CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

DATE: **13TH JUNE 2018**

SUBJECT: **WASACRE WITHDRAWAL FROM RE SURVEY: UPDATE**

A **BACKGROUND**

Following requests from schools, the Wales Association of SACREs (WASACRE) recently published a guidance document entitled *Managing the Right of Withdrawal from Religious Education* which was provided free of charge to all schools in Wales. This useful guidance document is intended to support schools dealing with withdrawal and also to share with parents who may be considering withdrawing their child from RE.

A short questionnaire was sent to SACRE clerks for circulation to schools in their local authority to help WASACRE gain an accurate awareness of the instances of withdrawal from Religious Education across schools in Wales. The clerks to SACRE were asked to send the completed information to WASACRE for analysis.

The results for Caerphilly schools are as follows:

Secondary schools
3 out of 14 schools responded (21%)

Complete Withdrawal – two schools responded that parents exercised their right of complete withdrawal from RE. 3 sets of parents and 9 pupils have withdrawn.

Reasons:
- Family are Wiccans
- No reason given

Partial Withdrawal - No parents exercised their right of partial withdrawal from RE

Primary schools
22 out of 76 schools responded (30%)

Complete Withdrawal - 2 schools responded that parents exercised their right of complete withdrawal from RE. 2 sets of parents and 2 pupils have withdrawn

Reasons:
- Families were Jehovah Witness

Partial Withdrawal - 2 schools responded that parents exercised their right of partial withdrawal from RE. 2 sets of parents and 4 pupils have withdrawn.

Reasons:
- Families were Jehovah Witness

B   **RECOMMENDATION**

For SACRE to discuss the survey responses, which have been sent to Gill Vaisey (Religious Education Consultant and Vice Chair of WASACRE) in order to conduct an analysis on behalf of WASACRE.

C   **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Appendix 1   Responses to the WASACRE Withdrawal from RE Survey