

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SACREs (NASACRE) A.G.M.  
London 22nd May 2014**

The Chairman and the Officer to the SACRE represented Lancashire at this meeting, held at Westminster Central Hall

Keynote speaker **Stephen Lloyd MP** spoke in connection with the work he has led as **Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Religious Education**.

Much of his content and his response to questions related to the pressure which he, his colleagues, and professionals working in RE would need to assert in the run-up to the 2015 General Election. From contributors, it was suggested that

- Every SACRE should raise its own profile - with MPs, with their Elected Members, Headteachers, and Governors who held responsibility for compliance with the law.
- Each SACRE needed to have its eye on sustainability/renewal/succession planning
- It was clear that new ways of working would need to evolve as LAs employed fewer and fewer professional RE advisors.

Workshops in the afternoon session gave useful insights into the way some Local Authorities (LAs), even with a high percentage of “academy” schools, were still engaging with them by promoting (sponsored) incentives/ competitions for pupils. Some larger LAs had begun creating a “hub” of excellence for neighbouring SACREs. Others seemed open to the enterprise of independent “trainers” to organise the dissemination of good practice and guidance for their locally agreed syllabus.

Points of note for Lancashire to consider taking forward included:

- Working with Teacher & Headteacher Associations to raise awareness of the role of the SACRE, and the importance of RE in whole school performance
- Increasing contact with ITT providers and Teaching Schools in respect of recruitment/CPD for RE teachers
- Using LA resource of Press Office to highlight good practice/relevant news
- Promoting the RE Quality Mark
- Ensuring the Annual Report was suitably disseminated within the LA which is responsible for it.
- Considering the issue of training for members of SACRE.
- Considering the role of elected members.
- Considering the role of Faith representative members of SACRE.
- Considering the development of a RE Hub with local SACREs.

**NASACRE Conference - May 2014**  
**20 things SACREs can do.**

- Contact local MPs, including House of Lords
- Contact teaching unions (through SACRE reps) to get support for RE
- Engage with local Initial Teacher Training (ITT) providers
- Engage with local and social media
- Engage school governors
- Interact with local RE teachers
- Get SACRE into schools – observe RE/Collective Worship/hold SACRE meetings there & hear from RE leaders
- Support and monitor Collective Worship (CW)
- Encourage schools to sign up for RE Quality Mark and check ongoing progress
- Make links with academies; find out which RE syllabus they teach & invite them to SACRE
- Send SACRE's annual report to LA Scrutiny Committee
- Report to Ofsted any schools that are not 'doing' RE properly
- Make a SACRE resource bank from members' contributions
- Sponsor RE competitions
- Work with local interfaith groups
- Support a programme for Young Ambassadors
- Ensure participation from councillors
- Invite a wide input from other people when reviewing the agreed syllabus
- Work with Specialist Leaders of Education (SLEs) and Teaching Schools
- Ensure RE is impacting on Teaching and Learning for pupils and impacting their teachers