

North Yorkshire County Council  
Children and Young People's Service  
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education  
**SACRE meeting Thursday 8 November 2018**  
**The Grand, County Hall, Northallerton DL7 8AD**  
**2.00 pm – 4.00 pm for Meeting**

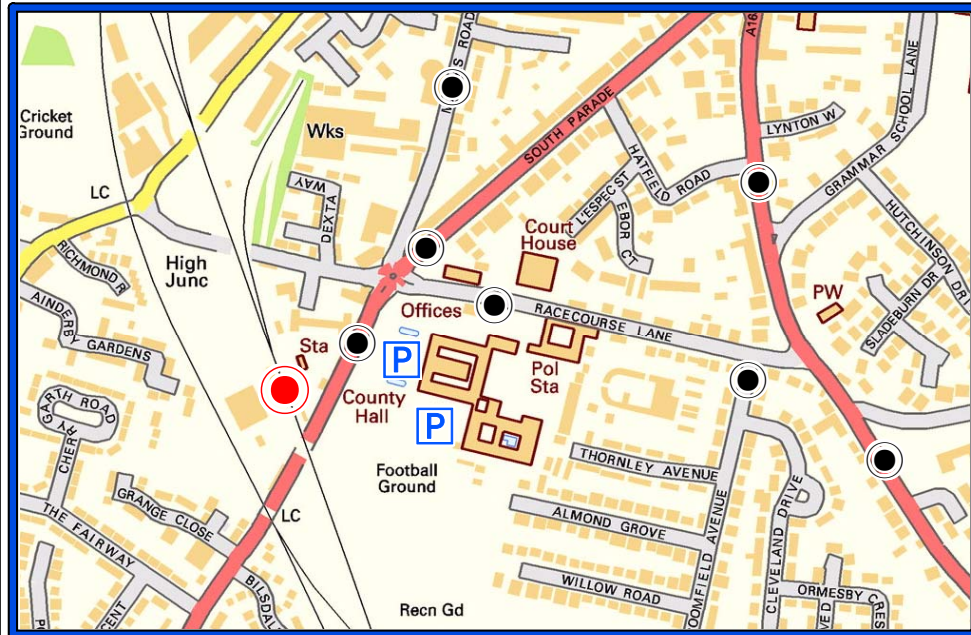
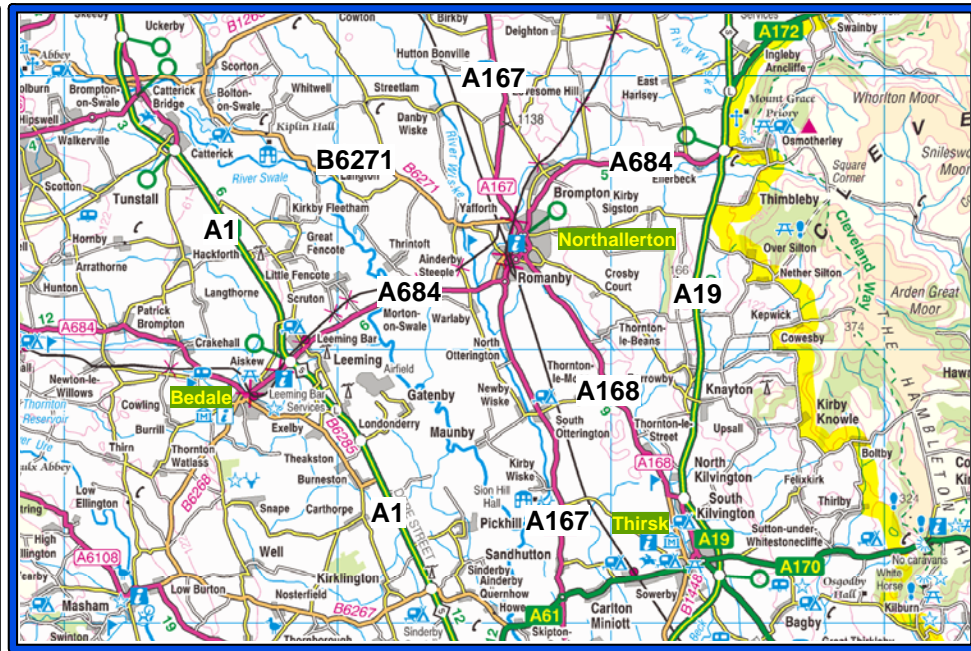
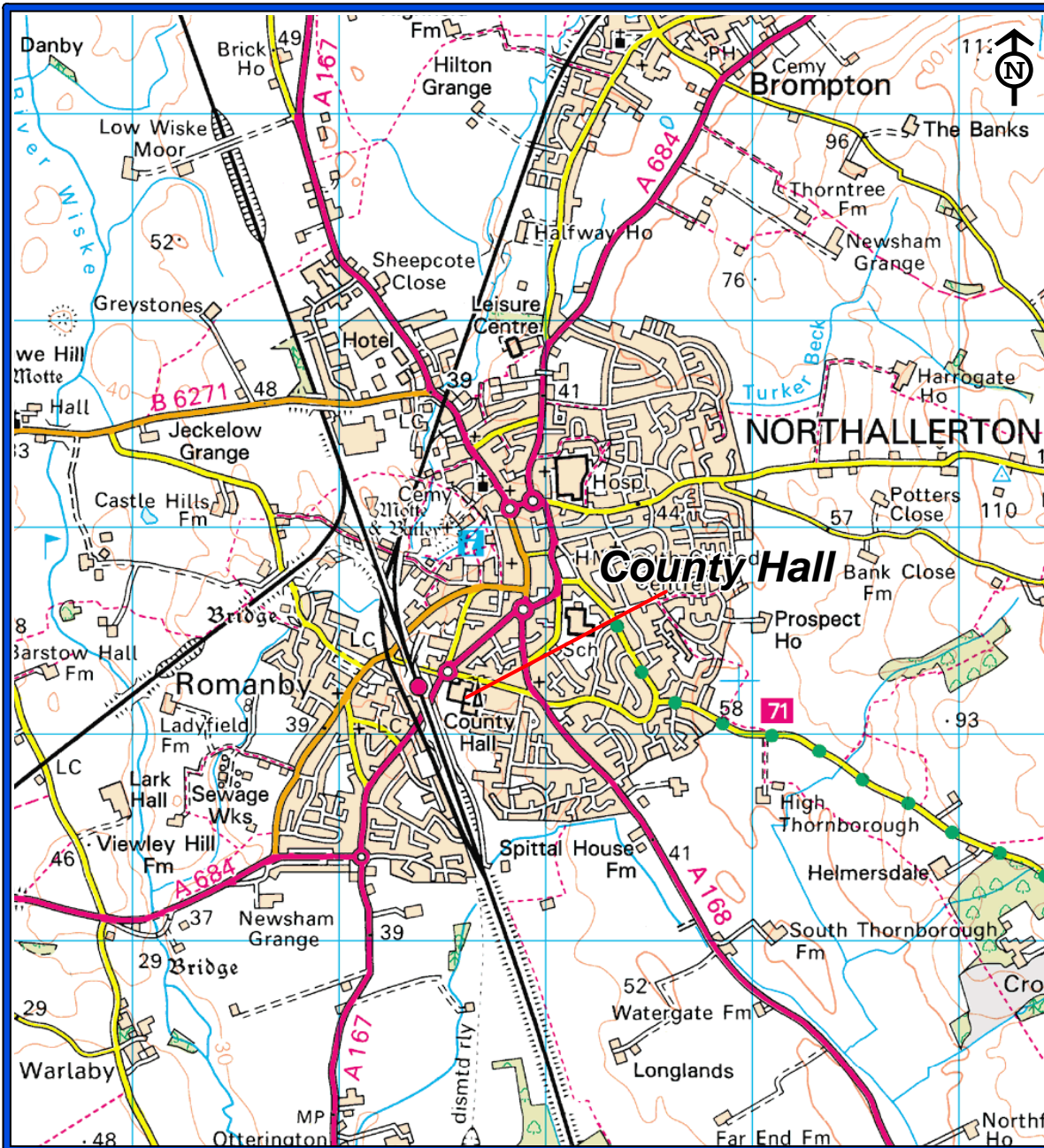
Agenda

1. Election of a Chairman
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2018 - Chairman
4. Humanist Representation on SACRE – voting by the 4 groups – Chairman/Clerk
5. Review of SACRE's terms and conditions and constitution – Chairman/Clerk
6. The Commission for RE Report – discussion. What is North Yorkshire SACRE's response? – Olivia Seymour to lead
7. Religious Studies examination outcomes – Rebecca Swift
8. Agreed Syllabus Review – Rebecca Swift
9. Correspondence - Chairman
10. Any Other Business
11. Date and time of next meeting

Barry Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
11 June 2018

## Membership of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

<b><u>Membership</u></b>	
<p>County Councillor Jim Clark County Councillor Robert Heseltine County Councillor Andrew Lee County Councillor Patrick Mulligan County Councillor Annabel Wilkinson</p>	
<p>Mrs B Belsham Revd S Bennett Mrs Mrs S Beveridge Mr Robert Brownlow</p>	<p>Methodist Church of England Teacher The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Sikh Society of Friends Muslim Church of England Teacher Catholic Teacher Jewish Baptist Church of England Church of England Buddhist Salvationist Hindu Church of England</p>
<p>Mr Mohinder Singh Chana Vacancy Mr N M Emam Mrs M Gibson Vacancy Vacancy Mrs R Oates Dr Neville Packter Mrs H Sellars Mrs O Seymour Vacancy Mrs C Taylor Vacancy Vacancy Vacancy</p>	
<b><u>Co-opted Members</u></b>	
<p>Professor J Adams</p>	<p>Humanist</p>
<b><u>Officers</u></b>	
<p>Rebecca Swift Sally Mitchell</p>	<p>Children and Young People's Service Legal and Democratic Services (Clerk)</p>



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North  
Yorkshire County Council

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## North Yorkshire County Council

### Children and Young People's Service

#### Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education

Minutes of a meeting held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Harrogate on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2018

**PRESENT:**

**Chairman:** Mr Nasr Emam (Muslim)

**County Councillor:** Annabel Wilkinson

Professor John Adams (Humanist), Mrs Barbara Belsham (Methodist), Reverend Simone Bennett (Church of England), Mrs Sarah Beveridge (Teacher), Mr Mark Cosens (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints), Dr Neville Packter (Jewish), Mrs Olivia Seymour and Mrs Christina Taylor (Buddhist)

**Officers:** Mrs Rebecca Swift (Equalities Adviser – Education and Skills – Children and Young People's Service), Clare Barrowman (Health and Wellbeing Adviser - Children and Young People's Service), and Mrs Sally Mitchell (Principal Democratic Services Officer)

Guest speaker: Yasmeen Sharif (Children's Services Manager – Positive Identities Service – Barnardo's)

Also present: Mr Robert Brownlow (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) and Howard Quinn (Buddhist) as observers

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**Action**

<b>129.</b>	<p><b>WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS/MEMBER RESIGNATION</b></p> <p>Rebecca Swift advised that the Yorkshire Baptist Association had nominated Mrs Helen Sellars for appointment to fill the long standing vacancy for a Baptist member on SACRE. Mrs Sellars could, unfortunately, not attend this meeting.</p> <p>Mr Mark Cosens (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) announced that he would be leaving the country in August 2018 and therefore would not be able to continue as a Member of SACRE. Mr Cosens introduced Mr Robert Brownlow to the meeting, who had been designated to replace him on SACRE to represent the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.</p> <p><b>Resolved –</b></p> <p>That –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) the appointment of Mrs Helen Sellars to Group A of SACRE representing the Baptist faith, be noted.</li> <li>ii) the appointment of Mr Robert Brownlow to Group A of SACRE representing the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-</li> </ul>	
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**Action**

	<p>day Saints, be noted; and the expressed thanks of SACRE to Mr Mark Cosens for his attendance and valuable contribution to the meetings of SACRE, be noted.</p>	
130.	<p><b>APOLOGIES:</b> Apologies were received from: County Councillor Robert Heseltine, Mr Mohinder Singh Chana (Sikh) and Mrs Rachel Oates (Teacher).</p>	
131.	<p><b>MINUTES</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED -</b></p> <p>That the Minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2018 be agreed and signed by the Chairman, as an accurate record.</p>	SAM
132.	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING</b></p> <p><b>Minute No. 122i) refers - Members Attendance:</b> The Chairman asked the Clerk for the position on non-attendance at meetings and was informed that the County Councillor members were appointed by the County Council's Executive Committee and others by their respective representative bodies. SACRE Terms of Reference stated that "A SACRE member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings and does not send apologies will be asked to stand down and an alternative representative will be sought". It was agreed, following discussion, that before the next meeting of SACRE, the Clerk would write to the County Councillors in question regarding the importance of their attendance at meetings and also inform the Executive member of the position.</p> <p><b>Minute No. 122iii) refers – Diversity Day/application for Westhill Award:</b> Mark Cosens advised the meeting that the small sub-group appointed at the last meeting to prepare an application to Westhill for a grant to hold another Diversity Day in the County had not met, as it had been too late to meet the deadline for applications.</p>	SAM
133.	<p><b>SEXUALITY, GENDER AND FAITH – GUIDANCE FOR SCHOOLS</b></p> <p><b>Considered –</b></p> <p>Presentation on Celebrating Difference: Exploring gender, different sexualities and families and creating a trans inclusive school.</p> <p>Rebecca Swift introduced Clare Barrowman the County Council's Health and Wellbeing Adviser and Yasmeen Sharif, Barnardo's Children's Services Manager, Positive Identities Service, to the meeting.</p> <p>Members were informed by Yasmeen Sharif that only one North Yorkshire School had signed-up to receive guidance/training on supporting LGBT young people from Barnardos, out of twenty-six Schools which were on their database.</p> <p>During the discussion, Members reported using the Stonewall</p>	

	<p>Education Resources and Toolkits for use within schools and Youth Clubs etc., which were free resources to tackle homophobic, bi-phobic and transphobic bullying in education environments and help to create more inclusive spaces.</p> <p>The Reverend Simone Bennett advised the meeting that the Church of England had a very strong initiative coming forward on challenging homophobic bullying entitled “Valuing All God’s Children” which contained very direct guidance from the Church.</p> <p>Olivia Seymour commented that all the Dioceses were currently running training courses across the country on this subject.</p> <p>Members thanked Clare Borrowman and Yasmeen Sharif for their very informative presentation, which had generated a useful discussion on the progress being made in addressing and supporting LGBT issues.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED -</b></p> <p>That the presentation be noted</p>	
134.	<p><b>FULL HUMANIST REPRESENTATION ON SACRE</b></p> <p><b>Considered –</b></p> <p>A paper prepared by Professor John Adams formally requesting that Humanism be admitted to full Membership of SACRE and become part of Committee A.</p> <p>Professor Adams reminded Members that Humanism had always been represented on the North Yorkshire SACRE in a “co-opted” role, with no right to vote and suggested that this was now out-of-step with the rest of the country, for example: 71% of young people nationally were of no belief and Humanism now represented a large section of the general population.</p> <p>Rebecca Swift commented that Group A comprised “representatives of Christian denominations and other religions and their denominations, which reflect the principal religious traditions of the area” and advised Members that the SACRE Terms of Reference would have to be formally amended to reflect ‘beliefs’ as well as ‘principal religious traditions’, if it was agreed a Humanist representative was to become part of Group A. Rebecca Swift further advised that NASACRE’s view was that the designation of a Humanist representative as a full member of a SACRE was at the discretion of individual SACREs.</p> <p>Following a discussion involving differing viewpoints on Professor Adams’ request, it was agreed that Rebecca Swift would research the legal position on altering the legal definition of Group A membership and report back to the next meeting of SACRE, where a vote would be taken on whether to allow a Humanist representative full voting membership, rather than the current Co-Opted, non-voting designation, subject to the findings of the legal</p>	

	<p>position.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED –</b></p> <p>i) That Rebecca Swift research the legal position on changing the legal terminology of Group A composition and report back to the next meeting of SACRE</p> <p>ii) That subject to the favourable findings of the research, a vote be taken by each Group, as to whether to allow the request for a Humanist representative to become part of Group A</p> <p>iii) That if agreement was reached to allow a Humanist representative in Group A, authority for altering the terminology to reflect that membership in SACRE’s Terms of Reference be formally made.</p>	RS
135.	<p><b>SCHOOL COMPLIANCE - UPDATES</b></p> <p>Rebecca Swift advised the meeting that a number of Schools had not completed and returned the Survey questionnaires regarding the provision of RE delivered within their Schools and, as agreed at the last meeting, had pursued the matter with those Schools.</p> <p>Rebecca Swift reported that following the last meeting, she had sent 8 ‘follow-up’ letters to the Schools concerned and had only received 1 reply requesting support, which she was intending to provide. The other 7 Schools had not responded.</p> <p>It was commented that RE was becoming particularly ‘squeezed’ within current curriculum demands, especially in struggling Schools. Deborah Western had provided some guidance on steps that SACRE could take in following-up the process of school compliance and Rebecca Swift advised that she would continue with the ‘follow-up’ process with Schools which were under-performing in the provision of RE.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED –</b></p> <p>That the position be noted.</p>	RS
136.	<p><b>ALL-PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP FOR EDUCATION (APPG)- FEEDBACK</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED –</b></p> <p>That the Chairman would report back on the APPG meeting to the next meeting, following the publication of the Commission’s Report due out on 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.</p>	Nasr Emam
137.	<p><b>NASACRE’s AGM and CONFERENCE – FEEDBACK</b></p> <p><b>Considered –</b></p> <p>The Chairman circulated a paper outlining the theme of NASACRE’s AGM and Conference, which was held at the Merchant Taylor’s Hall, London on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2018.</p>	

**Action**

	<p>The Chairman reported on the main points of discussion and presentations.</p> <p>In response to a query about how invitations to attend the AGM and Conference were received, the Clerk advised that she received the notification from NASACRE which she then circulated to all Members.</p> <p>The Chairman agreed to circulate the report via email, following the meeting.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED –</b></p> <p>That the Chairman’s report be noted.</p>	<p>NE</p>
<p><b>138.</b></p>	<p><b>THE COMMISSION ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - REVIEW</b></p> <p>Olivia Seymour reminded Members of the response SACRE sent to the Commission on the interim Report: Religion and World Views: the way forward. A national plan for RE.</p> <p>Members were advised that the Final Report of the Commission would be published on 12th September 2018 and would set out a national plan for RE, with recommendations for the Government to consider for adoption.</p> <p>This was a very important document and Oliva Seymour advised that SACRE needed a full discussion on its findings at the next meeting, as these findings would lead the thinking on the content of SACRE’s new RE Agreed Syllabus and also would be very pertinent to the role of SACRE going forward.</p> <p>Rebecca Swift advised that Schools had been informed that production of the new RE Agreed Syllabus would be delayed until September 2019, in any event.</p> <p>It was agreed that Rebecca Swift would prepare a report for the next meeting outlining some proposals on how SACRE might ‘review’ the current Agreed Syllabus ie. Prepare a list of options.</p> <p>Oliva Seymour commented that SACRE needed to discuss its options regardless of the contents and recommendations of the Commission’s Report.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED –</b></p> <p>That –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i)</b> The Commission’s Final Report of 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018 on Religion and Worldviews: the way forward. A National Plan for RE be brought to the next meeting for discussion; and</li> <li><b>ii)</b> Rebecca Swift would prepare a proposed Timetable and a list of proposed Options for the new RE Agreed Syllabus, for discussion at the next meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>RS</p> <p>RS</p>



**Action**

<p><b>139.</b></p>	<p><b>LTLRE UPDATES</b></p> <p>Olivia Seymour advised Members that the Regional Yorkshire and Humberside LTLRE project group had spent the last eighteen months working with Lead Teachers and had been growing in success, with invited guest speakers and visits being very well received.</p> <p>SACRE was informed by Olivia Seymour that funding for the LTLRE project was, unfortunately, coming to an end, with another Conference being planned for the remaining money. There was a firm wish for it to remain in place, in order to continue to build Teacher confidence and knowledge, but Olivia Seymour advised that funding was needed to keep it running.</p> <p>Olivia Seymour undertook to keep SACRE up-dated on the position of LTLRE North in the future.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED –</b></p> <p>That the position be noted.</p>	
<p><b>140.</b></p>	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p>There were no items of any other business.</p>	
<p><b>141.</b></p>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED -</b></p> <p>That the next meeting be held on <b>Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018</b> starting at 2.00 pm at County Hall, Northallerton</p>	<p>All to note SAM to arrange</p>

The meeting concluded at 6.40 pm

SAM