

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

DATE: 12TH NOVEMBER 2020

REPORT TO: CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

SUBJECT: CAERPHILLY SACRE RESPONSES TO RECENT
CONSULTATIONS ON THE CURRICULUM FOR WALES 2022

A PURPOSE OF REPORT

To receive and note the consultation responses submitted by the Chair of Caerphilly SACRE arising from two recent consultations on the Curriculum for Wales 2022. These consultations were carried out by the Welsh Government and Welsh Parliament's Children, Young People and Education Committee respectively.

B BACKGROUND

WG Consultation on Religion Values and Ethics **Consultation Period May-July 2020**

As part of the broader reforms contained within the Curriculum for Wales, the Welsh Government consulted on making changes to the legislative framework that surrounds RVE. The Welsh Government, based on current case law, intend that the teaching of RVE must be pluralistic in nature. These changes make explicit what the law already requires – the pluralistic teaching of RE in accordance with the European Convention on Human Rights. In addition, Welsh Government propose making new provision requiring the local authority, SACRE and ASC to have regard to guidance issued by the Welsh Ministers in relation to the curriculum in developing and adopting an agreed syllabus.

The consultation also set out the legislative changes in relation to different types of schools within Wales and how they should use the locally agreed syllabi in the new curriculum arrangements. Within the consultation document Welsh Government stated that *“schools will continue to need to assure themselves that their RVE provision satisfies the pluralistic requirement created by human rights legislation and SACRES, ASCs and Local Authorities will continue to need to assure that any agreed syllabus they develop and then adopt also meets these requirements.”*

SACRE were advised by email of the consultation on Religion Values and Ethics on the new Curriculum for Wales 2022 on 15th May 2020. As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic SACRE members were consulted via email. An initial draft response was sent to SACRE for comment on 6th July 2020. A further draft response was sent to SACRE for comment on 21st July 2020 following consultation with Chair and Vice Chair and the final response was submitted to WG by the 27th July 2020 deadline on behalf of the Chair. A final copy of the response was forwarded to SACRE for information.

Senedd Cymru/Welsh Parliament Consultation on the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill
Consultation Period July-September 2020

SACRE was advised by email of the Senedd Cymru/Welsh Parliament Consultation on the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill on 18th August 2020. This consultation was carried out by the Children, Young People and Education Committee. SACRE members were sent the consultation documents and discussion on this was planned for Autumn Term 2020. The deadline for the consultation response was 29th September 2020. As this did not coincide with the timing of SACRE meetings, consultation with SACRE members took place via email and was sent as a response from the Chair prior to the deadline.

C RECOMMENDATION

Members of the SACRE are requested to receive and note the attached responses to the consultations submitted by the Chair of Caerphilly SACRE on behalf of its Members.

D SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Appendix 1	Caerphilly SACRE response to the Welsh Government consultation on Religion Values and Ethics
Appendix 2	Caerphilly SACRE response to the Senedd Cymru/Welsh Parliament Consultation on the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill.