



Title of meeting: Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

Date of meeting: 1 November 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.

It is not the role of SACRE to find its own members, but it can make recommendations to the Local Authority if its representatives feel that an important group should be represented in one of its groups (as set out above).

3. Recommended that SACRE:

- a) **Appoints Mr Michael Zeffert, as Jewish representative (Group A) following the resignation of Samuel Hilsenrath which was noted at the last meeting.**
- b) **Notes the membership vacancies set out in paragraph 4 of this report and asks the Local Authority to approach relevant appointing bodies for representatives.**
- c) **Notes that the SACRE has subscribed to NASACRE for the current academic year, that this allows members to attend its training sessions (set out in Appendix A to this report) free of charge and that members should take advantage of opportunity.**



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)
- Group D** None (0) - current appointees may be subject to change following the local elections in May 2024 and appointments will be confirmed at the Cabinet meeting in June 2024.

6. SACRE training:

a) Attendance at training events since the last meeting:

NASACRE	7.00-8.30pm, 26 June 2023	So, you've joined your local SACRE... Hosted by Exec members	Christine McMillan (Group A)
HIAS	10.00-11.30am, 18 September 2023	Training on the Living Difference IV syllabus for school speakers - hosted by Justine Ball, Hampshire County Inspector for History and RE	Apologies Sheikh Fazle Abbas Dattoo (Group A) and Councillor Asghar Shah (Group D). The session will be re-run in the Spring term.

b) Portsmouth SACRE has subscribed to NASACRE's annual training programme so that all its members may join any of its virtual training sessions FREE.

In addition to the courses set out in Appendix A to this report, NASACRE will also be running the following session which is free for Portsmouth SACRE members:

Collective Worship (joint with AREIAC) virtual training session: Monday 20 November, 4-5.30pm

Description: This session will share the present legal position of the government on collective worship and then share what a number of SACREs are doing to support collective worship practice in their schools.

- Official -



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

Appendix A - NASACRE training opportunities 2023-24