

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education
13th May 2009
Report of the Corporate Director (Children and Lifelong Learning)

National Inter Faith Week 15th to 21st November 2009

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To alert members to the proposed National Inter Faith Week November 2009
- 1.2 To invite members to consider any action to be taken

2 Summary

- 2.1 The Inter Faith Network for the UK and the Department for Communities and Local Government is facilitating a one off Inter Faith Week in 2009.
- 2.2 Faith groups, interfaith bodies, schools and educational institutions, local authorities and public agencies are being invited to hold events and to highlight the importance of inter-faith understanding and co-operation.

3 Recommendation

- 3.1 That members receive the information
- 3.2 That members consider any action they wish to take or recommendations they would like to make

4 Background

- 4.1 The National Inter Faith Week 2009 is to be a one off event and is designed to:
 - strengthen good inter faith relations at all levels;
 - encourage local faith groups and communities to reach out to each other and build stronger bonds of understanding and cooperation;
 - increase awareness of the different and distinct faith communities in the UK, with a particular focus on the contribution which their members make to their neighbourhoods and to wider society;
 - to gain positive profile for inter faith initiatives, locally, regionally and nationally as well as for the overall work of building good inter faith relations;
 - increase understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs;
 - encourage the development of new partnerships within local communities and by faith communities with statutory and third sector partners.
- 4.2 A website is being developed to provide basic information at www.interfaithweek.org.uk
- 4.3 Members are invited to consider possible action that the SACRE might take or the advice which might be offered to schools in relation to the Inter Faith Week.

4 Equal Opportunities

- 4.2 This report has been prepared in accordance with the County Council's policies on equal opportunities.

5 Financial implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications.

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