***RESOLVED*** that the report was discussed how SACRE could draw on the diverse views eg: representation or presentations received by Members. An Action Plan to be put together and presented to members in the Autumn.

## **8 WASACRE**

The RE Advisor, Phil Lord, confirmed he had attended a WASACRE meeting the previous week.

The minutes of the spring meeting which had taken place on 23 March had been previously circulated for Members information.

***RESOLVED*** that SACRE Members:

- Receive the minutes of the Spring meeting 23rd March.
- Receive a verbal update of the Summer meeting 16th June 2021.

## **9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next SACRE meeting would be 20 October 2021

**The meeting concluded at 12:03 p.m.**