

Lancashire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 27 November 2017 at 10.00 am in
Cabinet Room D – The Henry Bolingbroke Room, County Hall, Preston**

Attendees

Teacher Associations Mr P Martin (ASCL) (Chair)

Church of England Mr J Wilson

Roman Catholic Mr B McMullen
Mrs C Maddocks

Lancashire County Council CC A Cheetham
CC S Malik
CC Y Motala (Vice Chair)
Mr F Williams

Representing Islam Mufti J Pathan
Mr A Qureshi
Mufti K Ibrahim
Mrs T Safraz

Representing Hinduism Mrs H Shukla

Representing Higher Education Mrs C Reade

Representing the LASGB Mrs Kathleen Cooper

The Faith Centre Mr Afrasiab Anwar

Observers

Representing the Bahá'í Faith Dr Malcolm Craig

Officers

Mrs A Lloyd – Advisor (School Improvement), Lancashire County Council, Children and Young People Directorate

Mrs M Mahmood – Senior Democratic Services Officer, Lancashire County Council, Legal and Democratic Services

Miss S Seed – Democratic Services Officer, Lancashire County Council, Legal and Democratic Services

1. Annual Meeting: Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Nominations were sought for the Chair and the Vice Chair at the annual meeting of the SACRE.

Mr John Wilson nominated to re-elect Peter Martin as Chair, the nomination was seconded by Mrs Harsha Shukla and moved.

County Councillor Anne Cheetham nominated to re-elect County Councillor Yusuf Motala as Vice Chair, the nomination was seconded by Mrs Harsha Shukla and moved.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr S Jones, Mr C Wills, Mr I Tailor, Mr E Guttentag, Mr K Pagpa, Ms J Crabtree, Mr D Fann, Mrs J O'Rourke, Ms L Horobin, Mrs H Sage, CC P Buckley, Mr A Anwar, Ms J Roper, CC Y Motala, Ms S Elton-Chalcraft, Ms J Gordon, Mr S Akubat.

It was noted that Mr Colin Wills had submitted his resignation due to ongoing ill health. The Chair expressed his gratitude for Mr Wills significant contribution to the Lancashire SACRE over the past 18 years or so and wished him all the very best for the future.

[Link to Website:](#)

[Lancashire SACRE Website](#)

3. Minutes of the last meeting 25 September 2017

The minutes of the last meeting held on 25 September 2017 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Quality Standards Sub Group Feedback

The Chair and Mr J Wilson had attended a conference in Birmingham on the 22nd November 2017 on behalf of Lancashire SACRE in respect of the draft Commissioned report. At the conference they were presented with the interim report which contained recommendations for the future. Charles Clarke former MP and Lat Blaylock were also in attendance. The interim report had been discussed section by section, commissioners in attendance highlighted the following areas that needed to be improved:

- The lack of communication with primary school religious educational groups, and the lack of information of the religious education which is taught within primary schools.
- The place of governors and their statutory role in schools.

It was noted that the report did not make reference to local authorities input into religious education and the positive input that SACRE's were having on religious education. The Chair highlighted that the Lancashire SACRE had been privileged to

receive the Local Authority and County Councillor support it had over the past few years.

Members discussed the report and recommendations further and it was noted that a response was needed on behalf of the Lancashire SACRE. The QSS sub group had already worked on detailed response at its meeting on the 8 November 2017, the deadline for submission was 4 December 2017.

5. NNW Hub

The NNW Hub met once a term, it was noted the last meeting was not very well attended. The issue of Blackpool had been resolved and they would now be buying into the Lancashire Syllabus.

Cumbria SACRE raised the issue of social media, it was noted that the schools used the Twitter page to share good practice.

The State of the Nation report was discussed in detail.

6. School Visits

Mr Wilson and County Councillor Malik reported back on a recent school visit to Whittlefield Community Primary School in Burnley. The Head teacher Mrs Helen Kershaw was very inspiring and the school had improved a fair amount over the past couple of years.

They had met with 10 pupils on their visit and were very impressed with them. County Councillor Malik stated it was a privilege to visit the primary school, the R.E. teacher Amy had inspired the children to retain knowledge by including a level of creativity in the work. They also had the opportunity to meet with the grandparents of the pupils who spoke highly of the ethos of the school and the religious education taught at the primary school. It was noted that Amy and the school were very appreciative of the training on offer.

Action:

- Information of the visit would be included in the newsletter.

7. Monitoring Report

Mrs A Lloyd informed members that last year was the first they attempted to collect data at all levels.

The following points were noted in regards to the monitoring submissions:

- 52% of primary school responded to the request for information.
- At KS 3 data was not collected but a questionnaire was sent out, 20% responded.
- At KS1 77% were assessed to be working at the appropriate age related work standard.

- At KS2 80% were assessed to be working at the appropriate age related work standard.

It was noted that the figures provided a flavour but further work was required and training was needed, detailed conversations were taking place with teachers. Teachers had been asked what support was needed and a list was devised of the most popular requests for information. The list would be considered by the R.E Consultants group.

At KS4 standards had fallen from being significantly above standard to below standard, however the performance in schools within Preston for Religious Education has been positive.

8. Annual Report - Draft

It was agreed that the draft Annual Report would be reviewed in detail at the next QSS meeting in January.

Action: Members were asked to check their attendance at meetings throughout the year.

9. 10 Minute Break and Networking Opportunity

A networking opportunity and break was provided to members of the SACRE.

10. R.E Associate Consultants Update

Mrs A Lloyd explained to new members that the SACRE had been trying to engage with high performing teachers who would become consultants to advise and train other teachers.

Mrs A Lloyd was pleased to report that two teachers had now been appointed. One was Ms Joanne Harris and the other was Ms Nicola Dermott from Penwortham. The first meeting had taken place and had gone well. A further advertisement had been issued in the hope of recruiting further teachers to join the consultant pool, both primary and secondary.

11. Interfaith Week

Positive feedback from schools working with the Faith Centre was circulated to members, it was noted Mr A Anwar was now working in over 40 schools at the minute

12. Lancashire Youth Voice

There was no update to report.

13. Quiz!

The members of the SACRE took part in a Quiz that had been prepared to help new members learn interesting facts about the Lancashire SACRE.

14. Members' News

Lancashire Council of Mosques highlighted the recent negative press in regards to the Halal Meat issue which was currently being considered by Lancashire County Council. In more positive news as part of the Leaders meetings in London, Lancashire Council of Mosques had initiated 5 gatherings in different mosques which had gone very well. A health initiative was also being advertised and everyone was being encouraged to look after their own health.

Mrs H Shukla highlighted an event she had attended at a school as part of Interfaith Week celebrations focusing on Diwali which had gone very well.

Mr F Williams shared his delight at the number of new members representing Islam on the Lancashire SACRE.

15. Observers Contributions

Dr Malcolm Craig echoed the comments made about Islamic representation on the SACRE, and hoped it would be reflected in other faiths also.

16. Correspondence

There was nothing to report under this item.

17. Forthcoming QSS Agenda Items

The draft Annual report, Development Plan and the Newsletter were all noted for the next QSS agenda.

18. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the SACRE will be held on Monday 5 February 2018 at 10.00am in Cabinet Room C, The Duke of Lancaster Room at County Hall, Preston.

Paul Bond
Clerk to the SACRE