

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE STANDING  
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**5 December 2024**

The meeting took place via Teams

Present

**Representing Christian denominations and other religious dominations  
and beliefs (Group A):**

Wendy Brice-Thompson, Roman Catholic  
Jenny Fox, Salvation Army  
Dr John Lester, Baha'i faith  
Peter Feinson, Baptist

**Representing the Church of England (Group B):**

Ruth Everett

**Representing teachers (Group C):**

Katheryn Everitt

**Representing the Local Authority (Group D):**

Councillor Jacqueline McArdle  
Councillor Katharine Tumilty

**Co-opted Member**

Sidra Naeem

**Professional adviser:**

Julie Hinds

Corinne Simmons – Jewish Representation  
Michelle Morgan – Clerk, Havering Governor Services

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Dawn Ladbrook, Barry Smith, Karen Van Coevorden, Cllr Philip Ruck and John Smailes.

Absence from the following Members was noted: Tariq Mahmood MBE, Om Dhir, Kamal Siddiqui, George Prinn, Sansar Narwal, Paster Aloyius

Peter, Nasir Mubasher, Luthaneal Adams, Stephanie Ellner, Marlene Wylie, Bal Degun, Terry Riches and Cllr Taylor.

## 2. NEW OR SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Julie Hinds, RE Today Advisor was welcomed to the meeting, due to the change in date, Julia Diamond-Conway, was unable to attend due to prior commitments.

Corinne Simmons was welcomed as the new representative of the Jewish Faith.

SACRE Members agreed to retain Karen Van Coevorden as a member of Group C, as although leaving teaching, Karen's new role was still linked to education as Learning & Engagement Officer for St Paul's Cathedral.

## 3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 19 MARCH 2024 AND 2 JULY 2024 AND MATTERS ARISING

3.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2024 were received and agreed as a true record.

3.2. The minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2024 were received and agreed as a true record.

3.3. Matters arising from the minutes, (not included elsewhere on the agenda), were as noted:

3.3.1. Ofsted report presentation (Minute 5, refers): In the absence of Julia Diamond-Conway, this item had been deferred.

**ACTION: JDC / HGS (for the agenda)**

3.3.2. Youth Interfaith event (Minute 6, refers): A summary of the working party discussion had been shared prior to the meeting. Please see Minute 8.

3.3.3. Determination process (Minute 7, refers): An update would be brought to the next meeting regarding contacting Newham SACRE to see if they were happy to share their process with Havering.

**ACTION: JDC**

3.3.4. Youth Project (Minute 8, refers): Cllr Taylor was not in attendance to provide an update as to whether the Romford Recorder had been contacted regarding the Youth Faith event. Potentially it would be preferable to contact the paper once the details had been finalised.

- 3.3.5. Youth SACRE (Minute 8, refers): An update would be brought to the next meeting for JDC to advise if Havering SACRE Members could visit Newham's Youth SACRE.

**ACTION: JDC**

- 3.3.6. Interfaith Forum (Minute 10.1, refers): This action had been completed.
- 3.3.7. Date of meeting (Minute 11, refers): The meeting date had been confirmed.

#### **4. UPDATE ON SCHOOL ACTIVITY**

In the absence of JDC, there was no local update on school activity.

#### **5. NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

SACRE Members received the report on national developments. JH advised that the report detailed the training available for the following term. The clerk advised that SACRE Members could contact her should they wish to be booked onto any training.

An update was given on the Curriculum Review; the most significant result could be a legal obligation for all schools (including academies) to follow the National Curriculum.

The Chair commented on the 'Ethics Cup' stating that it looked to be an exciting competition to participate in.

#### **6. COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

SACRE Members received extracts from agreed Governing Body minutes that related to discussions held on Collective Worship (spring term 2024).

#### **7. ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

SACRE Members received and agreed the draft Annual Report. The Chair would write the foreword to be shared with JDC. Once completed, the clerk would share with NASACRE.

**ACTION: Chair / JDC / HGS**

#### **8. WORKING PARTY UPDATE – PRIMARY RE CONFERENCE**

The summary of the working party meeting (5 August 2024) was received. The Vice Chair advised that schools would require notice and it was therefore proposed to hold the event during the 2025-2026 academic year. The Salvation Army remained the most suitable venue to host the event, although it was stressed that Wednesdays and Fridays had the most

availability. It was agreed to bring back for further discussion in the spring term.

**ACTION: HGS (for the agenda)**

**9. SCHOOL WEBSITE MONITORING**

It was agreed for SACRE Members to complete the remaining website audits from Years 1 and 2 before allocating out Year 3 schools in the spring term. A copy of the audit along with the remaining schools had been shared with the meeting papers.

**ACTION: SACRE Members**

**10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

R Everett advised that M Wylie would no longer be a Group B representative. The Diocese were currently reviewing membership across all SACREs and therefore, it was hoped that other potential members would be identified. R Everett explained that she also had to consider her own membership as only able to attend virtually. It was agreed therefore to look more closely at membership at the next meeting.

**ACTION: HGS (for the agenda)**

Congratulations were shared to W Brice-Thompson for being made 'Alderman of Havering' for all of her hard work and contribution to the borough.

**11. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Monday 24 February 2024

Hosted by Tariq Mahmood (MBE)

Safeguarding Academy

200-206 Elm Park Avenue

The Chair thanked everyone for their time.

The meeting closed at 6.30pm

Chair.....

Date.....