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## Mudiad Addysg Grefyddol Cymru Religious Education Movement Wales

Ysgrifenyddes **SALI ROBERTS** BA Secretary  
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Rec'd 03.02.09

1 February 2009

Mr David Hopkins  
 Director of Education and Leisure  
 Council Offices  
 Caerphilly Road  
 Ystrad Mynach  
 Hengoed CF82 7EP

Dear Sir,

May I first of all express my disappointment and that of REMW that last year again, Caerphilly Education Authority did not again honour the agreement made in 1995 between REMW and the authority. Indeed last year, my letter was not even acknowledged! A formula based on population was drawn up and agreed upon then - to the effect that Caerphilly authority would subscribe annually to REMW the sum of £2065.22 - to aid the work of the Movement in your authority. This is not a 'voluntary contribution' - but an agreement entered into. Incidentally, regardless of inflation rise in population etc. the sum allocated to Caerphilly has remained the same - since 1995!! When looked against your education budget (and we are very aware of constraints on authorities) - this sum is a 'drop in the ocean' - but to us it is vital!

Schools in your authority can benefit in many ways:

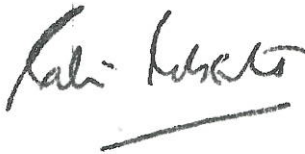
- a) every primary school would receive free of charge every term a copy of the teaching resource 'RE Ideas' - in English and Welsh -- a very useful resource.
- b) all schools would be able to buy any of our resources (in particular our new Welsh language books) at a discount of 30% - more and more resources in Welsh are asked for... schools in your authority have bought books - but because Caerphilly does not subscribe to REMW, they have to pay the full cost!! They cannot benefit from the discount.. and frankly when told why (because they do have catalogues), teachers are appalled!!

c) Teachers of RE in schools in your authority would be able to spend 50% of the subscription - in the case of Caerphilly .. £1032 every year on courses, resources, exhibitions, celebrations etc... any thing that would enhance the teaching of RE and help staff - some teachers in subscribing authorities take advantage of this - even to set up Teachers' centres, hold exhibitions etc.. again, when told what is available for teachers of RE in Caerphilly were you to subscribe....teachers are astonished !! When this is added on to discounts etc... RE teachers would be getting far more than your subscription sum !!!

It is sad that these benefits are denied the RE teachers in Caerphilly ....especially since so many schools would benefit!

I do hope therefore that, when you realise that teachers and schools in your authority are being deprived of valuable resources and money every year, you will decide, from this year onwards to subscribe the very small sum agreed upon with REMW - back in 1995 !!

Yours sincerely,

  
A horizontal line is drawn below the signature.