

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

8th February 2017

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Families and Communities

An Update on Key Issues

1 Purpose of Report

1.1 To present members of SACRE with a brief update on key issues that have developed or arisen since the last meeting of SACRE.

2 Summary

2.1 Members of SACRE will receive a brief report on a number of key issues. These are matters which have either been raised at previous SACRE meetings and which have moved forward, or matters on which it is appropriate to brief members of SACRE.

3 Recommendation

3.1 That members of SACRE receive the report and note the contents

4 Background

4.1 Since the summer term meeting of the SACRE there have been developments in a number of areas which had previously been agenda items for SACRE or which have local or national importance for RE.

4.2 Members will be briefed on these key developments.

5 Equal Opportunities

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

6 Financial implications

6.1 Financial implications may be raised by individual items. These have been dealt with elsewhere, or will be raised at future meetings of SACRE.

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The REC launches independent Commission on RE

An independent Commission has been established by the Religious Education Council (REC) to make wide-ranging recommendations in relation to Religious Education (RE) in schools. The Commission has been asked by the REC to review the legal, education and policy frameworks for RE in all primary schools, secondary schools and further education colleges in England. More information about the Commission, including its membership, can be found on the REC website.

NASACRE is an important member body of the REC recently urged member SACREs to send any recommendations, suggestions, etc., to the Chair. The deadline for submissions is the 13th Feb 2017 so a submission has been sent on SACREs behalf.

NASACRE Conference and AGM 2017

Preparing for life in Britain today: the contribution of RE

NASACRE are now accepting bookings for the NASACRE Conference and AGM 2017 on May 16th 2017 at the York Hilton, 1 Tower Street, York, YO1 9WD. Speakers include Dr. Joyce Miller and Prof Aaqil Ahmed.

New guidance on Assessment in RE

New guidance on assessment in RE has been published by Dave Francis, Lead Consultant, RE:ONLINE following a summit held at Culham St. Gabriel's. This new guidance was created for RE curriculum planners. Whilst this guidance has arrived too late for Staffordshire SACRE to take account off it should be remembered that it is non statutory. It is however positive to note that the Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus reflects the new guidance as both are based on age related expectations. Members wishing to view the guidance can visit: <http://www.reonline.org.uk/news/new-guidance-assessment-in-re/>