

# **NOTES OF AN INQUORATE MEETING OF HARINGEY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) 30 June 2005**

## **Group A: Christian Denominations and other Faiths represented in Haringey:**

Mr B. Haylock (Salvation Army FCFC), \*Ms S. Berkery-Smith (Diocese of Westminster (RC),

\*Mr M. Ibrahim (Muslim Educational Trust), Mr Alli (North London Islamic Cultural Society), Rabbi D Lister (Board of Deputies of British Jews), Mr Barnabas Mishi (Greek Orthodox), \*Ms B. Parsons (Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai's), Vacancy (North London Buddhist Centre), \*Mr K Ranganathan (Hindu (Shiva) Temple Trust), Vacancy (United Reformed Church), \*Rev. R. Allaway (Baptist Churches), Vacancy (Quaker), Ms M Huntley (Methodist Vacancy (Seventh Day Adventists), Peter Adeniyi (Pentecostal Churches)

## **Group B: Church of England:**

Mr E. Griffith, Mrs J. Jamieson, Mr G Mariner, two vacancies

## **Group C: Professional Associations:**

Ms N. Parmar (NUT), \*Mr N. Bradley (HTA) Ms J. Arrowsmith (NUT) \*Ms J Stonhold (NUT), Mr A Yarrow (SHA), Ms Aurelie Bivigou (NUT), Ms Brumi \*Otobushin (NASUWT) vacancies (NAHT).

## **Group D: Local Education Authority Group:**

Cllr Haley, Cllr Aitken, Rabbi D. Lister, \*Jennifer James, Livinius Emmanuel Onyearugbulem,

## **Co-opted Non-Voting Member:**

\*Mr N. Bacrac (British Humanist Association); Mr P Dighton (Jehovah's Witness)

Also Present: Denise Chaplin (R.E. Consultant)

## **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from:

Mr A Yarrow  
Rabbi D Lister  
Mr P Dighton  
Cllr B Haley  
Cllr E Griffith  
Ms J Arrowsmith  
Mr G Mariner

The Clerk to SACRE advised members that Ms Rosemary Dinnage, the Quaker representative, had sadly passed away. A sympathy card was signed by members to send to her family.

**2. ELECTION OF CHAIR OF HARINGEY SACRE FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2005/6.**

The Clerk to SACRE advised members that following legal advice and consultation with the Chief Whip it had been agreed that it was acceptable for Cllr Eddie Griffith to continue as Chair of SACRE for 2005/06, despite his election as Mayor of Haringey. As the meeting was inquorate, the election of the new chair could not take place so Mr Nick Bradley, the current Vice Chair, agreed to Chair this inquorate meeting. Members were advised that the election of Chair would take place at the meeting on 29 September 2005. Members were asked to ensure a quorum at this meeting and to advise the Clerk to SACRE if they have difficulty attending.

**3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING 12 APRIL 2005**

The minutes were agreed by the members present and signed by the Chair but would require a further signature by the elected Chair at the meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> September.

**4. SUPPORTING SCHOOLS IN MEETING THE NEEDS OF FAITH COMMUNITIES IN HARINGEY SCHOOLS – A presentation by Leon Joseph, Equalities and Diversity Division, LB Haringey (report attached)**

Leon Joseph advised SACRE members that the final version of this document would be on the Council's Web pages and the London Grid for learning. Members would have the opportunity to see this as a powerpoint slide show, setting out how the document will look live on the web, at the meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> September. The final version would include input from the Seventh Day Adventists and a section on faith in sex education. Leon would email the latest version to the Clerk to SACRE, ahead of the next meeting, so that members would have opportunity to proof read their relevant sections. A launch was planned for October and SACRE members and the Haringey Executive member for Children and Young People were invited to participate.

Leon answered members questions about the site being available in other languages and the inclusion of the Plymouth Brethren was discussed. Rev Allaway advised that he had a contact in this faith group and would provide the Clerk with details.

**5. MEMBERSHIP UPDATE – Clerk to SACRE**

The Clerk advised members that Rabbi Lister had now replaced Rabbi Baaden and would write to thank him for his past contributions to SACRE. Members also welcomed Brumi Otobushin from Highgate Woods School as an NASUWT representative.

**6. FINALISING THE DRAFT SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2005/06 – Denise Chaplin, RE Adviser to SACRE.**

This report had been slightly modified in response to the SACRE self-evaluation tool. As this meeting was inquorate a decision could not be taken on it but there was discussion about its inclusion in the induction pack for new SACRE members. The Chair commented that he'd had positive feedback from colleagues about the agreed syllabus. The RE adviser to SACRE advised that, according to the Non Statutory National Framework, the agreed syllabus should be monitored and reviewed by Year 5; we were currently in year 4. She therefore advised that this item be considered on the agenda for the meeting on 29th September.

**7. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2005-06 – Jennifer James, School Improvement and Inclusion Division, LB Haringey**

Members were advised that, with effect from 1 April 2005, Education was part of the Childrens' Service. The Directorate of Children's Services covered Education, Social Services, Health and Social Care and other external agencies. The Plan required LA's to focus on 5 key outcomes for children in that they should :

- Be Safe,
- Be Healthy,
- Enjoy Education,
- Enjoy Economic Wellbeing
- Contribute to Society.

More detail was available on page 6 of the report.

Jennifer James advised members that the plan set out next year's work for the service. It focussed on the most vulnerable groups to ensure that all agencies worked together. For example, a child at risk could potentially be in contact with up to 20 different agencies; the plan proposed a multi-agency approach. More details were available on pages 6 and 7 of the report, with page 7 covering faith communities and other cultures. Page 46 of the report set out SACRE's contribution, with the Development Plan objectives at the bottom of this page. The plan would be reported twice yearly to the Haringey Stakeholder Group.

There was discussion about creating a distinction across the curriculum between PSHE and Citizenship. The RE Adviser agreed to revise this wording and forward it to Jennifer James. Members were asked to send any further suggested amendments by email to Jennifer James.

**8. DFES PROPOSAL TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON PUPILS' FAITHS IN THE NEW SCHOOL CENSUS – Denise Chaplin**

The RE Adviser to SACRE had asked to bring this item to the meeting to gauge members' opinions on it. Members were advised that the data collection had been proposed to identify discrimination and under-performance in certain faiths and to comply with the requirements of the Race Relations Act 2000. It had been subject to recent debates in parliament and LEA's had been invited to send combined responses to the DFES. Members were advised that schools were already required to collect data on ethnicity. There was discussion and general agreement that the list, as set out in Model Form F3, was not a fair representation of the faith groups and members questioned why the list had been split in this way? There was also concern about potential inappropriate use of the data and whether it was being gathered on a 'need to know basis' or 'big brother'. At this point a joint response from SACRE was not proposed but members were encouraged to respond on an individual basis and asked to note the deadline of 9 August as set out in the report.

**9. COLLECTIVE WORSHIP – Presentation by Denise Chaplin**

The RE Adviser to SACRE brought this item to the meeting at the request of members to dispel some of the myths surrounding collective worship and to outline its main objectives. The main emphasis was that collective worship should be of Christian character, NOT content with due consideration of the diversity of cultures in families. It could be held at any time of the day and did not have to be on school premises. Parents had the right to withdraw children from collective worship and teachers could also withdraw from it. SACRE members' attention was particularly drawn to the 2<sup>nd</sup> from last slide '*Collective Worship is, therefore, a means whereby the school community comes together in order to celebrate and reflect upon those values that it considers important to promote, it is not Assembly*'. Members thanked Denise Chaplin for this presentation and it was agreed that it would be a useful inclusion in the induction pack for new SACRE members.

**10. HARINGEY SACRE SUMMER NEWSLETTER - Denise Chaplin**

Members were advised that this item would go live on the web pages during the following week. Nick Bradley offered to align page 2 more clearly and Denise Chaplin agreed to email this section to him. There was a general discussion about references to inspirational leaders being rather limited and it was suggested that future newsletters could

include leaders of more local significance such as Dr Barnardos, for example, who was baptised at the Quaker House in Tottenham.

**11. CONSULTATION ON TERM DATES 2006/7 – Jennifer James**

This item had already been agreed but was on the agenda for members' opinions and as a discussion forum for setting dates in future years. Certain examples were discussed, ie. that it could be difficult to set dates for religious festivals such as Ede, the criteria for religious holiday leave for pupils, paid staff entitlement and use of 'occasional days' etc. Comments of SACRE members were noted by Jennifer James.

**12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Members were advised of the PCFRE Conference on 27<sup>th</sup> September and every SACRE was entitled to send 2 members. Anyone wishing to take a place should advise the Clerk to SACRE by 14<sup>th</sup> July at latest.
- It was agreed that the next SACRE agenda would be page numbered so that the reports were easier to navigate during the meeting.
- Rev Allaway would ask Brendon Munroe of Pray Haringey to give a presentation at the meeting on 29th September.

**13. DATE OF NEXT METING**

Dates of future meetings  
29 September 2005 (possibly at Fortismere School)  
15 December 2005  
23 March 2006

**USEFUL CONTACTS**

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Signed

*Jenny Stahld*

CHAIR OF SACRE

*JENNY STONHOLD*

DATE

*29.9.05*