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To: The Chair and Members  
of the Standing Advisory  
Council on Religious  
Education

County Hall  
Topsham Road  
Exeter  
Devon  
EX2 4QD

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Date: 28 October 2022

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**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Monday, 7th November, 2022

A meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education is to be held on the above date at 10.00 am at Committee Suite - County Hall to consider the following matters.

Jan Spicer  
Interim Chief Executive

**A G E N D A**

**PART I - OPEN COMMITTEE**

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Minutes (Pages 1 - 4)

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2022.

3 Items Requiring Urgent Attention

Items which in the opinion of the Chair should be considered at the meeting as matters of urgency.

4 Devon SACRE Membership Updates

Ed Pawson to report.

5 Transition from Babcock to Devon County Council

Ed Pawson to report.

6 Standards: monitoring Multi Academy Trust schools and Ofsted reports

Ed Pawson to report.

7 Devon SACRE: annual report 2021/2

Ed Pawson to report.

8 Devon SACRE: agreed syllabus review

Ed Pawson to report.

9 Learn Teach Lead RE: updates

Ed Pawson to report.

10 National Developments: national standards, regional hubs, infographic

Ed Pawson to report.

11 Holocaust Memorial Day: planning

Ed Pawson to report.

12 SACRE organisational issues: member training, exploring diversity, meeting arrangements

Ed Pawson to report.

13 Future SACRE Meetings

Dates for future meetings:

10.00am on Thursday 9 February 2023

10.00am on Friday 23 June 2023

March 2023: SW SACRE conference

**PART II - ITEMS WHICH MAY BE TAKEN IN THE ABSENCE OF PRESS AND PUBLIC ON THE GROUNDS THAT EXEMPT INFORMATION MAY BE DISCLOSED**

Nil.

*Members are reminded that Part II Reports contain exempt information and should therefore be treated accordingly. They should not be disclosed or passed on to any other person(s). They need to be disposed of carefully and should be returned to the Democratic Services Officer at the conclusion of the meeting for disposal.*

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Members of the public may also use social media to report on proceedings.

### **Declarations of Interest for Members of the Council**

It is to be noted that Members of the Council must declare any interest they may have in any item to be considered at this meeting, prior to any discussion taking place on that item.

### **WiFi**

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**Induction Loop available**





## STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

15 June 2022

### Present:-

K Denby, H Hastie, M Hext, Miller, R Nathwani, Brown, Gill, C Hulbert, B Twiggs, J Roberts (Chair), Cornwell, P Hammett, P Randall, E Mihas, G Winnall, J Gooddy, R Northcott, E Pawson, T Adams, D Sellis and D Thomas

### Apologies:-

W Becher, R Halsey, J Taylorson, T Wilson, L Clay, R Flanagan, M Harding and M Squires

Members attending in accordance with Standing Orders 8 and 25

#### **40 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 February 2022 were signed as a correct record subject to a spelling error at minute 29 Jo Matthews to read Joe Matthews.

#### **41 Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

There were no items requiring urgent attention.

#### **42 Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

Ed Pawson welcomed Councillor Ron Peart as a Member of the group and reported that Councillor Peart had replaced Councillor Sarah Parker-Khan.

#### **43 Transition Arrangements of SACRE from Babcock**

Sam Chapman, Babcock/LDP, explained that all traded services currently delivered by Babcock/LDP would transfer to Devon County Council on 1 August 2022 and be delivered through Education and Learner Services. Ed Pawson, Babcock/LDP would continue in his advisory role and the delivery of services would not be affected by the change.

#### **44 Monitoring: Multi-Academy Trust Complaint; Ofsted Reports**

# Agenda Item 2

2

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

15/06/22

Ed Pawson reported about the way a local Multi-academy Trust plans to reduce the time allocation for RE in their schools, 2 questions have been raised about due process:

- 1) To what extent should members of SACRE be consulted
- 2) What is the evidence base for the decision

Significant concerns about the planned RE curriculum changes in a number of schools in Devon and Plymouth had been reported to the February meeting of Devon SACRE and attempts to engage positively with the academy did not result in any progress and no invitation to pursue any form of internal trust complaints procedure

The complaint continues to be ongoing with the DfE.

## 45 **A Deep Dive Into RE at Sidmouth College**

Mary Hext, representing Sidmouth College reported about the experience of an 'Ofsted Deep Dive' into Religious Education at the college.

The process involved two Inspectors over a two day visit meeting with the Head of Department and students, in observation of lessons and work books. The presentation given to SACRE to be circulated with the minutes. The conclusion inspectors wrote was that 'Leaders have high expectation of pupils and behaviour in lessons is good'. The group congratulated Mary on the result.

## 46 **Devon SACRE: Constitution Review**

As set out in the reviewed constitution Devon SACRE would bring in a pattern of membership of four year terms, followed by an option of a further four years with effect from 2024. Those SACRE Members present since before 2016 would therefore be at the end of their term, although it was noted that this transition would be phased, so that the experience of some SACRE members remain.

These changes would be carried out in consultation between the individual members and the SACRE Chair and SACRE members could apply to re-join if their skills were of particular value to the body if they had not been members for a year.

## 47 **Devon SACRE Logo**

A new logo had been agreed and thanks were given to St Peters School, Exeter for the new design.



**48**      **Devon SACRE: Annual Report 2021/2**

The SACRE annual report would be published in the autumn, as soon as GCSE results had been published and exam data analysed.

**49**      **Devon SACRE: Agreed Syllabus Review**

Discussions regarding the agreed syllabus had taken place across Devon, Torbay, Plymouth and Cornwall SACREs. Focus groups would bring together analysis of the current syllabus followed by a teacher survey.

It was noted that members considered that the syllabus worked well but worldviews could be an added. A relaunch would be carried out in 2024.

**50**      **Learn Teach Lead RE: Update**

Ed Pawson promoted the October 2022 Learn Teach Lead conference. The conference is expected to explore why a connected curriculum in RE is important and delegates would share learning structures to build pupil knowledge and development a better understanding.

**51**      **National Developments: Draft Handbook on Religion and Worldviews**

Ed Pawson reported that a draft handbook had been developed for syllabus writers and curriculum developers to support them in the translation of the REC's vision of an excellent education for all in Religion and Worldviews.

Three school-based teams had been appointed to 'road test' the first draft of the handbook. During the next academic year, syllabus/curriculum framework and units of work will be developed, to be published in the Spring of 2024

**52**      **Holocaust Memorial Day: Planning**

It was noted that planning had begun to put HMD activities in place for January 2023. The title for the year would be 'Ordinary People'

**53**      **Diversity Training**

Item to be brought back to the group when further information is available.

**54**      **SW SACRE Conference Feedback**

The SW SACRE conference was held on online on the 28 February and the speaker, Stephen Pett spoke on the developments of the Handbook on Religions and Worldviews and to work towards a high quality education in the subject.

**55**      **Future SACRE Meetings**

# Agenda Item 2

4

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

15/06/22

The next meetings will be held on Monday 7 November 2022 and Thursday 9 February 2023 commencing at 10.00am.

A training session to be scheduled for the afternoon of the 7 November 2022.

## **NOTES:**

1. *Minutes should always be read in association with any Reports for a complete record.*
2. *If the meeting has been webcast, it will be available to view on the webcasting site for up to 12 months from the date of the meeting*

\* **DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

The Meeting started at 10.00 am and finished at 12.40 pm