

From: Mr S C Manion, Chairman Kent SACRE, and Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director of Education and Young People's Service

To: Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee – 16 December 2014

Subject: Draft SACRE (Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education) Annual Report 2013-2014

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of Paper: SACRE meeting 25 November 2014

Future Pathway of Paper: Circulated to Kent County Council members, Kent schools, NASACRE (National Association of SACREs)

Electoral Division: All

Summary: The Education Reform Act 1988, (amended by subsequent Acts) requires each SACRE to publish an Annual Report on its work. This report reflects the focus of SACRE meetings during the academic year 2013 – 2014, and the key local and national issues that have engaged the R.E. (Religious Education) community during this time. A key aspect of SACRE's role is to support the effective provision of R.E. and Collective Worship in schools. The monitoring of provision and standards in RE is reported on. This report contains advice and recommendations to the Local Authority which should be shared with schools and governing bodies in order to ensure that schools comply with their statutory responsibilities and provide the highest quality teaching and learning of R.E. and provision for Collective Acts of Worship for pupils in Kent schools. Additionally, this report highlights the inaugural meeting of a Kent Youth SACRE.

Recommendation:

The Cabinet Committee is asked to **consider** and **endorse** the draft SACRE Annual Report 2013- 2014

1. Introduction

1.1 SACRE publishes an Annual Report to inform relevant parties, including schools, of the advice that SACRE has given to the Local Authority and of the actions taken to support RE and Collective Worship in schools using the Agreed Syllabus, that have resulted from this advice. The broad role of the SACRE is to support the effective provision of Religious Education and Collective Worship in schools through:

- Giving advice on methods of teaching using the Agreed Syllabus Religious Education;
- Advising the LA on the provision of training for teachers;
- Monitoring inspection reports on Religious Education, Collective Worship and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development (SMSC);
- Considering complaints about the provision and delivery of Religious Education and Collective Worship referred to by the LA;

2. **Financial Implications**

- 2.1 This report has no financial implications on the Council's capital and revenue budgets and spending plans.

3. **The Report**

3.1 **Relevant history and detail**

It is a statutory requirement for Kent SACRE to publish an Annual report of its activities and advice to the LA. This Draft Report has been prepared and was presented for consideration by members at the last full SACRE meeting on 25th November 2014. SACRE members agreed that this report should be presented to the Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee on 16th December 2014.

- 3.2 **Options** considered included direct circulation to KCC members and Corporate Director. But it was considered that a greater impact and understanding of SACRE could be achieved by presenting the Annual Report to this Cabinet Committee.

- 3.3 There are no **legal implications** by presenting this report.

- 3.4 There are no **equalities implications** by presenting this report.

- 3.5 There are no **Public Health** implications by presenting this report.

- 3.6 There are no implications for the Council's **property portfolio** by presenting this report.

- 3.7 Should there be any delegations via the Officer Scheme of Delegation, it is most likely that these will be addressed within the School Improvement Directorate.

- 3.8 No further information should be required in order for the Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee to consider and note this SACRE Annual Report.

4. **Conclusions**

This report reflects the focus of SACRE meetings during the academic year 2013 – 2014, and the key local and national issues that have engaged the R.E. (Religious Education) community during this time. A key aspect of SACRE's role is to support the effective provision of R.E. and Collective Worship in schools. The monitoring of provision and standards in RE is reported on. This report contains advice and recommendations to the Local Authority which should be shared with schools and governing bodies in order to ensure that

schools comply with their statutory responsibilities and provide the highest quality teaching and learning of R.E. and provision for Collective Acts of Worship for pupils in Kent schools.

SACRE anticipates that by asking the Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee to consider and endorse this report, not only will the work of SACRE be better understood, but also the recommendations and advice within this report may have a greater impact in schools.

5. **Recommendation:**

The Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee is asked to consider and endorse the Draft SACRE Annual Report 2013 – 2014.

6. **Background Documents**

6.1 The following documents are referenced in the SACRE Annual Report 2013 - 2014:

1. "Teacher's Standards", Department for Education, 2011, (updated June 2013)
2. "A Review of Religious Education in England", Religious Education Council of England and Wales, October 2013
3. "R.E. The Truth Unmasked – The supply and support for Religious Education teachers", All Party Parliamentary Group for Religious Education, 2013
4. "Religious education: realising the potential", Ofsted, 2013

6.2. Background Documents

Parliamentary Report – Supporting RE Teachers
OFSTED Review

DfE Teachers' Standards Report

Religious Education Council Report

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ecSDDisplay.aspx?NAME=SD3967&ID=3967&RPID=7234620&sch=doc&cat=13469&path=13335%2c13468%2c13469>

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