

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Decision Report

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Committee/Panel:</b> | Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education |
| <b>Date:</b>            | 28 February 2023                                  |
| <b>Title:</b>           | Key National and Local RE Matters                 |
| <b>Report From:</b>     | Director of Childrens' Services                   |

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### Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to enable SACRE to consider key RE developments, nationally and locally not mentioned elsewhere in this agenda.

### Recommendation(s)

2. That the SACRE notes the report.

### Executive Summary

3. This report seeks to update and inform SACRE of key national development, for example the work of the Religious Education Council (REC) and NASACRE as well as the Association of University Lecturers in Religious Education (AULRE) and initiatives being led by the Culham St Gabriel's Trust.

### Contextual information

4. All national matters mentioned below have an important impact locally.
5. **Culham St Gabriel's Trust initiatives:** Hampshire colleagues have been and continue to be involved in several initiatives that are being funded by the Culham st Gabriel's trust; the largest grant giving body supporting religious education [Homepage - Culham St Gabriel's \(cstg.org.uk\)](http://cstg.org.uk) .  
These include:
  - (i) The National RE Leadership programme: Two Hampshire teachers; 1 primary SEND and 1 secondary, are involved in the programme in 2022/23.
  - (ii) The CTeach Scholarship programme: This is in partnership with the Chartered Teaching College to provide a scholarship programme for RE teachers across all phases. There is a pilot module for teachers with an RE focus taking place this summer term and the deadline is 24 February. The primary adviser is involved as a tutor on this

programme. The link is here [CTeach Scholarship Programme - Culham St Gabriel's \(cstg.org.uk\)](https://www.cstg.org.uk/CTeach-Scholarship-Programme).

- (iii) The National Mentoring scheme for new RE advisers: SACRE's primary adviser is involved as a mentor on this project and was previously on the steering group for this project.
  - (iv) Promotional films for RE events, such as parents' open evenings, teacher CPD and SACRE work. The link for the films is here: [Promotional film collection - Culham St Gabriel's \(cstg.org.uk\)](https://www.cstg.org.uk/Promotional-film-collection)
  - (v) Parental survey on RE: Parent's views on RE can be found here: [Parent Survey - Culham St Gabriel's \(cstg.org.uk\)](https://www.cstg.org.uk/Parent-Survey)
  - (vi) REONLINE: a significant website for teachers offering among other things support for subject knowledge enhancement: [Home - RE:ONLINE \(reonline.org.uk\)](https://www.reonline.org.uk)
6. **The National RE Hubs Project** is a new national project that aims to create a national RE website to link Local Authorities, Universities, SACREs, Museums, ITT providers, RE groups and RE advisors across England and Wales. The website will have 9 English regions and 1 for Wales. Each area will have events, regional RE news, RE blogs, job vacancies, resource centres, places of interest and school speakers and space for local groups. The project has offered free places of interest and school speaker training with dates throughout the year, which we have advertised in Hampshire among our school speakers, along with training on Living Difference IV with the primary RE adviser on **16 March at 10 am on Teams**. The Primary RE adviser is the South East lead for this project.

**Association of University Lecturers in Religious Education (AULRE)** is still leading on the matter of issues in relation to Secondary Initial Teacher Education (ITE). Recruitment for 2022/23 is considerably reduced and efforts are **ongoing** to ensure increased recruitment for 2023/24 intake. AULRE is raising awareness of this issue nationally and working with a range of groups to increase numbers on RE and ITE courses.

**National Association of SACREs (NASACRE)**. NASACRE is the national body representing and leading on SACREs interests. A regular newsletter is circulated to SACRE members through their SACRE. In addition, a series of training sessions are offered for SACRE members to attend. The NASACRE Annual Conference and AGM will be held on **22 May 2023**. SACRE members are invited to consider whether they would like to attend. Hampshire SACRE can send 2 delegates to this conference which will be held in London in 2023.

**REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Strategic Plan**

| <b>Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:</b>  | Yes             |                 |                 |      |  |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------|--|
| <b>People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:</b>   | Yes             |                 |                 |      |  |
| <b>People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:</b>   | Yes             |                 |                 |      |  |
| <b>People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:</b>  | Yes             |                 |                 |      |  |
| <p><b>Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents</b></p> <p>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.)</p> <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Document</u></th> <th><u>Location</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>None</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> |                 | <u>Document</u> | <u>Location</u> | None |  |
| <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 locally agreed syllabus for religious education 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.