



Title of meeting: Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

Date of meeting: Wednesday 20 November 2019

Subject: National and Local update

Report by: Patricia Hannam

1. **Purpose of report:** This report updates and informs SACRE of key national developments, for example the work of the Religious Education Council and NASACRE as well as national RE Research as well as local RE matters.
2. **Recommendations:** That SACRE notes the report and agrees to send 2 delegates to the NASACRE conference on 18th May 2020.
3. **Background:** SACREs are represented nationally by to National Association of SACREs (NASACRE). The Umbrella body of all organisations with an interest in RE is known as the Religious education Council. This report updates SACRE of activities in relation to these bodies and how it impacts in Portsmouth as well as other local matters.

3.1 The Religious Education Council (REC) is an ‘umbrella’ body made up of members from many organisations in England and Wales with an interested position in relation to RE. It has taken on a particular significance in the last three years as the body that initiated the independent ‘Commission on RE’ (CoRE). The final report of which was published in September 2018. The most recent meeting of the REC was held on November 6th at the East London Mosque.

The Education Committee of the REC is taking forward the recommendations of the CoRE report and has grouped the recommendations into three groups. The first are those things that are uncontested and can be undertaken quickly and which need no legal change. The second group are those which need no legal change but warrant further discussion in the RE community. The Third are those which require legal change and will form part of a longer-term agenda.

3.2 National Association of SACREs (NASACRE). NASACRE is the national body representing and leading on SACRE’s interests. A regular newsletter is circulated to SACRE members through their SACRE. NASACRE as a constituent member of the REC has been working with the education committee on CoRE proposals that would particularly impact SACREs.



NASACRE is inviting SACREs to participate in a project considering the proposals to reshape SACREs.

3.3 Culham st Gabriel’s Research 7 project. Culham st Gabriel’s Trust, a large grant giving trust for developing projects and research in RE took a lead 2 years ago in highlighting 7 key areas of RE research. One of these areas was into religious literacy and a project between Brunel University London Education department and HIAS was successfully bid for. The research report regarding this Research 7 project was published in July 2019. A link to the full report is here: <https://www.reonline.org.uk/news/religious-literacy-a-way-forward-for-religious-education/> and a summary of the report is attached in the appendix.

3.4 South Central SACRE hub. The next meeting of the South Central SACRE Hub is on November 27 in Winchester.

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by: