

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST
STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)
HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2018 AT 7 PM
AT WALTHAM FOREST TOWN HALL**

Present:

Ted Cooke (TC)	Chair	Member Group B
PC Steven MacDonald (SMcD)		Co-opted Member
Wendy Smith (WS)		Co-opted Member
Tara Khare (TK)		Member Group A
Keith Pilling (KP)		Member Group A
Mike Stygal (MS)		Member Group A
Jeannette Waller (JW)		Member Group B
Peter Dawe (PD)		Member Group C
Heather Soars (HS)		Member Group C
Rukhsana Yaqoob (RY)		Member Group C
Shameen Highfield (SH)		Member Group D
Ruth Kaufman (RK)		Member Group D
David Kilgallon (DK)		LBWF Head of School Improvement Group D
Darra McFadyen (DMcF)		LBWF School Effectiveness Advisor Group

David Rees (DR)

Clerk to the SACRE:

Summary of agreements and actions:

Minute reference <i>(italicized references are to November meeting minutes)</i>	Formal agreements and/or actions identified	Named person(s) for action(s) identified	Completion date
2.1.1	Amend spelling of Cllr Shameen Highfield's name on all documents including attendance sheet.	Gov. Services	Immediate
2.2/ 2.2.1	Develop contact with Newham SACRE	Chair/RK	For 21 March meeting
2.2 / 3.2.2	Contact RC Bishop of Brentwood about representation on SACRE.	Chair	For 21 March meeting
2.2/ 3.2.4	Pursue contact with possible Sikh representative on SACRE.	Chair	For 21 March meeting
2.2/ 3.3.1	Contact teachers regarding membership and attendance at SACRE	Gov. Services	Immediate
5	Contact members and agree dates for ASC	Gov. Services	Immediate
6.1	Identify suitable SACRE meeting date for anti-terrorism presentation	Chair/ Gov. Services	For 21 March meeting

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed all those present to the meeting.
- 1.2 Introductions were made.
- 1.2 Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Douglas Williams, Rev. Femi Cole-Njie, Fr Neil Walsh, Fr Alex Summers, Cllr Richard Sweden, Cllr Paul Braham.

- 1.3 The Chair welcomed Wendy Smith, chair of the Faith Committee Forum, onto the SACRE as a co-opted non-voting member.
- 1.4 The meeting was quorate there being a member from each of the four representative groups present.

2. MINUTES

2.1 Accuracy

- 2.1.1 para. 1.2. SH asked that her name be spelt thus "Shameen" not as on the Attendance Sheet.

ACTION Governor Services

- 2.1.2 para. 5.4 RK asked that wording should be revised as follows,

RK referred to the syllabus content with respect to religious and non-religious world views: a High Court ruling in 2015 had implications for the amount of non-religious content included, although this had not yet been accepted by government. RK promised to resend information about this.

- 2.1.4 and said that a copy of the relevant legal advice had been sent Chair and to DMcF. With these amendments Governors received the minutes of the SACRE meeting held on 11 November 2017 and agreed these to be an accurate record of the meeting. The Chair signed a copy of the minutes and these were retained by the Clerk.

2.2 Actions from 11 November meeting (*italicised paragraph references are to November meeting minutes*)

2.2.1. Contact with Newham SACRE now achieved through RK.

ACTION Chair/RK

3.2.2. No response from secretary to RC Bishop of Brentwood; next step is to contact the Bishop personally.

ACTION Chair

3.2.4. No contact with Sikh rep. but there is a possible alternative contact.

ACTION Chair

3.3.1. Governor Services will speak to teachers on 25 January at a meeting which teachers will attend at WFTH.

ACTION Governor Services

3.3.2. Wendy Smith has been contacted and is present at this meeting.

4.2.1. Annual report figures have been updated.

4.2.2. Review Advice to Schools; see Item 4 below.

4.2.3. Explanations have been added to the Annual Report.

5. See item 5 below.

6.1. The Chair has responded to CORE interim report, strongly supporting the effectiveness of SACRE in promoting social and faith cohesiveness and defending agreed local syllabuses.

6.3. The Chair encouraged as many people as possible to attend Holocaust Memorial Day event at WFTH 2pm on Sunday 28 January 2018.

3. SACRE membership vacancies

- 3.1 See ACTIONS at 2.2 above.

4. Review, update and publish key advice

- 4.1 DMcF said the aim is to place updated advice on the Hub by the end of Spring term.
- 4.2 Advice on national and international events will be included.
- 4.3 More concise documents resulting from the Agreed Syllabus Conference will constitute new advice, old advice will remain available as guidance.
- 4.4 After discussion with teachers, key advice will be brought back to SACRE.

- 4.5 Ramadan advice was discussed; it was agreed that there are a number of good sources, including the current WF document; ACL advice should also be consulted.
- 4.6 It was noted that although LA schools must follow advice, there is no instruction to academies to follow advice, though some academies do follow it.

5 Agreed Syllabus Conference updates and event planning

Two half-days during the next half-term, and 1 day during the summer term are being planned. Dates are to be discussed and decided in the next few days.

ACTION Governor Services

6 Any Other Business

- 6.1 SMcD asked the approval of SACRE to receiving a presentation on the history of Islamic and right-wing groups. The presentation has been developed under the aegis of Project Griffin by the City and Metropolitan Police, with the goal of bringing together government agencies in deterring terrorist and extremist activity. It was agreed to place this presentation of about 1 hour length on the agenda of a suitable future meeting, probably later in the year.

AGENDA ITEM

- 6.2 SMcD reported on the trial on charges of preparing terrorist acts at the Old Bailey of an ex-teacher of Lantern School, an all-male muslim school. The trial is public so there is concern about the possibility of extremist and/or media attention on the school and its pupils.

7 Next Meeting

7.1 Next meeting Wednesday 21 March 2018 at 7pm at WF Town Hall.

7.2 AGM date is Wednesday 10 October 2018.

7.3 Agenda Items

- Identify suitable SACRE meeting date for anti-terrorism presentation.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm

Chair: (print)

..... (sign)

Date:

Chair's Initials:
