

22nd May 2017

To: SACRE Chairs, Clerks, Advisers, Project Managers

Dear colleagues,

The Westhill/NASACRE Awards 2017-18

You may already have heard that your SACRE has been partially successful in its application for a Westhill/NASACRE Award for 2015-16. While the outcome of your application may be less satisfactory than you had hoped, we trust you will accept our sincere congratulations on receiving an Award, and our best wishes for the success of your SACRE's project.

At its meeting in April, the Awards Panel identified three "front runners" for an Award. The Panel then faced an unusually difficult decision in trying to differentiate between three other applications judged to be next in line for the funds still available. After consulting with the SACREs involved, the Panel decided to offer each SACRE a smaller amount than they had requested for their project, on the understanding that the project could and would still go ahead successfully after any necessary adjustments had been made. The Panel will therefore wish to be advised, in due course, as to how these projects will now be re-shaped, or additionally funded from other sources.

This letter is necessarily a formal communication. However, we trust that alongside the formalities of the Award arrangements NASACRE will be able to offer your project encouragement and support of a more informal kind, through liaison with a member of the Awards Panel (see names on the attached schedule). Please expect the liaison member to make an initial contact with your Project Manager before the end of this school term.

The briefing notes circulated with the Award Application Form will have advised you that the release of the Award money is linked to a sequence of "trigger" conditions. These conditions must be met before each tranche can be paid out. The process has been designed to establish a firm commitment to begin and complete the project within the stated terms and conditions, to provide clear and convincing financial accountability from all parties, and to establish a strong link between the project and the dedicated Westhill website page for the Awards.

Please therefore expect to receive in the next few weeks a number of documents for completion and signing. I would be grateful if these could be dealt with expeditiously. For our part, we will aim to ensure that all is in hand for the first payments to be released on October 1st 2017.

With all good wishes and sincere regards,

Michael