STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

HELD ON TUESDAY, 20TH JUNE 2017 AT 4.30 PM
VENUE: SANDHILL CENTRE

Present: -

Local Councillors

Councillor Farthing – Chair
Councillor Hunt
Councillor Leadbitter
Councillor Marshall
Councillor Williams

Church of England

Mrs W. Lundgren

Teachers' Associations

Ms N Fountain

Co-opted

Ms F Bridle

In Attendance

Annette Parr, Lead Support and Intervention Officer
Cathryn Forbes, Specialist Officer
Paul Wood, Governance Services Officer

As the meeting was inquorate, the following discussions could not be viewed as having been approved and therefore, could not be acted upon until approved at a future quorate meeting.

SAC76   Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Mr Cloud Singh

SAC77   Nominations to join the SACRE Membership

Paul Wood introduced Ms Natalie Fountain to the Council and advised that she had volunteered to join as a representative for the Teachers Association. Mr Cloud Singh would also be formally added to the Membership of the

Council as a representative of the Christian and other denominations category once the meeting was in quorum and could be fully ratified.

The Chairman welcomed Ms Fountain to the meeting.

SAC78   Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 21st March 2017

It was AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st March 2017 were a true record.

SAC79   Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

SAC80   Feedback from Primary CPD

Mrs Forbes updated the group on the feedback from the Primary CPD and commented that it had been disappointing that only 14 out of the 83 schools invited had attended. It was also disappointing that only one response had been received in relation to the survey circulated afterwards however, Mrs Forbes did advise that the verbal feedback on the event had been very positive from the attendees.

The Chairman suggested that the issue be put on the Headteachers agenda.

Councillor Marshall enquired if the schools were doing their own thing. Ms Fountain advised that her school followed the agreed syllabus from the Local Authority and felt this presented a broad and balanced curriculum.

Mrs Forbes advised of the difficulties in getting people to sign up to their Network when they were already paying for use of the one in Durham, which was already an extensive network.

Councillor Williams commented that she felt the Council had dropped the ball in this regard and it was difficult to pull this back. Mrs Forbes advised that they could continue to put expressions of interest out.

Ms Fountain commented that there was still good practices to be shared and rolled out but the difficulty in setting up a Network was not just an issue for religious education, but for all subjects and strong R.E leadership was in short supply.

Members AGREED to note the feedback

SAC81   NASACRE Conference

Mrs Forbes advised the group that she had been unable to attend the Conference but Mr Singh had been present, unfortunately his apologies were recorded for the meeting however details of the conference were available on the NASACRE website with videos of the speeches given now uploaded to the site.

Mrs Forbes also advised that Annette Parr and herself would not be in the role following this meeting. The Chairman enquired if the Council could buy into the Durham service. Mrs Forbes advised that they experienced the same pressures as us in terms of funding but was something that could be explored. Richard Cullen was to identify the relevant person to take over Mrs Forbes role.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Forbes for her work within the group and hoped to see her back as a Member for future meetings.

Members AGREED:

-        to note the update and for Annette Parr to send the SACRE leaflets on for Members to circulate to prospective new members.

SAC82   Date and time of next meeting

The date and time of the next meeting would be Tuesday 14th November 2017

(Signed)   Councillor L. Farthing,
                Chairman