

6. The conference opened with two key speakers. The first was head of RE and representative on Liverpool SACRE, from a north Liverpool comprehensive, 11-18, non-denominational LA secondary school. He spoke about the support SACRE was able to offer to his school enabling RE to be a key driver of the school's values and ethos. Thus, RE was critical to the recognition the school gave to the value of each young person for who they were, in one of the poorest areas of Liverpool. This was in addition to making new opportunities for outreach in the community and welcoming high-profile of visitors, such as Archbishop Sentamu and the Chair of the Bank of England Mark Carney, into school.

The second speaker was Professor Julian Stern from York St John University, one of the 'Churches group' of universities, traditionally strong in the training of RE teachers. Julian Stern is also chair of the International Seminar on Religious Education and Values (ISREV) and editor of the British Journal of Religious Education (BJRE). This talk was inspirational in enabling NASACRE representatives attending to think deeply about the role schools should play in the life of the child and in wider society, and the unique contribution RE brings to that.

7. There were many afternoon workshops to choose from. SACRE's representative attended a workshop considering the relationship between SACREs and NASACRE in which the NASACRE's three-year action plan was discussed. This included improving the website as well as the regular communication between NASACRE and individual SACREs. SACRE members are encouraged to read the regular briefing email from NASACRE, to share their own good practice, and be more proactive in their own SACREs in the consideration of this.
8. The AGM revealed NASACRE to be in a healthy position and that it is valued and receives respect from other RE bodies for its unique contribution to the well-being of RE in England and Wales. Thanks to the Chair, and other officers, were given for their hard work during this interesting time for Religious Education following the publishing of the Commission on RE (CoRE) report.
9. The Chair of NASACRE sits on the Religious Education Council (REC) as well as a joint group of Chairs of the various other RE bodies such as the Association of Religious Education Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants (AREIAC), the Association of University Lecturers of Religious Education (AULRE) and the National Association of Teachers of Religious Education (NATRE). In his report to NASACRE, the chair spoke of the various ways he has undertaken this.

The letter received by the Chair of NASACRE from the DfE was discussed. SACRE members attending found this encouraging and thanked the Chair of NASACRE for his representation of SACREs' concerns at the highest level.

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.)

Document

Location

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:

This intends to have a positive impact on groups with protected characteristics through enabling children and young people in Hampshire to think, speak and act in more thoughtful ways with regard to others in the community.