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NOTICE OF MEETING

Meeting Agreed Syllabus Conference

Date and Time Tuesday, 9th November, 2021 at 1.30 pm

Place Ashburton Hall, Hampshire County Council, Winchester

Enquiries to members.services@hants.gov.uk

Carolyn Williamson FCPFA

Chief Executive

The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UJ

FILMING AND BROADCAST NOTIFICATION

This meeting may be recorded and broadcast live on the County Council's website. The meeting may also be recorded and broadcast by the press and members of the public – please see the Filming Protocol available on the County Council's website.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Members who believe they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting must declare that interest and, having regard to Part 3 Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter is discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore all Members with a Personal Interest in a matter being considered at the meeting should consider, having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 4 of the Code, whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 5 of the Code, consider whether it is appropriate to leave the meeting while the matter is discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

3. MINUTES (Pages 3 - 6)

To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting on 3 March 2020.

4. DEPUTATIONS

To receive any deputations.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive any announcements the Chairman may wish to make.

6. APPROVAL OF REVISED LOCALLY AGREED SYLLABUS: LIVING DIFFERENCE IV (Pages 7 - 12)

To consider a report seeking the approval of the Agreed Syllabus Conference for the revised Agreed Syllabus, Living Difference IV.

ABOUT THIS AGENDA:

On request, this agenda can be provided in alternative versions (such as large print, Braille or audio) and in alternative languages.

ABOUT THIS MEETING:

The press and public are welcome to attend the public sessions of the meeting. If you have any particular requirements, for example if you require wheelchair access, please contact members.services@hants.gov.uk for assistance.

County Councillors attending as appointed members of this Committee or by virtue of Standing Order 18.5; or with the concurrence of the Chairman in connection with their duties as members of the Council or as a local County Councillor qualify for travelling expenses.

Agenda Item 3

AT A MEETING of the Agreed Syllabus Conference of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL held at the Castle, Winchester on Tuesday, 3rd March, 2020

Chairman: * Councillor Roy Perry

Vice-Chairman: * Councillor Anna McNair Scott

* Councillor Zilliah Brooks

* Councillor Wayne Irish

Margaret Boyne, United Reformed Church

Amanda Cawood, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

* Sheikh Fazole Abbas Datoo, Muslim

* Danny Habel, Jewish Community

* Charmian Harrison

* Chris Hughes, Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches

Yasmeen Hussain, Muslim

* Elizabeth Jenkerson, Baha'i

Rhian Jones, Salvation Army

Sushma Sahajpal, Hindu

* Eli Stewart, Baptist

* Lisa-Marie Taylor, Buddhist

* Sue Bowen, Church of England

Caroline Welch, Church of England

Reverend Jeff Williams, Church of England

Rev Howard Wright, Church of England

* Rob Sanders, Church of England

* Maureen Barnes, Teachers' Liaison Panel

Graeme Rowe, Teachers' Liaison Panel

* Julie Kelly, Teachers' Liaison Panel

* Rachel Jackson, Teachers' Liaison Panel

* Carson Elday, Teachers' Liaison Panel

Jon Hamer, Teachers' Liaison Panel

Also present with the agreement of the Chairman:

Co-opted SACRE members Gill Heron, Chris Robinson and Dr Julie Maxwell, Liz Muir, Teacher's Liaison Panel, and Jackii Crockett, MOD SACRE co-ordinator.

The Chairman announced that the press and members of the public were permitted to film and broadcast the meeting. Those remaining at the meeting were consenting to being filmed and recorded, and to the possible use of those images and recording for broadcasting purposes.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Howard Wright, Yasmeen Hussain, Amanda Cawood, Councillor Zilliah Brooks, Caroline Welch.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3 Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore, Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Personal interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 4 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting on 15 November 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed new members Charmian Harrison and Carson Elday, Liz Muir from the Teachers' Liaison Panel and Jackii Crockett, the MOD Sacre co-ordinator.

5. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

6. REVIEW OF THE AGREED SYLLABUS

The Agreed Syllabus Conference considered the report of the Director of Children's Services (item 6 in the Minute Book) which summarised the background to the Agreed Syllabus review and sought Members' approval to start the process towards producing a revised syllabus to distribute to schools in December 2021.

Patricia Hannam, the Inspector /Advisor for RE, explained the legal requirement to review the Agreed Syllabus every five years. The review and writing would involve members of all four local authorities who use the syllabus, teachers, faith representatives and academics. SACRE members who would be interested in being part of the review were asked to contact her. An initial meeting would take place in Winchester on 10 July 2020 to go through the current syllabus and

formulate an agenda of things that need to be addressed. The new syllabus would be put to the Conference for adoption in November 2021.

Group votes took place, and it was unanimously agreed to approve the start of the review process.

RESOLVED:

That the Agreed Syllabus Conference approve the report and agree to review Living Difference III.

Chairman,

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Agenda Item 6

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Committee/Panel:	Agreed Syllabus Conference
Date:	9 November 2021
Title:	Approval of revised locally Agreed Syllabus: Living Difference IV
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Patricia Hannam

Tel: **Email:** Patricia.hannam@hants.gov.uk

Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present the Agreed Syllabus Conference with the revisions to the agreed syllabus for religious education,

Recommendation(s)

2. That the Agreed Syllabus Conference approves the revised Agreed Syllabus, Living Difference IV, and recommends to the local authority that it is the Locally Agreed Syllabus for use across the authority's schools.
3. That following its virtual launch on November 30th 2021, Living Difference IV is made available to schools and used for making the religious education curriculum as well as guiding the teaching process in Hampshire schools.

Executive Summary

4. This report seeks to give background to the revision of the locally agreed syllabus and highlight the way Living Difference IV will contribute to a high-quality religious education for Hampshire Children and young people.

Contextual information

5. This report links to the Hampshire Strategic plan through ensuring children and young people are well educated and about to contribute to Hampshire's strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity. Further, high-quality religious education will contribute to well-educated children and young people who will ensure all people in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives. Religious education also contributes to ensuring people in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment through consideration of particular curriculum materials relevant to the environment and relates to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Finally, a high-quality religious education will contribute to ensuring everyone in Hampshire can enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities.
6. Primary legislation requires that an agreed syllabus for religious education is reviewed every five years. The current syllabus, Living Difference III that built on previous syllabus of 2004 and 2011, was adopted for use in December 2016. Living Difference IV has been developed following a period of review since the ASC in February 2020.

Consultation processes including with other authorities that share the agreed syllabus.

7. The locally agreed syllabus Living Difference III has been shared across the four local authorities of Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton, since December 2016.
8. Following an initial survey in the winter of 2019 and a teacher consultation meeting in January 2020, Agreed Syllabus Conferences in all four authorities agreed to commence the review.
9. Meetings have taken place with representatives from SACREs from the four authorities in July 2020 and again in 2021. In between time many consultation meetings took place with teachers and other advisers and experts in the field. In light of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, all meetings have taken place virtually.
10. This is a significant time to be reviewing the locally Agreed Syllabus in the light of recommendations of the Commission on RE (CoRE) report published in 2018. The review has taken the CoRE recommendations into account in developing Living Difference IV.
11. SACRE has been involved in all consultation processes and reports have been made at each meeting during the period of review and revision.

Conclusions

12. Living Difference IV has been prepared and a presentation will be made to SACRE to support this report on the key elements that have stayed the same and the key elements that have been revised in light of the consultation process. It is intended that Living Difference IV will ensure teachers across the authority have access to the guidance and support they need to teach the highest quality religious education to Hampshire children.

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	yes

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

Living Difference IV, the proposed locally agreed syllabus for religious education recommended for adoption at this meeting, has an interest in equalities at its heart. A high-quality religious education taught according to Living Difference IV seeks to contribute to the elimination of discrimination, harassment and victimisation especially and directly with regard to the protected characteristics of race and religion. Further through experiencing a high-quality religious education taught according to Living Difference IV there is the intention to mitigate xenophobia of all kinds thus fostering good relations. In the revision of the locally agreed syllabus equalities in relation to race and religion have been taken into account through examining the way religious and other orientations on life are presented in the classroom.

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