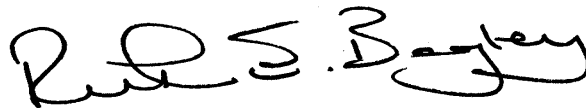


Date of issue: 25th October 2016

MEETING	STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
DATE AND TIME:	WEDNESDAY, 2ND NOVEMBER, 2016 AT 4.30 PM
VENUE:	EDEN SCHOOL, 117 WHITBY ROAD, SLOUGH SL1 3DR
DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER: (for all enquiries)	NEIL FRASER 01753 875015

NOTICE OF MEETING

You are requested to attend the above Meeting at the time and date indicated to deal with the business set out in the following agenda.



RUTH BAGLEY
Chief Executive

AGENDA

PART I

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>REPORT TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
	Apologies for absence.	
1.	Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 8th June 2016	1 - 6
2.	Matters Arising	
3.	Welcome by the Karim Mercia, Head of Eden	

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>REPORT TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
4.	SACRE Membership Update	7 - 8
5.	SACRE Member News (An update from Members regarding activities undertaken since the last SACRE meeting)	Verbal Update
6.	RE Resourcing Catalogue Update	Verbal Update
7.	Joint SACRE Meetings Update	9 - 14
8.	Update on Costed Action Plan for 2016-2017	15 - 16
9.	Crossing The Bridges Project	Verbal Update
	Please view details of the project at: www.discoveryschemeofwork.com/downloads/conference-ppt-sept-2016.pptx	
10.	SACRE Annual Report	17 - 22
11.	Member's Attendance Record	23 - 24
12.	Date of Next Meeting - TBC	

Press and Public

You are welcome to attend this meeting which is open to the press and public, as an observer. You will however be asked to leave before the Committee considers any items in the Part II agenda. Please contact the Democratic Services Officer shown above for further details.

The Council allows the filming, recording and photographing at its meetings that are open to the public. Anyone proposing to film, record or take photographs of a meeting is requested to advise the Democratic Services Officer before the start of the meeting. Filming or recording must be overt and persons filming should not move around the meeting room whilst filming nor should they obstruct proceedings or the public from viewing the meeting. The use of flash photography, additional lighting or any non hand held devices, including tripods, will not be allowed unless this has been discussed with the Democratic Services Officer.

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education – Meeting held on Wednesday, 8th June, 2016.

Present:-

Committee 1 – Christian Denominations and Other Faiths

Julie Siddiqi, Waqar Bhatti, Sue Elbrow, Ashpreet Singh Nainu, and Hardip Singh Sohal

Committee 2 – Church of England

Christine Isles, Andrea Sparrow

Committee 3 – Representatives of Teacher Associations

Lynda Bussley, Linda Lewis

Committee 4 – Representatives of the LEA

Councillors Brooker and Sarfraz

Other:-

Jo Fageant – Professional Advisor & Robin Crofts – Director of Education

Apologies for Absence:- Councillor Parmar, Zubayr Abbas-Bowkan & Rev. Andrew Allen

PART 1

1. Election of Chair & Vice Chair

It was moved by Waqar Bhatti, and seconded by Ashpreet Singh Nainu, that Julie Siddiqi be elected as Chair, and Lynda Bussley be elected as Vice Chair, for the municipal year 2016/17.

Resolved - That Julie Siddiqi be elected as Chair of SACRE for 2016/17.
That Lynda Bussley be appointed as Vice Chair of SACRE for the municipal year 2016/17.

(Ms Siddiqi in the Chair).

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting Held on 24th February 2016

Resolved - That the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 24th February 2016, be approved as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising

None.

4. SACRE Membership Update - Democratic Services

The Clerk introduced a summary of current SACRE Membership, highlighting the remaining vacancies to be filled. It was confirmed that Mr Robert Simpson had resigned from his role as member of SACRE, thereby leaving a vacancy within Committee 2 – the Church of England.

Christine Isles confirmed that potential interest had been received in respect of the Roman Catholic vacancy. Ms Isles agreed she would provide the interested party's contact details to the clerk and Ms Fageant for review.

5. SACRE Member News (An update from Members regarding activities undertaken since the last SACRE meeting) - Julie Siddiqi

Councillor Brooker confirmed that he had been named as Chairman of the Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Panel.

Jo Fageant, Professional Advisor, confirmed that the Church of England had commissioned a project to create resources for teaching about Christianity, designed to address the most recent Ofsted reports. It was hoped that in future, a similar project could be undertaken for all the major religions. The resources were being created by members of RE Today, and would be available once training had been completed (likely by the end of the Summer Term).

Julie Siddiqi highlighted this year's 'Big Iftar', being held at various sites including Coventry Cathedral. The Big Iftar is an initiative to invite people from all faiths to come and share the Iftar, a meal at a special time of day during Ramadan, when Muslims open their fast and give thanks for the food they are eating.

The question of whether children who received education at home were required to receive Religious Education was raised. It was confirmed that home schooled children must receive 'suitable' education, with no requirement to receive Religious Education specifically. It was expected that new guidance would be forthcoming within the next 12 months that may change this.

6. Open The Book - Andrea Sparrow

Andrea Sparrow updated members on the 'Open The Book' initiative.

It was confirmed that Open the Book is an initiative, created in 1999 by the Bible Society, which provides a three-year rolling programme of stories designed for weekly assemblies or collective worship, based on the Lion Storyteller Bible for children. The programme involves a small group of adults, often from a church or group of churches, committing to visit a school once per week during term time to present Bible stories. The programme has robust governance with a code of practice, volunteer and team leader role

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education - 08.06.16

descriptions and agreements, the requirement for DBS checks, initial and ongoing training provision and ongoing support.

In 2014 primary schools in the area were contacted to determine whether any would be interested in using Open the Book. Of the schools contacted, two responded - one being Lent Rise (in Burnham, South Bucks). Currently Lent Rise School has rolled out the programme to Key Stage 2, overseen by two teachers who lead on collective worship.

Starting the programme in January 2015, the team comes into the school once per week, for five weeks each half term. Feedback from Lent Rise School has so far been positive, reporting that the team that comes into the school are friendly and professional with excellent story-telling and interaction skills, as well as well-defined boundaries. As the core team is largely unchanged week-on-week, the children see familiar faces and they have become a valuable part of the wider school community. The children say they enjoy sessions very much, and look forward to them.

In addition to quality of content, the teachers appreciate that the programme needs very little forward planning on their part. Following a session, time in class is provided for discussion, questions, and for children to share their own experiences. This is seen as a key opportunity to explore similar or resonant stories from other traditions, and any connections with current events or learning across the school. Open the Book has become an important, integrated part of school life at Lent Rise, and the school would recommend the initiative.

Members thanked Ms Sparrow for the information, and were enthused about the potential for Open The Book within Slough schools. It was agreed that the clerk would forward the relevant links to all SACRE members to review.

7. RE Resourcing Catalogue Project Update - Lynda Bussley

It was confirmed that the cataloguing project had yet to be undertaken.

It was agreed that Mrs Bussley would collect the resources from St. Mary's C of E School and bring these to Mr Bhatti, who would then photograph the items. In the long-term, it was agreed that the resources would remain at St. Mary's C of E School.

8. Joint SACRE Meetings Update - Jo Fageant

Jo Fageant, Professional Advisor to Slough SACRE, updated members on the outcome of a recent Joint SACRE meeting held in May 2016.

At the meeting, the Hub and Crossing the Bridges coordinator roles were discussed, and details of hub projects were agreed, as follows:

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education - 08.06.16

Hub Coordinator role

- 9 working days, 3 days per term (April 2016-March 2017)
- 2-3 days to plan, administer and deliver the event/conference September 2016 (venue and refreshments paid for by SACREs or by funding gained through bids currently submitted)
- 3 days to plan, prepare, Chair and follow up the 3 termly meetings (first one held 18/5/16)
- 1 day to write and follow up Westhill/NASACRE bid for a 2016-17 award to enhance the Crossing the Bridges Project
- 1 day to write agreed syllabus review tool/process to bring to Hub meeting Spring term 2017
- 1-2 days as yet unallocated

Crossing the Bridges Coordinator role

- 6 working days, 2 per term (April 2016-March 2017)
- 1.5 days to prepare and deliver presentation 30/6/16 at Culham St Gabriel's Conference in Birmingham
- 0.5 day Write Crossing the Bridges Project Plan
- 1 day to manage/edit the teacher work on the Directory
- 1 day to finalise and edit the Directory
- 1 day to collate feedback from schools and hosts and write report for SACREs
- 1 day to organise publicity for project to schools, hosts etc.

Teacher time to work on Directory April 2016- March 2017

- 6 working days at £200 per day
- 5 days to work on Directory
- 1 day to collate feedback to inform project

Training

- 1 day preparation and 2 days' delivery of host/teacher training for the Crossing the Bridges Project

Total

- 9 days Hub coordinator
- 6 days Crossing the Bridges coordinator
- 3 days host/teacher training
- 18 days @ £500 = £9,000
- 6 days teacher time = £1,200
- Total for both roles/projects for the Hub: £10,200
- Total per SACRE - £1,700

At the previous meeting, Slough SACRE had agreed to contribute £1,900 towards the work of the Joint SACRE Hub. As such, the £1,700 required is

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education - 08.06.16

within the budget agreed, and the remaining £200 will be retained for Slough's SACRE budget. It was confirmed that all 6 SACREs had committed to the above projects. Each SACRE will be invoiced by Wokingham Borough Council at the end of each term.

With regard to the Places of Worship directory, it was agreed that all SACRE Members will forward details of suitable venues, including point of contact details and a risk assessment, to Jo Fageant on the appropriate forms.

9. NASACRE AGM - Verbal Update - Jo Fageant

Jo Fageant, Professional Advisor to Slough SACRE, tabled the minutes of the recent NSACARE AGM held on Tuesday 17th May 2016.

It was confirmed that there were several speakers throughout the day, covering topics such as 'Religion and Belief in British Public Life'. Members noted the minutes.

10. Humanism in Religious Education - Jo Fageant

Jo Fageant, Professional Advisor, introduced a report on the teaching of Humanism within schools, following the High Court ruling made in November 2015.

It was confirmed that in November 2015, the High Court had ruled against the Department for Education, stating that statutory RE in schools without a religious character must teach about non-religious worldviews, and that this could include the teaching of Humanism.

Since the ruling, Slough had been contacted by the British Humanist Association (BHA), who had forwarded a breakdown of the ruling and offered advice for schools on how best to incorporate humanism into their syllabus. However, it was confirmed that the guidance offered by the BHA was not wholly correct. Currently, the teaching of non religious viewpoints was optional within the current GCSE curriculum, and members were therefore directed to review the DfE guidance on the ruling.

11. SACRE Action Plan 2016/17 - Jo Fageant

Jo Fageant, Professional Advisor, introduced the new Action Plan for the work of SACRE throughout 2016-17.

Members were informed that there remained a surplus of £1,300 carried over from the previous financial year. £200 would also be available following the revision of the contribution toward the work of the Joint SACRE Hub, from £1,900 to £1,700.

The half-day session on addressing radicalisation, to be run by Zafar Ali, was still to be arranged.

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education - 08.06.16

12. Member's Attendance Record

The Member's Attendance Record was noted.

13. Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the clerk would confirm the date of the next meeting to members via email. It was requested that the meeting be held on a Wednesday, during the last week of October 2016.

Chair

(Note: The Meeting opened at 4.40 pm and closed at 6.20 pm)

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Committee 1 - Christian Denomination and other Faiths (12)

The Free Churches (1)	Sue Elbrow (until 2017)
Black Free Churches (1)	Vacancy
The Roman Catholic Church (1)	Vacancy
Hinduism (1)	Vacancy
Islam (4)	Julie Siddiqi (until 2017) Zubayr Abbas-Bowkan (until 2017) Waqar Bhatti (until 2017) Vacancy
Judaism (1)	Vacancy
Sikhism (2)	Hardip Singh Sohal (until 2017) Ashpreet Singh Nainu (until 2017)
Baha'is (1)	Vacancy

Committee 2 – The Church of England

The Church of England (4)	The Rev Andrew Allen (until 2017) Christine Isles (until 2017) Andrea Sparrow (until 2017) Vacancy
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Committee 3 - Associations representing Teachers (6)

National Union of Teachers (1)	Lynda Bussley (until 2017)
VOICE (Formerly Professional Association of Teachers) (1)	Linda Lewis (until 2017)
National Association of Head Teachers (1)	Vacancy
Secondary Heads Association (1)	Vacancy
National Association of School Masters/Union of Women Teachers (1)	Vacancy
Association of Teachers and Lecturers (1)	Vacancy

Committee 4 – Representatives of Local Authority (5)
Professional Advisor

4 Labour Members
1 Conservative Member
Jo Fageant

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SACRE Hub – Meeting Notes

Attendance: Julie Siddiqui – Slough SACRE chair
Jan Lever – Adviser to Wokingham & Reading
Catherine Jinkerson – Wokingham SACRE and teacher Directory producer
Stephen Vegh – Wokingham SACRE chair
Beth Rowland – Wokingham SACRE Vice- chair
Bernard Eggleton – West Berks SACRE vice-chair
Jo Fageant – Adviser to Slough & West Berks
Karen Butler – RBWM Vice-chair
Anne Andrews – Adviser to Bracknell Forest and RBWM
Madeline Diver – Bracknell Forest SACRE vice-chair
Zvi Solomon – Reading SACRE Chair & member of Bracknell Forest SACRE

1. Minutes from last meeting on 18th May; particularly of note is that the project was successful with the NASACRE /Westhill Award
2. Hub conference 28th September was discussed and the draft programme was shared:
 - a. 6.00 pm Introductions
6.20 pm Review of the Crossing the Bridges Project so far – using the information that was presented to the Culham St Gabriel’s Trust event on 30th June
6.30 pm Benefits of RE visits – which will also recap on good practice so far
7.00 pm Enquiry based RE – a recap on the methods of teaching promoted by the locally agreed syllabus
7.30 pm Light Supper
8.00 pm Dialogue to cross bridges – members of various faith communities to offer their response to some of the syllabus questions, followed by a Q&A session
8.45 pm Next Steps – development for the project and how people can participate
9.00 pm Evaluation and close
It is to be noted that the conference will now be a launch event for the continuing project as this was a condition of the Westhill award. Training of SACRE members will need to be organised by individual SACREs.
 - b. Members present were encouraged to contact SACRE members and schools as SACREs have agreed to pay for 4 members and with the Westhill Award each SACRE can have 6 free places for teachers. Jan has already emailed most of the schools, but as yet take-up has been slow. Places cost £35 if SACREs have more than 10 people who wish to participate
 - c. **ACTIONS:** JL to check whether invoices have been sent to SACREs for the conference; AA to circulate the questions and ask for volunteers; ZS to invite the press and arrange additional publicity

3. Crossing the Bridges Project. The revised project plan was explained in detail and as a result of the Westhill Award it is hoped that the materials can be made more generally useable and available. Particular features include the conference (see item 2) and the way that this will relaunch the project. Additionally, there is now a plan to run an on location day – visiting a variety of places of worship. With Westhill funding this can be offered free to schools. The creation of the directory, by Catherine Jinkerson has also been facilitated by the award as two additional days can now be funded. The contacts created in the directory can be used to find locations for the on location day. The directory will use the project information sheets as a way of sharing the details of the places of worship. Some amendments were suggested to the information sheets. See ACTIONS below. Catherine’s work in creating the directory will also establish contacts for the two Host training afternoons in November.
 - a. 14th November at the synagogue in Maidenhead
 - b. 17th November at the LDS in Reading

The on location day and the two afternoon sessions will allow some completed copies of the booking and feedback forms and the pupil materials to be collected. These materials will in due course be collated and available on the websites that will host the materials.

ACTIONS: AA to produce flyers for the afternoon sessions; JL to add cost (fixed/donation/no charge); directions/parking information and Post-16 provision boxes to the information forms

4. Westhill /NASACRE award – the successful application for this award has made the project more achievable and enhanced the likely success. Discussion indicated that as a result of this award we may be able to get wider recognition of the project and RE online may be approached to host the materials.
ACTIONS: AA to write a blog for RE online post conference; wider publicity to be sought by members.
5. Draft timescale for syllabus review – no proposals to start until summer next year, hopefully after the completion of the Crossing the Bridges Project and when the national situation becomes clearer.
6. Accord Inclusivity Award. After much discussion, and some unease about some of the aims of this award, the decision was taken to review it upon completion of the project
7. AOB: ZS drew attention to the possibility of hosting the Jewish Way of Life exhibition and venues are to be explored; ZS also drew attention to the latest GCSE material for Judaism:

Judaism GCSE Religious Studies – The Definitive Resource

Written by Clive Lawton and supported by the Board of Deputies of British Jews, this is a new educational resource – a guide for those teaching Judaism in GCSE Religious Studies.

Entitled, ‘Judaism GCSE Religious Studies – The Definitive Resource’, it provides an unbiased description of the diversity within the Jewish community, and highlights the issues that are of most importance. The 140-page resource is designed to be easy to use and provides information for both students and teachers. Each topic is headed by a list of

key facts, which is followed by fuller explanatory material. Vocabulary for the key facts has been carefully regulated to ensure it is easily accessible to GCSE pupils.

It is available to download and buy at a price of £9.99 (online) and £14.99 (hard copy).<http://www.bod.org.uk/judaism-gcse-religious-studies-the-definitive-resource-order-your-copy-here/order-form-for-judaism-gcse-resource/>

Date of next meeting: 10th January 4.15-6 pm at Shute End, Wokingham

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List of Attendees at SACRE Hub conference 28/9/2016

Reading

Emma Raven – RE Subject Leader Geoffrey Field Junior School Reading

Michael Freeman – Vice Chair Reading SACRE/Wokingham SACRE

Rabbi Zvi Solomons – Chair Reading SACRE

Clare Nolan – Teacher Littleheath School Reading

Pete Bennett – Teacher Littleheath School Reading

Wokingham

Stephen Vegh – Head of RE Waingels School Wokingham

Beth Rowland – Vice Chair Wokingham SACRE

Sue Cresswell – Wokingham SACRE and Head of RE at Piggott School

Emily Waddilove – Wokingham SACRE and LA Advisor

Rev Nick Hudson – Minister Wokingham Baptist Church

Rev Lisa Cornwell – Wokingham SACRE

Linda Galpin – Wokingham SACRE

Anju Sharma – Wokingham SACRE

Sukhdev Bansal - Wokingham SACRE

Lena Kulkhanjian – Bilingual Teaching Assistant Wokingham Borough Council

Michael Freeman – Wokingham/Reading SACRE

West Berks

Alice Macdonald – Asst Heateacher Hampstead Norreys Primary School

Slough

Sue Elbrow – Teacher and Slough SACRE

Hardip Singh – Slough SACRE

Karim Murcia – Teacher Eden Girls School Slough

Ashpreet Singh – Teacher and Slough SACRE

Zobia Ali – Headteacher Madni Institute Slough

Zara Illahi – Teacher Madni Institute Slough

Windsor & Maidenhead

Hillary Harris – Windsor & Maidenhead SACRE

Karen Butler – Vice Chair Windsor & Maidenhead SACRE

Rev Joan Hicks – Priest in charge Cox Green and Windsor & Maiden head SACRE

Saghir Ahmed – General Secretary Maidenhead Mosque

Jeanette Emanuelson – Teacher/RE Co-ordinator Oldfield Primary School Maidenhead

Bracknell Forest

Madeline Diver – Vice Chair Bracknell Forest SACRE

Tracey Williams – Associate Vicar All Souls Church, Schools Chaplain LVS Ascot, and Bracknell Forest SACRE

Update on costed action plan for 2016-2017

Funds available:

£5,000 is the SACRE budget

£1,300 is the money from the closure of the SRSC and can be carried forward.

Costs set out below are estimated costs only.

Activity	Cost	
Meetings on 12/4 to plan year's activity	£100	✓
3 termly twilight RE subject leaders meetings – mainly primary focused	£660	On target
Research GCSE spec used in all sec schools and circulate information to all	£100	No response
2 members to attend NASACRE AGM @£90 each + travel costs	Approx. £270	
NASACRE membership	£100	
3 newsletters (printed)	£1000	Behind target
Joint SACREs coordinated initiative (1/6 of the costs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference ✓ • Coordinator ✓ • Directory • Crossing the Bridges project • Annual training of hosts ✓ 	£1900	On target: Conference done Coordinator appointed Hosts training in November
½ day training session on collective worship (2-5pm at Beechwood?)	self-funding	Sp
½ day session (repeat of something already run for others around radicalisation) autumn term	£600 is it still there from last year	In negotiation
Cataloguing the resources	£400	
Expenses for members contributing to syllabus review	£100	
Preparation of the Annual SACRE Report	£450	✓
Estimated total	£5680	

Adviser costs according to the agreed contract:

Year 3: £450 per day (2016-2017)

The hub was successful in securing a grant of £4000 to support its work. This money subsidised the conference that occurred in September.

Hub meetings are now happening in the first half of each long term. The next in January.

A teacher from Wokingham has been appointed to work on the directory of places of worship and possible speakers.

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Annual SACRE Report

2015-2016

What is a SACRE?

The Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education has several aspects to its role. It:

- Advises the local authority on matters relating to collective worship and religious education
- Advises on methods of teaching and resources for religious education
- Decides whether or not to grant determinations to those schools which apply to have daily worship which is other than of a broadly Christian character
- Identifies the need for a revised religious education syllabus

To help with this endeavour the Slough SACRE works with NASACRE (the National Association of SACREs). It has also joined with five other neighbouring SACREs to form a hub in order to undertake more significant projects than it could manage alone.

This report sets out a brief summary of the work of the Slough SACRE over the academic year 2015-2016. The minutes of the meetings which give more detail can be found at [http://www.slough.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/standing-advisory-council-for-religious-education-\(sacre\).aspx](http://www.slough.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/standing-advisory-council-for-religious-education-(sacre).aspx)

The make up and terms of reference can be found at the same address.

For more information about the role and business of the SACRE please contact:

The Clerk: Neil Fraser Neil.Fraser@slough.gov.uk

Adviser: Jo Fageant jefconsultancy@hotmail.co.uk

The Slough SACRE

Julie Siddiqi and Lynda Bussley continued during the academic year of this report to serve as Chair and Vice Chair respectively. They were both re-elected at the first meeting of the municipal year in June. Members expressed appreciation of their work and commitment and the continuity this provides for the SACRE

The SACRE was pleased to welcome Mr Rob Simpson to the autumn meeting as a new Church of England representative. Unfortunately during the summer term he took up a new job elsewhere and had to resign his membership. The number and nature of vacancies continues to cause concern.

Three meetings were held during the year: 12 October, 24 February and 8 June. At the start of the financial year subcommittee was established to plan the work of the SACRE for the financial year 2015-2017 with the initial plan including the following elements:

- 3 termly twilight meetings for leaders of RE in primary schools
- Research and share information about GCSE specifications used in Slough schools
- NASACRE membership
- 2 members of the SACRE to attend the NASACRE AGM
- SACRE newsletter to be published 3 times during the year
- One sixth of the cost of the coordinated working with five other SACREs in a subsidized hub initiative
- A training session on collective worship which was carried over from last year
- A training session on combatting radicalization, carried over from last year
- Preparation of the Annual SACRE report

This plan was costed and enabled regular review.

Members take seriously their responsibility to keep up to date with developments in religious education. As a consequence, following the publication of the report entitled *A New Settlement: Religion and Belief in Schools* a sub-committee was formed to consider its implications in detail and formally respond to NASACRE's invitation to do so. The response contained positive points as well as questions and challenging comments. Members received a report on the high court ruling about the new GCSE specifications together with the response of the British Humanist Association and counter interpretations. It was agreed in discussion that the implications of these ideas might need to be considered when the Pan-Berkshire RE syllabus is reviewed starting in 2017.

The SACRE was also alerted to the publication of the *Understanding Christianity* project in May 2016. This is major resource for teaching about Christianity in Key Stages 1-3 and training is likely to be available within the area. Sikh members, in particular, expressed interest in learning more about the project to see if comparable resources about Sikhism might be possible for the future.

Jo Fageant attended the autumn term conference of the South East England Faith Forum. Councillor Brooker visited the Eden Muslim Girls School. Sue Elbrow attended, with the Chair, a 'Cup of Tea' event, hosted in the home of a Muslim family, designed to break down barriers between different groups of people. All these initiatives were reported to and discussed by SACRE members.

Resources

Following the closure of Slough Religious Studies Resource Centre many resources have been stored at St Mary's CE Primary School and are available for loan to other Slough schools. However, many are unaware of what the collection comprises. Work on photographing, cataloguing and publishing this information started during but will continue during the next academic year.

Updating the SACRE section of the Slough Borough Council website, however, made better progress. It is now easier to find information about the SACRE and its work: [http://www.slough.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/standing-advisory-council-for-religious-education-\(sacre\).aspx](http://www.slough.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/standing-advisory-council-for-religious-education-(sacre).aspx) Members continue to be very grateful to the Clerk for his ongoing work on this.

The SACRE agreed to continue to fund the hard copy publication to all schools of a newsletter three times a year.

Partnership working

Jo Fageant attended the NASACRE AGM in May. Once again this was a very beneficial experience of meeting with members of other SACREs throughout the country. Baroness Butler-Sloss was the keynote speaker and spoke about the report *Living with Difference: community, diversity and the common good*

<https://corablivingwithdifference.files.wordpress.com/2015/12/living-with-difference-online.pdf>)

There was lively debate in the room about this with several members reporting that SACREs and teachers of RE had for years been addressing some of the issues raised in the report. A full report of the AGM was provided to members at the June meeting.

This year saw enormous progress made with the plan for the six 'Berkshire' SACREs to work in partnership. This cooperative working started in the previous year with the development of the 'Crossing the Bridges' project which had received a £2000 grant from the Culham St Gabriel's Trust. The project focused on ways of enriching schools' engagement with faith communities through visiting places of worship and inviting speakers into RE lessons. Subsequently, discussions took place about the merits of formalizing the joint working. It was agreed that this would enable a continuation of the 'Crossing the Bridges' project as well as preparing for the syllabus review required to start in the summer of 2017. Meetings of the Chairs of the SACREs along with the professional advisers were scheduled and a business plan explored to include the appointment of a hub coordinator. When it was costed it was shared with all six SACREs and Slough, along with all the other five, agreed to fund the formalized hub agreement. A grant of £4000 was also secured from the Westhill Awards programme administered by NASACRE. This enabled the appointment of a teacher to work on the compilation of a directory of participating places of worship, a subsidized conference to be held in September 2016 and training days in November 2016 of people who host visits to places of worship. To assist the coordinated working of all six SACREs it was agreed that hub meetings would take place three times a year in the first half of each term and SACRE meetings would take place in the first two weeks after the mid-term break in each term.

Collective Worship

It has not been necessary to renew any determinations during this year. Training to include the legal requirements for collective worship and a range of stimulating ways for its delivery is included in the plan for the year 2016-2017. To develop their own understanding of the support available for collective worship, members received a report on the *Open the Book* initiative that some local churches are involved in and has been well received at Lent Rise School.

Not yet updated

**Membership of Slough Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education
2015-2016**

Representing	Member	Meetings attended
Group A	Christian denominations and other religions	
Free churches	Sue Elbrow	/3
Black Free Churches	Vacancy	
The Roman Catholic Church	Vacancy	
Baha'i	Vacancy	
Hinduism	Naresh Saraswat	/3
Islam	Julie Siddiqi	/3
	Zubayr Abbas Bowkan	/3
	Waqar Bhatti	/2
	Vacancy	
Judaism	Vacancy	
Sikhism	Hardip Singh Sohal	/3
	Ashpreet Singh Nainu	/3
Group B	The Church of England	
	Rev Andrew Allen	/3
	Christine Isles	/3
	Andrea Sparrow	/3
Group C	Associations representing teachers	
ASCL	Vacancy	
ATL	Vacancy	
NAHT	Vacancy	
NAS/UWT	Vacancy	
NUT	Lynda Bussley	/3
VOICE	Linda Lewis	/3
Group D	The Local Authority	
	Cllr Ajaib	/2
	Cllr Brooker	/3
	Cllr Cheema	/2
	Cllr Dhaliwal	/1
	Cllr Rana	/3
	Cllr Zarait	/1
Clerk	Neil Fraser	3/3
Professional Adviser	Jo Fageant	3/3
Officer	Robin Crofts	3/3

Also in attendance

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MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE RECORD 2016/17
SACRE

Member	Representing	08.06.16	02.11.16	TBC
Sue Elbrow	The Free Churches	P		
Julie Siddiqi	Islam	P		
Zubayr Abbas-Bowkan	Islam	Ap		
Waqar Bhatti	Islam	P		
Hardip Singh Sohal	Sikhism	P		
Ashpreet Singh Nainu	Sikhism	P		
The Rev Andrew Allen	The Church of England	Ap		
Christine Isles	The Church of England	P		
Andrea Sparrow	The Church of England	P		
Lynda Bussley	National Union of Teachers	P		
Linda Lewis	VOICE	P		
Jo Fageant	Professional Advisor	P		
Cllr Brooker	Slough Borough Council	P		
Cllr Bedi	Slough Borough Council	N/A		
Cllr Parmar	Slough Borough Council	Ap		
Cllr Sarfraz	Slough Borough Council	P		

P = Present for whole meeting
Ap = Apologies given

P* = Present for part of meeting
Ab = Absent, no apologies given

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