



DARLINGTON

Borough Council

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) Agenda

4.30 pm

Monday, 21 March 2022

Council Chamber, Town Hall, Darlington. DL1 5QT

Members of the Public are welcome to attend this Meeting.

1. Attendance at Meeting
2. Declarations of Interest
3. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of SACRE held on 22 November 2021 (Pages 3 - 4)
4. Appointment to Vacant Positions –
Report of the Director of Operations
(Pages 5 - 6)
5. Date and Time of Next Meeting. –
Monday 11 July 2022 commencing at 4.00 p.m.
6. Questions



Luke Swinhoe
Assistant Director Law and Governance

Friday, 11 March 2022

**Town Hall,
Darlington.**

Membership

Jenny Uzzell, Group A Paganism
Martin Stand, Group B Church of England
Dr MA Quader, Group A The Islamic Society of Darlington
Helen Ellis, Group A The Roman Catholic Church
M Calderon, Group A The Religious Society of Friends
Rev Thompson, Group A Darlington Baptist Church
B Singh, Group A Sikhism
Bess Robertson, Group A Darlington Hebrew Congregation (Judaism)
Gen Chogma, Group A Buddhism
Meg Thomson, Group A Darlington United Reformed Church
Dr Kumari, Group A Hinduism
Emma Walden, Group A Methodist Circuit
Rev Paul Baker, Group B Church of England
Beth Miller, Group B Church of England
Councillor C L B Hughes
Councillor Crudass
Councillor Curry
Councillor Renton
Fiona Rankin, Group C The National Association of School Teacher/Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT)
Stuart Rawle, Group C National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT)

Co-opted Members:

M Fryer, Co-opted Member of SACRE
Jan Mole, Co-opted Member of SACRE

If you need this information in a different language or format or you have any other queries on this agenda please contact Allison Hill, Democratic Officer, Operations Group, during normal office hours 8.30 a.m. to 4.45 p.m. Mondays to Thursdays and 8.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m. Fridays email: Allison.hill@darlington.gov.uk or Tel 01325 405997

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)
COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, DARLINGTON. DL1 5QT
MONDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2021**

PRESENT –

Jenny Uzzell (Group A Paganism), Dr Kumari (Group A Hinduism), Rev Paul Baker (Group B Church of England), Councillor C L B Hughes, Councillor Curry and Fiona Rankin (Group C The National Association of School Teacher/Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT))

Co-opted Members – Jan Mole (Co-opted Member of SACRE)

Officers – Allison Hill (Democratic Officer)

APOLOGIES – Kelsang Dragden (Group A Buddhism), Dr MA Quader (Group A The Islamic Society of Darlington), Morvyn Sanderson (Group A The Methodist Church), Bess Robertson (Group A Darlington Hebrew Congregation (Judaism)), Meg Thomson (Group A Darlington United Reformed Church), Councillor Clarke and M Fryer (Co-opted Member of SACRE)

111 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

112 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SACRE HELD ON 8 FEBRUARY 2021

Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this SACRE held on 8 February 2021.

IT WAS AGREED – That the Minutes be approved as a correct record.

113 SACRE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/20

The Group Director of People submitted a report (previously circulated) to present for consideration the Annual Report of this SACRE for the academic year 2019-2020.

Following approval by Members the Annual Report is to be submitted to the National Association of Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education (NASACRE) and the Department for Education (DfE).

IT WAS AGREED – That the Annual Report for the academic year 2019-2020 be approved and forwarded to NASACRE and the DfE.

114 2020 DFE SCHOOL WORKFORCE CENSUS

Submitted – analysis of the 2020 Department for Education (DfE) School Workforce Census (previously circulated) reported by schools to the DfE as part of the school census in November 2020.

Members discussed the analysis of the questionnaire and noted that generally in schools RE Teachers were confident when teaching the subject; 50 per cent of schools were averagely resources and 42 per cent well resources; and only one school did not have more than one teacher teaching RE in their school.

It was also noted that there had been positive results in exam uptake.

IT WAS AGREED – That the results of the 2020 DfE School Workforce Census be noted.

115 SCHOOLS QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE LOCALLY AGREED SYLLABUS - PRIMARY AND SECONDARY

Submitted – Updated Survey Monkey results of the questionnaire circulated to all schools regarding use of the Darlington Locally Agreed Syllabus (previously circulated) which was submitted to the meeting of SACRE held on 5 July 2021 which was inquorate.

The results of the questionnaire showed that 73.91 per cent of schools who answered currently use the Syllabus however 69.57 per cent expressed an opinion that the syllabus needed to be changed, confirming the decision to review the current Locally Agreed Syllabus in Darlington.

It was noted that 43.48 per cent of those schools that answered felt that the current Syllabus did not reflect the history of faith in our local community, in particular Darlington communities such as the Quakers. Members agreed that Agreed Syllabus Conference review of the Syllabus take this into consideration with the suggestion of a specific work unit included on Quakerism.

IT WAS AGREED – That the results of the questionnaire be noted.

116 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING.

IT WAS AGREED – That the next meeting be held on 21 March 2022 commencing at 4.30 p.m. to maximise attendance.

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
21 MARCH 2022**

**MEMBERSHIP OF THE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)
– APPOINTMENT TO VACANT POSITION**

Matter for Consideration

1. To advise Members of the appointments of a representative of Buddhism and the Darlington Methodist Church - (Group A) Other Religious Faiths.

Vacant positions on SACRE

2. Kelsang Dragden submitted his resignation as the Buddhism representative on 15 December 2021 and proposed Gen Kelsang Chogma, the Resident Teacher at the Atisha Kadampa Meditation Centre to fill his vacancy.
3. Gen Chogma has confirmed that she was willing to take up this role and represent Buddhism on this SACRE.
4. Morvyn Sanderson, Darlington Methodist Church has also submitted her resignation and proposed her replacement as the representative of the Darlington Methodist Church and Emma Walden has confirmed her willingness to fill this vacancy.
5. The local authority has taken all reasonable steps to assure themselves that Gen Chogma and Emma Walden are appropriate representatives of Buddhism and the Methodist Church respectively.

Recommendation

That Members of this SACRE note the appointment of Gen Chogma as the named representative of the Buddhist faith and Emma Walden as the named representative of the Darlington Methodist Church and that membership be for a period of four years.

**Elizabeth Davison
Group Director of Operations**

Background Papers

No Background papers were used in the compilation of this report.
Allison Hill : Extension 5997

