



Title of meeting: Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

Date of meeting: 14 June 2023

Subject: Membership and Member Training Report

Report by: Justine Ball, Portsmouth SACRE Advisor

1. Purpose of report:

This report updates SACRE regarding its membership, training and other opportunities for the membership.

2. Background:

SACRE's membership is comprised of 4 groups; more detail is available in SACRE's constitution:

Group A: Christian denominations and other religions and their denominations, reflecting the principal religious traditions of the area.

Group B: The Church of England with representatives nominated by the diocese.

Group C: Teacher and Head teacher representation.

Group D: The Local Authority: appointed by the Local Authority.

Each group has one vote in the case of a voting matter. In addition, SACRE can co-opt members, who do not have voting rights.

SACRE is continuing to develop its collaborative work between the Council for Portsmouth Student (CoPS) and SACRE.

3. Recommended that SACRE:

- a) **Offers its thanks to Rachel De La Rue, Primary Teacher representative (Group C) for her support over the last 18 months following her resignation from the SACRE.**
- b) **Appoints Ms Fiona Kelly, St Swithun's Catholic Primary School as Primary Teacher representative (Group C) to fill the Primary Teacher vacancy.**
- c) **Agrees the DRAFT SACRE allowances policy and procedure (Appendix A).**
- d) **Seeks volunteers to form a working group to:**
 - i) **Review the 2021 Census (see Appendix A) in relation to ensuring that the membership of the Portsmouth SACRE appropriately reflects the principal religious traditions or beliefs in our area.**
 - ii) **Consider outreach and other methods to attract new faith and education representatives to the SACRE, noting that the Council shall take all**



reasonable steps to ensure that the nominees are a representative of the religion, denomination or association in question.

iii) Report back to the SACRE on actions and progress to widen representation of the SACRE.

b) Nominates a named representative to the Portsmouth Children's Safeguarding Partnership (PCSP).

4. Current SACRE Vacancies:

Group A	Portsmouth Catholic Diocesan Office, Buddhist, Hindu, Salvation Army, Islam and other Christian denominations (1 each)
Group B	CofE representative (1)
Group C	Early Years representative (1) Primary teacher (1)
Group D	None (0) - current appointees may be subject to change following the local elections in May 2023 and appointments will be confirmed at the Cabinet meeting in June 2023.

The SACRE has received a nomination for Ms Fiona Kelly, Primary Teacher at St Swithun's Catholic Primary School to replace Rachel De La Rue, Primary Teacher representative (Cottage Grove Primary School) who resigned on 24 May 2023.

5. Portsmouth SACRE allowances policy and procedure

At the SACRE meeting on 28 March 2023, the Head of School Improvement agreed to investigate the potential to offer expenses to SACRE members. Following work with the Business Manager, Children, Families and Education directorate, a DRAFT SACRE allowances policy and procedure has been produced. This is attached as Appendix A to this report.

6. Portsmouth Children's Safeguarding Partnership (PCSP)

The SACRE has been asked to nominate a representative for the PSCP Main Board. The aim is to appoint a suitable representative from faith communities (other than Anglican diocese which is already represented) to attend the PSCP.

The commitment is to attend four 3 hour meetings per year, to read the agenda and papers ahead of the meeting and be prepared to join in discussion relating to the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in Portsmouth. Where appropriate the PCSP would ask the representative to speak to members of their community prior to these discussions so that their contribution is representative of them as a whole (rather than a personal opinion). Similarly, the PCSP would like the representative to take back any relevant information to disseminate to their community while understanding the limitations of confidentiality and that occasionally there may be conversations that they are asked not to share.

6. SACRE training:

a) Attendance at training events since the last meeting:



NASACRE	7-8pm, 14 March 2023	What's happening to Collective Worship beyond determinations? Hosted by Lesley Prior	Christine McMillan (Group A) Sue Bowen (Group B) Sam Duddles (Group B) Councillor Asghar Shah (Group D) (recording) Taki Jaffer (Group D) (recording)
HAMPSHIRE	10.00am, 17 April 2023	An introduction to Living Difference IV for new SACRE members Justine Ball, SACRE Professional Advisor	sarah coote (Group A) Christine McMillan (Group A) Cllr Asghar Shah (Group D)

b) Forthcoming training events:

NASACRE	7.00-8.30pm, 26 June 2023	So, you've joined your local SACRE... Hosted by Exec members	Christine McMillan (Group A)
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c) Portsmouth SACRE has subscribed to NASACRE's annual training programme so that all its members may join any of its virtual training sessions FREE.

Please contact the SACRE Clerk, Karen Martin at karen.martin2@portsmouthcc.gov.uk to sign up for training sessions.