

# Blackpool Council

19<sup>th</sup> January 2016

To: Members of the SACRE

The above members are requested to attend the:

## **STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)**

Wednesday, 27 January 2016 at 5.30 pm  
in Committee Room B, Town Hall, Blackpool

### **A G E N D A**

**1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

To appoint a Chairman for the calendar year 2016.

**2 APPOINTMENT OF A VICE-CHAIRMAN**

To consider the appointment of a Vice-Chairman for the calendar year 2016

**3 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

To welcome members to the meeting and receive any apologies.

**4 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 13TH FEBRUARY 2014** (Pages 1 - 4)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2014 as a true and correct record.

**5 PRESENTATION ON THE WORK OF THE RE NETWORK AND SUPPORT OFFERED TO SCHOOLS** (Pages 5 - 8)

To receive a presentation on the work of the RE Network and support offered to schools by the Local Authority.

**6 PRESENTATION ON THE PREVENT AGENDA** (Pages 9 - 12)

To receive a presentation on the Prevent Agenda against Radicalisation

**7 BLACKPOOL SACRE ANNUAL REPORT** (Pages 13 - 36)

To agree further actions on the Blackpool SACRE Annual Report.

**8 NASACRE CONFERENCE 2016** (Pages 37 - 40)

To consider the NASACRE conference 2016 and whether to send a delegate.

**9 FUTURE OF THE SACRE** (Pages 41 - 44)

To consider the future of the SACRE and discuss future options for this Committee.

**Venue information:**

First floor meeting room (lift available), accessible toilets (ground floor), no-smoking building.

**Other information:**

For queries regarding this agenda please contact Lennox Beattie, Executive and Regulatory Manager, Tel: 01253 477157 , e-mail [Lennox.beattie@blackpool.gov.uk](mailto:Lennox.beattie@blackpool.gov.uk)

Copies of agendas and minutes of Council and committee meetings are available on the Council's website at [www.blackpool.gov.uk](http://www.blackpool.gov.uk).

## MINUTES OF STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) MEETING – 13<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014

### **Present:**

Mrs H Sage (Church of England) in the Chair

Councillor Green

Mrs M Wright (Roman Catholic Church), Imam Patel (Islam), Mr T Cox (Church of England), Miss J Snape (Church of England), Mr Harrison (Church of England), Mrs T Hackney (NUT)

### **In attendance:**

Mrs M McQueen, Independent RE Consultant  
Mr L Beattie, Executive and Regulatory Manager

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chairman welcomed members to the SACRE meeting

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs Taylor and Jackson. Apologies were also received from Rabbi Braunold.

### **2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

The SACRE agreed the minutes from the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013 were a correct record.

The SACRE noted that Iman Patel had been unable to attend due to an accident on route to the meeting and accepted that had he known he would have submitted apologies.

### **3. SACRE BLACKPOOL WEBSITE**

The SACRE noted that no progress had been made to date on the SACRE Blackpool website. It was therefore considered that it would be beneficial for progress to be made and reported back to the next meeting.

### **Resolved:**

That an update be brought to the next meeting.

## **MINUTES OF STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) MEETING – 13<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014**

### **4. COLLABORATIVE WORKING WITH THE LANCASHIRE SACRE**

Further to the item on the previous agenda on the future of SACRE, the SACRE considered the possibility of closer working with the Lancashire SACRE.

The SACRE agreed that it would be useful to forge stronger links with the Lancashire SACRE especially in joining to together in hubs to promote best practice or through training events. It was agreed though that the ways of working together would be something to further investigate after the presentation to RE Leads on Working with SACRE had taken place.

#### **Resolved:**

That an update be brought to a future meeting.

### **7. NASACRE UPDATE**

The SACRE considered recently circulated information from the National Association of Standing Advisory Councils for Religious Education. The SACRE noted that report of the Religious Education Council of England and Wales on a Curriculum Framework for Religious Education in England and the briefing note from NASACRE on the writing of an Agreed Syllabus.

The SACRE placed particular importance on the guidance issued by the Religious Education Council around Key Stage 3 and agreed that this information be circulated at the Cluster meeting and to headteachers.

#### **Resolved:**

That the reports from NASACRE be noted and circulated as outlined.

### **8. NASACRE GUIDANCE ON WORKING WITH ACADEMIES**

The SACRE considered the NASACRE's recently published guidance on working with Academy schools for SACREs.

The SACRE considered that this guidance was useful and agreed that this document should be circulated to the Chairs of Governors and Headteachers at all Academy Schools.

#### **Resolved:**

1. That the guidance be noted and circulated.

## **MINUTES OF STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) MEETING – 13<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014**

2. That the SACRE agrees to work within the guidance in the future.

### **9. PRESENTATION FOR RE LEADS ON WORKING WITH SACRE**

The SACRE considered a proposed presentation that had been prepared by Jo Snape for a Cluster Meeting of Religious Education Leads.

The SACRE made some minor amendments to the presentation to aid understanding but was generally supportive.

#### **Resolved:**

That the presentation be agreed and a report back on the meeting be made to the next meeting of the SACRE.

### **10. GCSE RESULTS**

Marian McQueen provided an update to the SACRE as to the recent GCSE results. The update outlined that the national average at A\* to C was 72.1% and the Blackpool average was 68%.

The outstanding performing school was Highfield which exceeded the national average in nearly every rating band especially considered it had a 92% entry level.

There was also good performances from Bispham and Palatine, which were especially important given the value added performance.

The SACRE found it also encouraging that all schools had submitted candidates for the examination.

#### **Resolved:**

1. That the GCSE results be noted.

2. That letters of congratulations be sent to Bispham, Highfield and Palatine High Schools on behalf of the SACRE.

### **11. BRIEFING FROM THE TRANSPENNINE AREIAC GROUP MEETING**

Marian McQueen provided an update on the meeting of the Transpennine Association of Religious Education Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants meeting.

The SACRE noted the issues discussed regarding the RE curriculum and the drop off in applicants for the RE quality mark.

## **MINUTES OF STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) MEETING – 13<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014**

### **Resolved:**

That the update be noted.

### **12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

#### 1. Accord Inclusivity Award

The SACRE noted the results of the Accord Inclusivity award

#### 2. Sikh Information Service

The SACRE considered a flyer circulated by the Sikh Education Service. It was agreed that the clerk would seek testimonials before considering whether the SACRE would endorse such a service.

### **13. FUTURE MEETING DATES**

The SACRE noted the date of the next meeting as

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2014, Committee Room A, Town Hall, Blackpool.

### **Chairman**

(The meeting ended at 8:57 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:  
Lennox Beattie, Executive and Regulatory Manager  
Tel: (01253) 477157  
E-mail: lennox.beattie@blackpool.gov.uk

<b>Report to:</b>	SACRE
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Dave Brennand, Brokerage and Professional Development Adviser
<b>Date of Meeting :</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> January 2016

## **PRESENTATION ON THE WORK OF THE RE NETWORK AND SUPPORT OFFERED TO SCHOOLS**

### **1.0 Purpose of the report:**

- 1.1 To receive a presentation to inform the SACRE of network and curriculum developments in Blackpool Schools

### **2.0 Recommendation(s):**

- 2.1 To endorse the work of the RE Network
- 2.2 To examine a Quality Assurance approach to Religious Education curriculum delivery locally

### **3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):**

- 3.1 To provide a context and ambition for development for Religious Education locally

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None

**4.0 Council Priority:**

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is

“Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”

**5.0 Background Information**

5.1 The present RE network involves all primary schools, secondary academies and special schools. Usually 13 primary schools, 3 secondary schools and two special schools attend regularly. Its remit is to collaborate on Religious Education planning and assessment, develop links across schools, liaise with NATRE, SACRE and share good practice. Notes from the sessions are shared on the Blackpool Schools Partnership website and the sessions are chaired by Rebecca Binns (Highfield School). Its main aim is to raise the standards of Religious Education across the family of schools.

5.2 Currently within Year 10 in Secondary Academies 93 students were entered for the AQA GCSE RE, 392 for the Edexcel GCSE Religious Education and 356 for the Welch Board Religious Education. All schools cover Religious Education in Key Stage 3 and will conduct an act of worship. In primary all schools cover an act of worship. For 2017 in Secondary schools Religious Education will be part of the ‘basket’ of qualifications in the third sector of Progress 8.

5.3 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

**5.4 List of Appendices:**

None

**6.0 Legal considerations:**

6.1 None

**7.0 Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 None

**8.0 Equalities considerations:**

8.1 None



**9.0 Financial considerations:**

9.1 None

**10.0 Risk management considerations:**

10.1 None

**11.0 Ethical considerations:**

11.1 None

**12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

12.1 None

**13.0 Background papers:**

13.1 None

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<b>Report to:</b>	SACRE
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Dave Brennand, Brokerage and Professional Development Adviser
<b>Date of Meeting :</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> January 2016

## PRESENTATION ON THE PREVENT AGENDA

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To receive a presentation to inform the SACRE of the Prevent agenda and its relationship to Religious Education locally.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To note the presentation on the Prevent agenda.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To provide a context for the government's Prevent agenda and the role of SACRE.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None

### 4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council Priority is

"Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"

**5.0 Background Information**

5.1 From 1 July 2015 all schools are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This duty is known as the Prevent duty. It applies to a wide range of public-facing bodies.

5.2 In order for schools and childcare providers to fulfil the Prevent duty, it is essential that staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation should be seen as part of schools’ and childcare providers’ wider safeguarding duties.

5.3 Schools have an important role in challenging extremist arguments but it should not be the case that the Prevent duty stops children debating controversial. It may often be the case that these issues arise during Religious Education so a brief presentation will outline Prevent agenda for members.

5.3 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

**5.4 List of Appendices:**

None

**6.0 Legal considerations:**

6.1 None

**7.0 Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 None

**8.0 Equalities considerations:**

8.1 None

**9.0 Financial considerations:**

9.1 None

**10.0 Risk management considerations:**

10.1 None

**11.0 Ethical considerations:**

11.1 None

**12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

12.1 None

**13.0 Background papers:**

13.1 None

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<b>Report to:</b>	SACRE
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Dave Brennand, Brokerage and Professional Development Adviser
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> January 2016

## BLACKPOOL SACRE ANNUAL REPORT

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider and approve the draft annual report for the SACRE.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider the draft annual report

2.2 To agree further actions for the completion of the annual report.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To further progress the annual report of the SACRE.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None

### 4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is

"Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"

**5.0 Background Information**

5.1 It is a requirement of best practice that SACREs produce an annual report. In view of the lack of meetings and business of the SACRE over the last few years- this has not taken place. The attached document is an attempt to address this by creating an report covering the period from 2012 to the present.

5.2 The annual report includes a number of key areas that are required: the Role of SACRE, Religious Education in schools and the Effectiveness and Delivery of the Agreed Syllabus. It is also suggested that in common with previous years the report includes a preface from either the relevant Cabinet Member or Council Director and a report on the Holocaust Memorial Day. The Committee's views are requested on any additional information or work to be undertaken in completing the annual report.

5.3 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

**5.4 List of Appendices:**

Appendix 4a: Draft Annual Report

**6.0 Legal considerations:**

6.1 None

**7.0 Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 None

**8.0 Equalities considerations:**

8.1 None

**9.0 Financial considerations:**

9.1 None

**10.0 Risk management considerations:**

10.1 None

**11.0 Ethical considerations:**

11.1 None



**12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

12.1 None

**13.0 Background papers:**

13.1 None

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# The Annual Report of the Blackpool Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

2012 - 2015



Blackpool: A fair place where aspiration and ambition are encouraged

**'To support pupils'**  
**personal search for meaning by engaging enquiry**  
**into the question**  
**'What is it to be human?'**  
**- exploring answers offered by religion and belief.'**  
**Joint Lancashire and Blackpool Agreed Syllabus 2011**



**Blackpool SACRE**

L-R: John Topping, Marian McQueen, Cllr Jackson, Ellen Savage, Rabbi Braunold, Margaret Wright, Lennox Beattie, Jo Snape, Major Harris, Paul Harrison, Imam Patel, Kelsang Pagma  
At the front L-R: Cllr Mrs Taylor, Helen Sage, Dr Vasudev

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**Preface:**

Board to agree who to complete

DRAFT

## Foreword: Helen Sage, Chairman of Blackpool SACRE



The last three years have been a period of immense change, both for Education and the Blackpool SACRE.

As we approach the time for quinquennial review of the syllabus and we are also being asked to re-examine the strengths of local determination and the potential for collaboration with Lancashire SACRE.

Global and national events continue to influence our work, along with the pressures which central government apply to state education. It is therefore important that our role in making sense of what it is to be human, and sharing what it is we have in common, rather than what promotes division in Britain today is at the centre of our work.

Over the last ten months SACRE Blackpool has been represented at the regular meetings programme with members from other SACREs in the northwest – this has proved to be a valuable exercise, which we hope will continue - providing ongoing support in enabling SACRE Blackpool to continue to function.

The liaison with Lancashire SACRE has meant that teacher hub meetings have been available to Blackpool schools and academies. The work of our teacher and headteacher members keeps us grounded in what actually works in the classroom. We acknowledge with thanks, the valuable contribution made Rosalind Homer, who has retired after a number of active years on SACRE, and Lennox Beattie on our committee.

The meetings have been infrequent as a number of loyal and active members have retired, had significant long term illness, and several have sadly died, including Rabbi David Braunold. David had been a strong supporter of SACRE's work and led the annual Holocaust Memorial Day for the town since it's inception. His wisdom is sadly missed.

However, as we re-convene and welcome new members, it is only right that the work of our teacher and headteacher members is recognised. They have worked hard to keep the work of SACRE visible and to spread best practice.

## **Role of SACRE**

The role of the SACRE is:

To consider any requests from Head teachers to hold Collective Worship that is not of a broadly Christian character.

## **Advice**

SACRE has not provided advice to the local authority on RE during the 2014/15 academic year.

SACRE has provided advice to schools through the officer to SACRE on a number of issues relating to the use of the Agreed Syllabus and their statutory duties in the teaching of RE. Schools have responded well to the advice provided.

SACRE has not given any advice to HM Government on RE during the past academic year.

## **Determinations**

Determinations are made where a school, on behalf of a number of parents, requests Collective Worship other than that set down by statute. No such requests have been received by SACRE during the past year.

## **Complaints**

SACRE has a role in investigating complaints against schools in relation to RE and Collective Worship. No such complaints were received in the past year.

## **Support for SACRE**

## **Support for schools**

## **RE Quality Mark**

One school within Blackpool- St Mary's Catholic College was awarded the silver award

## **Collective Worship – overview on page 14**

## **Contribution to the wider diversity agendas Holocaust Memorial Day – report on page 13**



## **Community Cohesion**

During this next year SACRE will be considering its role in promoting fundamental British Values and carrying out a number of actions to support Community Cohesion.

## **RE Hub**

During the year Lancashire SACRE continued to host a network meeting of a number of SACREs in the northern part of the North West region to raise issues of common concern and share good practice and ways of working together. The meeting was attended by representatives of SACREs in Blackpool, Bolton, Bury, Cumbria, Lancashire, Warrington and Wigan and was well received.

Areas discussed included:

- Response to the letter from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Schools
- The Young Ambassadors for RE scheme
- Constitution of SACREs
- Strategies to support one another in developing professional development in RE

This initiative will be taken forward in the coming year.

## **SACRE Frequently Asked Questions\***

### **What is SACRE?**

The acronym SACRE stands for the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education.

### **Why is there a SACRE?**

Every local authority has to have a SACRE by law. In 1944, local education authorities (LEAs) were given the chance to set up a SACRE, if they so wished. In 1988, all LEAs were required to have a SACRE.

### **What does a SACRE do?**

There is no other group anywhere else like the SACRE; it is unique. The law says that RE must be taught in all schools and a SACRE's role is to advise its local authority on what needs to be done to improve religious education (RE) and collective worship for schools in its area.

### **Who attends the SACRE meeting?**

A SACRE is set up to represent a balance of all the interests of the local community. Blackpool's SACRE has elected councillors, representatives of local faith communities, and teachers and head teachers, at its SACRE meetings.

### **What are a SACRE's duties?**

The SACRE's main function is to advise the local authority on matters related to the religious education, which follows the locally agreed syllabus, and on collective worship in schools.

### **What is a locally agreed syllabus?**

The locally agreed syllabus is the statutory document for RE in the local authority. It sets out what should be taught to pupils in all key stages and the standards expected of them at the end of each key stage. It was reviewed in 2011 and produced in partnership with Lancashire SACRE.

### **What else can a SACRE do?**

A SACRE's broad role is to support good RE and collective worship within Blackpool's community schools.

### **How is this report compiled?**

During the four full SACRE meetings held annually the SACRE receives reports regarding support and monitoring of RE and Collective Worship in Community and some Voluntary Controlled schools. The information from these reports, and exam and end of key stage data, is then used to create this report.

### **Can this report help support my CPD?**

This report highlights the support available for training, individual school consultancies, Staff INSETs and the links to the faith communities in the area.

### **How can this report help my school move forward with SMSC?**

Blackpool SACRE is committed to working with local faith groups to support local schools as they help their children understand all members of our diverse community. SACRE Blackpool also upholds the attitudes found in their locally agreed syllabus of being open minded and having respect for all. At the heart of the New agreed Syllabus for RE is the quest for understanding; "What it is to be human". The work of the SACRE supports the Field of enquiry model which allows children to consider what is of worth and who they really are.

\*with thanks to NASACRE for the FAQs

## **Management of the SACRE and Partnership with the LA**

The SACRE is advised and supported by professional and administrative staff of the Authority and its business is administered centrally through the Clerk to the SACRE.

The SACRE has a modest budget which is used to fund the following areas:

- Attendance at the NASACRE Annual Conference
- Annual subscription payment to NASACRE
- Advice and expertise from Consultant for RE

## **Other key stakeholders**

### **NASACRE**

The SACRE is affiliated to NASACRE. The NASACRE support documents are circulated to new members and are used as the basis for training for members. Blackpool attends the NASACRE Annual Conference and the newsletter is circulated to SACRE members.

### **Lancashire LA**

Blackpool have enjoyed a good working relationship with Lancashire, sharing best practice and most recently acting as partners to develop the new Agreed Syllabus.

### **AREIAC**

The RE Consultant's membership of the AREIAC Trans Pennine Group provides good networking and practice sharing opportunities.

## Effectiveness and development of the Lancashire and Blackpool Agreed Syllabus

### SACRE report

“I hear, I know. I see, I remember. I do, I understand”

Confucius

Helping children not only to know a little about different faiths but to understand is a big challenge and we very much work on the principle above. So bearing that in mind, our Year 5 children learned a little more about Judaism – they heard the stories, they saw the photographs but they understood the significance of the Seder Meal when they experienced it for themselves.



## Standards in Religious Education

The need for exemplification of attainment in Religious Education specific to the local Agreed Syllabus has been raised by both the Lancashire and Blackpool SACREs.

As a response to this the reviewed Agreed Syllabus contains two attainment targets based on those found in non-statutory guidance on RE (QCA 2000). This takes the format of:

Attainment target 1 - Learning about Religion and Human Experience

Attainment target 2 - Learning from Religion and Human Experience.

Each attainment target has been sub-divided into the key areas of the Field of Enquiry identified within the Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education. These are then given exemplification from Christianity and one other faith required to be studied by the Agreed Syllabus.

GCSE results for Religious Education and Religious Studies appear in below.

### GCSE results for Blackpool Schools 2012

#### Religious Studies Full Course 2013 - 15

Centre	Entries 2011	%A*-C of entry
National	181,094	71.6
Blackpool (all schools)	591	62.6
Blackpool (non-church schools)	218	88.4
Bispham High School Arts College	28	85.7
Collegiate High School	n/e	n/e
Highfield Humanities College	182	68.1
Montgomery High School Language College	1	100
Palatine Community Sports College	n/e	n/e
Unity College	7	100
St.George's Church of England High School	173	49.7
St.Mary's Catholic College	200	64.0

Commentary:

update

- Following a continuous trend of improvement **2005-2009**, GCSE Religious Studies results across all Blackpool schools dipped in 2010 to 58.3% of entry. In 2011, this total rose to 62.6 of entry.

## UPDATE

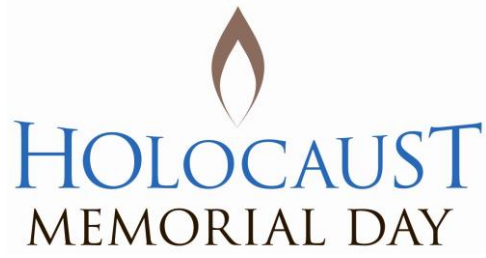
- The total number of entries for all Blackpool schools rose from 539 in 2010 to 591 in 2011.
- Two non-church schools did not enter any pupils for GCSE Religious Studies in 2011, in comparison to 2010 when one school provided no entries
- In Blackpool, a higher proportion of the cohort in all schools were entered for RE than was nationally, particularly boys (36.2% compared to 28.4% nationally).

The proportion of students attaining A\* -C grades in all Blackpool schools was lower than the national figure. For Church Schools Religious Education is seen as a core subject and not an option subject. As a result a whole school year group are entered en mass for GCSE RE. The local figure reflects the impact of non selective entrants

- Overall, Blackpool performance is not significantly different from national performance having an RPI (Relative Performance Indicator across all subjects entered) of +0.5 (i.e. nationally, all pupils taking RE performed better in RE by half a point when compared with their average performance in all other subjects). Boys and Girls performed equally well.
- The RPI takes account of the level of performance in RE and compares it with the average performance of each pupil in all other subjects attempted. In Blackpool, the RPI shows that students at Bispham High School, Highfield Humanities College and Unity College performed significantly better in RE than in other subjects. This may reflect the efficacy of teaching. It must also be noted that the entry at Highfield was significantly larger than the other two schools.

## A Level RE

There have been no results for A Level reported to SACRE



To be completed based on the event to be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

DRAFT

## **Collective Worship**

The SACRE continues to emphasise its commitment to high quality Collective Worship. Guidance and advice with regard to Collective Worship is given in line with Circular 1/94

Section 394 (1) of the Education Act

The 1996 Education Act empowers a SACRE to grant the request of a Headteacher for alternative Collective Worship, where it is considered that the nature of a pupil population makes it inappropriate to be wholly or mainly Christian. Currently Blackpool has no schools with an active determination.

## **Determinations**

In the year of this report, the SACRE has not received any request for any determinations.

## **Complaints concerning Collective Worship**

The LEA has received no formal complaints about the content or organisation of Collective Worship during the period of this report.

## **Complaints concerning Religious Education**

Blackpool Council had received no formal complaints about Religious Education, under the local statutory complaints procedure, during the reporting year.



## Appendix 1

### Terms of Reference

The functions of a SACRE are detailed in the Education Act 1996 (Section 391). They are as follows:

- To advise the local education authority upon such matters connected with religious worship and the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the authority may refer to the SACRE or as the SACRE may see fit.

The matters referred to above include, in particular, methods of teaching, the choice of materials and the provision of training for teachers.

- To require the authority (on a vote of the representative groups of the Church of England, other denominations and teachers' associations) to review any agreed syllabus for the time being adopted by the authority by the convening of a statutory conference in accordance with the provision of Schedule 5 to the Education Act 1944 and subsequent amendments in the Education Acts 1993 and 1996.
- In each year, to publish a report as to the exercise of their functions and any action taken by representative groups during the preceding year. The report shall in particular:
  - Specify any matters in respect of which the SACRE has given advice to the Authority,
  - Broadly describe the nature of the advice given, and
  - Where any such matter was not referred to the SACRE by the Authority, give the SACRE's reasons for offering advice on that matter.
- In accordance with Section 394 of the Education Act 1996, to consider applications made by headteachers of county schools (subsequently, community schools without a religious character; (School Standards and Framework Act 1998. Schedule 20) whether it is appropriate for the requirements for Christian collective worship to apply in the case of a particular school, or in the case of any class or description of pupils.

## **Appendix 2 Constitution of the Blackpool SACRE 2012**

### STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

#### CONSTITUTION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

##### **1. Construction**

In this document, unless the context otherwise requires:-

“The Act” means the Education Act 1996;

“The Authority” means Blackpool Borough Council;

“SACRE” means the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education required to be established in accordance with Section 390 of the Education Act 1996;

“Representative Group” means one of the four statutory representatives groups required to be included on the SACRE by Section 390 of the Education Act 1996.

##### **2. Composition of SACRE**

The SACRE shall include representatives of the following groups:-

###### **A. Representative Groups**

As required by Section 390 of the Act SACRE is to include four representative groups as follows:-

(i) Christian and other religious denominations which appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area

(ii) The Church of England 5 representatives

(iii) Associations representing teachers 5 representatives

(iv) The Authority 5 representatives

###### **B. Academy School Representative**

Where the Authority’s agreed syllabus is in use in one or more Academy schools, the SACRE shall include a person appointed by the governing body/bodies of the schools concerned.

###### **C. Co-opted Members**

The representative groups on the SACRE may appoint a further four co-opted members.

The SACRE may make recommendations to the Authority in respect of its composition.

### **3. Terms of Reference**

The SACRE shall have the following functions:-

- a. To advise the Authority upon such matters connected with the religious worship in Community Schools and the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed syllabus as the Authority may refer to the SACRE or as the SACRE may see fit.
- b. The matters referred to in 'a' above include in particular, methods of teaching, the choice of materials and the provision of training for teachers.
- c. The SACRE shall each year publish a report with respect to the exercise of their functions. The report shall in particular:-
  - (i) Specify any matters in respect of which the SACRE have given advice to the Authority:
  - (ii) Broadly describe the nature of the advice given; and
  - (iii) Where any such matter was not referred to the SACRE by the Authority, give the SACRE's reasons for offering advice on the matter.
- d. To require the Authority (on a vote of representative groups representing Christian denominations and other religions, the Church of England and teachers' associations) to review the agreed syllabus by convening a statutory conference in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 31 to the Education Act 1996.
- e. In accordance with Section 387 of the Act to consider applications made by the Headteachers of Community Schools after consultation with the governing body, whether it would be appropriate for the requirement for Christian collective worship to apply in the case of a particular school, or in case of any class or description of pupils at the school.

### **4. Terms of Office**

- a. Subject to sub-paragraph 'c' below, each member of the SACRE shall hold office for a term of four years.
- b. A member of SACRE shall be eligible to be re-appointed for a further term.
- c. The Authority may from time to time review the constitution and composition of the SACRE and any person appointed to the representative groups may be removed by the Authority.
- d. A person appointed to represent Academy Schools may be removed by the governing body or bodies which appointed that person.
- e. A person appointed as a co-opted member may be removed by the SACRE.
- f. A member of the SACRE may at any time resign his/her office.
- g. On resignation or removal by the Authority or Academy School(s), an appointed person shall be replaced by the Authority or Academy School(s) for the remainder of the term of office by another member.

## **5. Chairmanship**

The representative groups on the SACRE shall each year, normally at their annual meeting, elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from amongst the membership of the representative groups. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman will take the chair and in the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman a Chairman will be elected for the meeting from amongst the members of the representative groups. The Chairman of the meeting shall not be entitled to exercise a second or casting vote.

## **6. Meetings**

The SACRE shall hold at least one meeting per year at which the annual report shall be agreed.

## **7. Quorum**

The quorum for meetings of the SACRE shall be six members.

## **8. Voting**

- a. Subject to paragraph 'b' below, on any question to be decided by the SACRE, only the representative groups shall have a single vote.
- b. For the purpose of voting, each representative group will elect a spokesperson at each meeting.
- c. In the event of a formal vote being taken, votes will be cast by the nominated spokesperson for each group to consider how its vote should be cast. The meeting shall, if necessary, agree a time limit for this purpose.
- d. The single vote of each representative group shall be cast on the basis of the simple majority view within each group. A tied vote shall be treated as an abstention by that group.

## **9. Officers**

- a. The Clerk to the SACRE shall be provided by the Chief Executive.
- b. The Director of Education shall be entitled to attend, or be represented by members of his staff at any meetings of the SACRE or any meeting of sub-groups or working parties established by the SACRE.

## Appendix 3 Glossary

### Blackpool SACRE Acronyms

AfL	Assessment for Learning
AREIAC	Association of RE Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants
B & V	Beliefs and Values [Lancashire Field of Enquiry]
CfSA	Council for Subject Associations
CW	Collective Worship
DFE	Department for Education
ECM	Every Child Matters
EOKS	End of Key Stage
FS	Foundation Stage
HMI	Her Majesty's Inspectorate
ITT	Initial Teacher Training
KS	Key Stage
LAS	Local Agreed Syllabus
LRT	Living Religious Tradition [Lancashire Field of Enquiry]
NASACRE	National Association of SACREs
NATRE	National Association of Teachers of RE
[NS]NFWKRE	Non statutory National Framework for RE
NSSWk	Non Statutory Scheme of Work
Ofsted	Office for Standards in Education
QCDA	Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency
PLTS	Personal, Learning and Thinking Skills
RE	Religious Education
REC	Religious Education Council
RS	Religious Studies
SACRE	Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education
SHE	Shared Human Experience [Lancashire Field of Enquiry]
SEF	Self Evaluation Form
SMSC	Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development
SPM	Search for Personal Meaning [Lancashire Field of Enquiry]

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<b>Report to:</b>	SACRE
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Dave Brennand, Brokerage and Professional Development Adviser
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> January 2016

## NASACRE CONFERENCE 2016

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the arrangements for the National Association of SACRE's Annual Conference.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To note the date of the National Association of SACRE's Annual Conference.

2.2 To consider if the SACRE wishes to send a delegate to the NASACRE Conference

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To further progress the annual report of the SACRE.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None

### 4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is

"Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"

## 5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 The SACRE is a member of the National Association of Standing Advisory Committees of Religious Education (NASACRE). The body organises an annual conference, this year the event is to be held on the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at Central Hall, Westminster
- 5.2 The Conference Programme and proposed keynote speakers are outlined below and the SACRE is invited to consider whether it wishes to send a representative to attend this event.

### Conference programme

- 11:00 Arrival, registration and coffee  
11:30 Welcome and introductions  
11:40 Keynote address: **The Rt Hon Baroness Elizabeth Butler-Sloss GBE**  
12:10 Question time  
12:45 Business meeting  
13:30 Lunch  
14:15 Keynote address: **Professor Adam Dinham**  
15:00 Discussions and questions  
15:35 Table discussions/panel discussion  
16:15 Closing remarks from Chair  
16:30 Close

The **Rt Hon Baroness Elizabeth Butler-Sloss GBE**, formerly President of the Family Division of the High Court was the first female Lord Justice of Appeal and until 2004, was the highest-ranking female judge in the United Kingdom. She has chaired many high profile enquiries and inquests. Baroness Butler-Sloss served as Chair for the recently published Commission on Religion and Belief in British Public Life: **Living with Difference**.

**Professor Adam Dinham** is Professor of Faith and Public Policy at Goldsmiths, University of London. He is also Chair of the British Sociological Association Sociology of Religion Study Group (Socrel), Professor of Religious Literacy, Diakonhjemmet University College, Oslo, Norway and Honorary Stephenson Professor of Leadership, Religion & Society, Sheffield Institute for Interdisciplinary Biblical Studies, Sheffield University, UK. With Martha Shaw, Professor Dinham is the co-author of **RE for REal: The future of teaching and learning about belief**.

- 5.3 Helen Sage attended the 2015 NASACRE conference on behalf of the SACRE and will provide a brief verbal update on that conference for the SACRE to assist the decision making.
- 5.4 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No



**5.5 List of Appendices:**

None

**6.0 Legal considerations:**

6.1 None

**7.0 Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 None

**8.0 Equalities considerations:**

8.1 None

**9.0 Financial considerations:**

9.1 None

**10.0 Risk management considerations:**

10.1 None

**11.0 Ethical considerations:**

11.1 None

**12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

12.1 None

**13.0 Background papers:**

13.1 None

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<b>Report to:</b>	SACRE
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Delyth Curtis, Director of People
<b>Date of Meeting :</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> January 2016

## FUTURE OF THE BLACKPOOL SACRE

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the future of the Blackpool SACRE.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To discuss the future of the Blackpool SACRE and to consider approaching Lancashire County Council with a proposal for a joint or some other form of joint working arrangement for the Blackpool SACRE.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 The Council is required by legislation to have a Standing Advisory Committee on Religious Education however given the reduced workload for the SACRE and the lack of recent meetings it is considered timely to further consider the operation of the SACRE.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None

### 4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is

“Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”

## **5.0 Background Information**

5.1 Blackpool Council in line with all Councils with responsibility for education is required by statute to have a Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education with a membership of Councillors, staff representatives and faith representatives. This body agrees the syllabus for religious education within community schools for Blackpool and offers guidance for those schools on ensuring participation and attainment in religious education within community schools.

5.2 Over the last few years, the amount of work for the SACRE has been reduced due to the reduction of the number of community schools as more convert to academy status. The SACRE's role is much less for academy schools and the SACRE is limited to an influencing capacity. There has also be a corresponding reduction in the local authority support available for religious education and what support is provided is clearly focused on attainment and could be better addressed through the Blackpool Challenge Board . At present the Council purchases the syllabus also used by Lancashire County Council.

5.3 The Blackpool SACRE shares a large proportion of its membership and nearly all of its most active membership with the Lancashire SACRE. There also could be a duplication in work across the two areas given the shared syllabus and it's considered that a joint SACRE could allow greater focus on the key issues and reduce administration costs for both authorities.

5.4 Members are invited to discuss further the issues and consider if joint working arrangements could represent a positive way forward.

5.4 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

### **5.6 List of Appendices:**

None

## **6.0 Legal considerations:**

6.1 Blackpool Council in common with all Councils that are children's services authorities are required to have a SACRE.

## **7.0 Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 None

**8.0 Equalities considerations:**

8.1 None

**9.0 Financial considerations:**

9.1 None

**10.0 Risk management considerations:**

10.1 None

**11.0 Ethical considerations:**

11.1 None

**12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

12.1 None

**13.0 Background papers:**

13.1 None

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