

Membership Update

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

3 December 2013

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Wards: All

Locality Affected: All

Parishes Affected: All

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 To update the SACRE on changes in the membership as a result of the appointment of additional representatives to Group A and a co-opted representative.

2. Recommendations

The SACRE is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note and welcome the appointment of:
- 2.1.1 a representative of the Buddhist faith to Group A
 - 2.1.2 a representative of the Jewish faith to Group A
 - 2.1.3 a co-opted representative of the Swindon Humanists

3. Detail

- 3.1 Attached at Appendix 1 is the SACRE Constitution which sets out the composition of the SACRE and its constituent groups and at Appendix 2 is a summary of the legal position in relation to who can be included in the SACRE, taken from the NASACRE 'Handbook for SACRE Members'.
- 3.2 Members, at their meeting on 1 October 2013, recommended that Full Council increase the representation of Group A from 8 representatives to 10 representatives to include the Buddhist and Jewish faiths. Representatives in Group A reflect the principal religious traditions in Swindon referred to in the religious belief questions contained in the Census 2011, a summary of which is set out at Appendix 3.
- 3.3 Full Council, at its meeting on 7 November 2013 approved the increase to Group A and therefore representatives from the Buddhist and Jewish faiths would be attending future SACRE meetings.
- 3.4 SACRE also asked officers to approach the British Humanist Association – BHA for a co-opted representative to serve on SACRE. The BHA have been contacted, who in turn have contacted Swindon Humanists. A nomination from Swindon Humanists is awaited.
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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Katy Staples, SACRE Advisor, katy.staples@bristoldiocese.org, 0117 906 0100 and Stuart Figini, Law and Democratic Services, sfigini@swindon.gov.uk, 01793 463612

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- 3.5 The term of office for all the additional representatives was agreed by SACRE at the last meeting on 1 October 2013 to run until Annual Council in 2015 and therefore comes into line with all other terms of office for Groups A, B and C.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 The alternative option for the SACRE was to retain the current Membership for Group A.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no specific financial implications relating to this report.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 There are no specific legal or human rights implications relating to this report.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 No other implications have been identified.

Links to One Swindon, Strategic Objectives, Plans and Policies

- 5.4 The work of the SACRE seeks to support the Theme 5 of the Community Strategy, for Swindon to be a place where high aspirations are supported by superb education provision for all ages.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.5 A Diversity Impact Assessment has not been completed for this report, as it does not relate to a specific policy or strategy change.

Risk Management

- 5.6 There are no risk management factors which have been identified in relation to this report.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Board Director Resources (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None

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8. Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix 1 – SACRE Constitution.
- 8.2 Appendix 2 –NASACRE Membership of SACRE as set out in the NASACRE Handbook.
- 8.3 Appendix 3 – Census 2011 – Religious Belief Results.