

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education
6th February 2019

**Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Families and
Communities**

An Update on Key Issues

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present members of SACRE with a brief update on key issues that have developed or arisen since the last meeting of SACRE.

2 Summary

- 2.1 Members of SACRE will receive a brief report on a number of key issues. These are matters which have either been raised at previous SACRE meetings and which have moved forward or matters on which it is appropriate to brief members of SACRE.

3 Recommendation

- 3.1 That members of SACRE receive the report and note the contents

4 Background

- 4.1 Since the autumn term meeting of the SACRE there have been developments in a number of areas which had previously been agenda items for SACRE or which have local or national importance for RE.

- 4.2 Members will be briefed on these key developments.

5 Equal Opportunities

- 5.1 This report has been prepared in accordance with the County Council's policies on equal opportunities.

6 Financial implications

- 6.1 Financial implications may be raised by individual items. These have been dealt with elsewhere or will be raised at future meetings of SACRE.

Contact Officer

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Key Issues

Westhill Legacy project- Explore, Engage, Reflect in conjunction with Youth Net

There have been discussions on how the SACRE budget can support the sustainability of this project. A meeting was held in December to identify schools who could benefit from support from Younthonet and Entrust.

See Agenda item 8 for more details.

Continuous Professional Development

Schools have been offered the opportunity to attend RE networking afternoons in December 2018 and January 2019. Additional dates have also been identified over the coming terms. 11 schools have taken up the opportunity to share good practice especially with regard to assessment and updated information.

Mary Gale has been commissioned to facilitate this CPD.

Supporting Governors in understanding their Statutory requirements for RE

All governors that buy into the Governor Services, Service Level Agreement have received an additional written summary and electronic update facilitated by Mary Gale on their statutory duties. This term the REC commission has been referenced and governors have been reminded that this is commission report does not constitute statutory regulations. This has been highlighted during face to face updates and briefings throughout the county on general governance matters. Over 170 governors and some clerks have accessed the face to face training and many more have access to the Governor Information booklet. This booklet has also been launched as a National Governor Information booklet.

Supporting schools in understanding the work of SACRE

All maintained schools have received a copy of the SACRE annual report facilitated by Mary Gale through the Staffordshire headteacher E-Bag.

NATRE Strictly RE conference- Heathrow London

At the time of writing Mary is due to attend the NATRE conference on 25th January 2019. Mary will be taking part in a number of workshops including updates on latest creative curriculum resources to deliver quality RE and address curriculum balance. There will also be key note speakers on the revisiting aspects of Religious Literacy and exploring RE and the realities of religion and beliefs. There will be a full conference report in the Summer SACRE meeting.