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(Tel: 01443 864246 Email: [lloydj4@caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:lloydj4@caerphilly.gov.uk))

**Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023**

To Whom It May Concern,

A multi-locational meeting of the **Caerphilly Standing Advisory Council on Religion, Values and Ethics** will be held in Penallta House, and via Microsoft Teams on **Thursday, 29th June, 2023 at 3.00 pm** to consider the matters contained in the following agenda. Councillors and the public wishing to speak on any item can do so by making a request to the Chair. You are also welcome to use Welsh at the meeting, both these requests require a minimum notice period of 3 working days. A simultaneous translation will be provided on request.

Members of the public or Press may attend in person at Penallta House or may view the meeting live via the following link: <https://civico.net/caerphilly>

This meeting will be live-streamed and a recording made available to view via the Council's website, except for discussions involving confidential or exempt items. Therefore the images/audio of those individuals speaking will be publicly available to all via the recording on the [Council's website](#).

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chrissy'.

**Christina Harrhy**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

## AGENDA

	Pages
1 To receive apologies for absence.	

A greener place Man gwyrddach



Correspondence may be in any language or format | Gallwch ohebu mewn unrhyw iaith neu fformat

2 Declarations of Interest.

Councillors and Officers are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest(s) in respect of any item of business on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Code of Conduct for both Councillors and Officers.

To approve and sign the following minutes: -

- 3 Caerphilly Standing Advisory Council on Religion, Values and Ethics - 13th March 2023. 1 - 4
- 4 To consider actions and matters arising from the minutes (verbal update).

To receive and consider the following reports:-

- 5 Update from the RVE Advisor (verbal update).
- 6 Hengoed Primary School - RVE Curriculum Presentation.
- 7 Monitoring and Evaluation Report on the Impact of the Changes to Legislation and the Implementation of the new Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) Curriculum. 5 - 12
- 8 Members Training (verbal update).
- 9 Correspondence Update. 13 - 14
- 10 Schedule of Meetings 2023/24. 15 - 16

WASACRE:-

- 11 Feedback from the virtual WASACRE Spring Term Meeting hosted by Pembrokeshire on 21st March 2023. 17 - 28
- 12 Feedback from the virtual WASACRE Summer Term Meeting and AGM hosted by Denbighshire on 19th June 2023 (verbal update).
- 13 Executive Voting 2023 - WASACRE Executive Committee Elections (verbal update)

**Circulation:**

**Councillors** Mrs E.M. Aldworth, M. Chacon-Dawson, B. Miles, T. Parry, J. Taylor (Chair) and A. Whitcombe

And Appropriate Officers

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## CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN PENALLTA HOUSE AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023 AT 3.00 P.M

PRESENT:

Councillor J. Taylor - Chair

Councillors: M. Chacon-Dawson, B. Miles, T. Parry, and A. Whitcombe.

Representatives of Faith and Belief: Mrs. J. Jones (Church in Wales) - Vice Chair, and Mr K. Chamberlain (Wales Humanists).

Teacher Union Representative: Miss H. Bartley (NEU), Mrs K. McCullough (NASUWT), and Mrs C. McLaughlan (NASUWT), and Miss J. Davenport (NEU).

Together with:

Ms H. Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE), V. Bodenham (School Improvement Officer), and J. Lloyd (Committee Services Officer).

### RECORDING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

Caerphilly SAC on RVE was reminded that the meeting was being live-streamed and would be made available following the meeting via the Council's website – [Click Here to View](#) It was noted that voting on decisions would take place by way of Hands Up and roll call.

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs E.M. Aldworth, Mrs T. Lloyd (NAHT), Mrs M. Jones (UCAC), Mr. M. Gray (The Methodist Church,) and Major P. Hubbard (The Salvation Army).

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.

#### 3. MINUTES OF CAERPHILLY SACRE – 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022

be approved as a correct record, and by way of a show of hands this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Caerphilly SACRE meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 (minute nos. 1-13) be approved as a correct record, subject to amendments in relation to attendance. .

**4. TO CONSIDER ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.**

It was noted that there were no matters arising on this occasion.

**5. UPDATE FROM THE RVE ADVISOR.**

Ms Hayley Jones (EAS Curriculum Partner - SACs and RVE) updated Members on recent developments across Religious Education matters since the last meeting of SACRE.

Members were advised that a further update on RVE resources from Welsh Government would be notified to Members following the WASACRE meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> March.

Teacher representative members were invited to share their experiences of any activities that were undertaken in their schools for Holocaust Memorial Day. Members were informed that Newbridge Comprehensive School held assemblies through google classroom and pupils reflected and took part in holocaust projects and created a memorial. Blackwood Comprehensive School had looked at discrimination and designed a holocaust flame.

Members were advised on the collective worship survey that was due to be sent out to schools and Members were provided with an example of the survey questions and content. A Member complimented the officer on the comprehensive survey and wished to note their positive feedback.

Members were advised of the recent Estyn inspections and the outcomes in relation to RVE. A breakdown of the inspection report would be forwarded to Members when received.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the RVE Advisor update.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE.**

Members were referred to the report which provided an update on the correspondence received by Caerphilly SACRE and/or circulated on behalf of Caerphilly SACRE since the last meeting.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the correspondence update.

**7. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2023.**

Members were advised that the Summer Term meeting was scheduled for 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and the Autumn Term meeting date had recently been agreed for 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and the meeting invite would be circulated to Members as soon as possible.

Caerphilly SAC on RVE noted the details of the schedule of meetings update.

**8. REPRESENTATION AT FORTHCOMING WASACRE SPRING TERM MEETING (VERBAL UPDATE).**

Expressions of interest were sought from those Members who wished to attend on behalf of Caerphilly SACRE. It was confirmed that the Clerk would pass their contact details to WASACRE so that the meeting link and agenda papers could be circulated to these Members in advance of the meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

The Chair thanked all attendees for their participation.

The meeting closed at 3.23 p.m.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

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CHAIR

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## Caerphilly LA Monitoring and Evaluation Report

**Focus:** The impact of the changes to legislation and the implementation of the new Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) curriculum.

**Date of Monitoring Report:** 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### **Purpose of report:**

- Provide an update on the implementation of RVE and the new Agreed Syllabus;
- Provide an overview on the support provided by the EAS for schools with RVE and the Agreed Syllabus;
- Provide an update on the engagement of schools with RVE and the Agreed Syllabus;
- Identify ways forward for RVE in Caerphilly schools.

## **1. Context**

### 1.1 Religion Values and Ethics

Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) is the name the Welsh Government has given to Religious Education in the Curriculum for Wales. RVE is mandatory for all learners aged 3 to 16. This now sits within the Humanities Area of Learning and Experience (AoLE), along with Geography, History, Business Studies, and Social Studies.

The Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 ensures that all learners must be offered opportunities through RVE to engage with different religions and non-religious philosophical convictions in their own locality and in Wales, as well as in the wider world.

### 1.2 Agreed Syllabus for Religion, Values and Ethics

Following the implementation of the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021, Caerphilly Local Authority (LA) was required to prepare and adopt a syllabus of Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) for use in all maintained schools from September 2022, and have due regard to guidance given by Welsh Ministers on this matter.

The Agreed Syllabus must reflect the following points:

- (a) the religious traditions in Wales are in the main Christian while taking account of the teaching and practices of the other principal religions represented in Wales;
- (b) a range of non-religious philosophical convictions are held in Wales;
- (c) the local authority may make different provision in respect of different descriptions of schools maintained by the local authority and different descriptions of learners.

Caerphilly adopted the Curriculum for Wales Religion, Values and Ethics Statutory Guidance on Hwb as the new Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus, for RVE following a formal recommendation to the LA by the

Agreed Syllabus Conference on 20th of June 2022. This Syllabus is to be reviewed every five years and can be viewed by clicking on the following hyperlink: [Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus for Religion, Values and Ethics \(RVE\)](#)

### 1.3 Objectives of the Agreed Syllabus

The Agreed Syllabus is **not** designed to be a scheme of work, but rather a helpful guide and legal reference point for schools to support them in designing an appropriate and relevant curriculum for their learners, which includes RVE within the Humanities area. The approach of the Curriculum for Wales Framework is based on the principle of subsidiarity and, as such, the Agreed Syllabus recognises and reflects the autonomy of each school and setting in realising its own curriculum. Therefore, there is no scheme of learning within the Agreed Syllabus.

### 1.4 Provision of RVE and Curriculum

Each school will decide its own approach to RVE curriculum design and approaches, for example integrated, multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary, or disciplinary. However, practitioners must consider the statements of what matters in the Humanities area to allow learners to explore and critically engage with a broad range of religious and non-religious concepts.

The Agreed Syllabus also refers to the Curriculum for Wales RVE guidance where it considers and identifies some relevant lenses through which to view RVE concepts. The lenses are provided to help schools and settings understand some significant aspects of RVE and to help them identify opportunities for RVE within the statements of what matters to support school curriculum design.

Lenses in RVE include:

- Search for meaning and purpose;
- The natural world and living things;
- Identity and belonging;
- Authority and influence;
- Relationships and responsibility;
- Values and ethics;
- The journey of life.

### 1.5 Learner Progression

Learner progression is an important driver for designing an RVE curriculum. To develop a shared understanding of progression from ages 3 to 16 in relation to RVE, an example 'learning journey' for each lens is provided. These learning journeys illustrate how a learner may develop their understanding of concepts in RVE through various lenses alongside the descriptions of learning for the Humanities.

## **2. Engaging Schools with RVE**

### 2.1 Offer to Schools 2021-23

All schools across Caerphilly LA have been given the opportunity to attend half termly Humanities meetings (with RVE focused agenda items) as well as EAS RVE professional learning opportunities. In addition, all schools have been offered bespoke school support from the EAS RVE Curriculum Partner and the opportunity to link with the RE Lead Network School.

### 2.2 School engagement with PL Opportunities 2021-23

#### RVE Curriculum in Wales Briefing for RVE

EAS led headteacher and senior leadership RVE briefings to develop understanding of the mandatory requirements of RVE in the curriculum for Wales. The Humanities lead at Fochriw Primary School shared their emerging curriculum plans for RVE during this session. Out of the schools that attended the briefings:

- 80% were from Caerphilly LA;
- 52% of Caerphilly English primary schools attended;
- 27% of Caerphilly English Secondary schools attended;
- 22% of Caerphilly Welsh primary schools attended;
- 100% of Caerphilly Welsh secondary schools attended;

Following this briefing, all attendees were asked to complete an evaluation. Evidence from those who completed the evaluation indicates that many headteachers and senior leaders have greater understanding of, and confidence in meeting, the RVE mandatory requirements.

#### Bassaleg Religious Studies Open Event

EAS hosted an open event at Bassaleg School to see effective examples of KS3, GCSE and A level RS practice in the classroom. The event allowed time to reflect on a range of strategies that can enhance the learning environment for all learners, as well as begin the discussion on progression in line with the Curriculum for Wales progression steps. Out of the three spaces available at this event:

- All of the spaces were filled by Caerphilly schools;
- One English secondary and one English primary school attended the event;
- One secondary Welsh medium school attended.

As a result of this professional learning event, early evidence suggests that nearly all those practitioners who attended increased their knowledge and understanding of exemplar practice, whilst developing networks of support with other colleagues.

### RVE Inspiration, Ideas and Practice (Lat Blaylock)

To support schools in realising the principles of progression in RVE, the EAS commissioned Lat Blaylock (National RE Advisor) to provide a day of professional learning for practitioners to implement the new RVE curriculum within the Humanities AoLE. Out of the schools that attended this professional learning event:

- 50% were from Caerphilly LA;
- 30% of Caerphilly English primary schools attended;
- 33% of Caerphilly English Secondary schools attended;
- 22% of Caerphilly Welsh primary schools attended;
- 100% of Caerphilly Welsh secondary schools attended;

It is difficult to measure the full impact of this offer as there has been limited time since the training. However, early feedback has been captured focussing on practitioner skills and knowledge and commitment to act. Of the Caerphilly schools that attended, many expressed a commitment to disseminate the information to staff and revisit their process for RVE curriculum design as a result of the program.

Evidence of planning and strategies being utilised has been captured in a few cases. For example, Hengoed Primary are in the exploration phase as they trial units, approaches, and strategies from the event in their own classes. They are committing to act and implement whole school changes as they develop their RVE curriculum and embed it into the Humanities AoLE. This has also been shared at regional network meeting and in the summer Caerphilly Standing Advisory Council for Religion, Values and Ethics (SAC on RVE) meeting.

Further impact from this training, has also resulted in the RVE Curriculum Partner planning a program to further support schools with planning progressive, high quality, RVE using case studies of planned units, as well as supporting schools to develop their own ideas and practice.

### An Introduction to the Jewish History Association of South Wales Holocaust Education Resources professional learning

This professional learning is focused on improving knowledge and pedagogy in RVE with a focus on Jewish History and the Holocaust.

- 50% were from Caerphilly LA;
- 4% of Caerphilly English primary schools attended;
- 9% of Caerphilly English Secondary schools attended;
- 22% of Caerphilly Welsh primary schools attended;

### Approaches to planning Primary RVE

The EAS, along with Caerphilly SAC on RVE identified a gap in provision for Primary RVE practitioners and leads regarding curriculum planning and implementation. As a result, the EAS

Partner, and Lead Network School (Bassaleg) developed an offer to ensure schools were given the opportunity to observe exemplar practice, that can be adapted for use within their own settings, whilst also developing networks of support with other colleagues.

- 55% were from Caerphilly LA;
- 5% of Caerphilly English primary schools attended.

Of the Caerphilly schools that attended, early feedback suggests that a majority of delegates left the session with increased pedagogical knowledge around planning for RVE in the primary phase and have benefitted from seeing models of emerging practice that can be adapted for use within their own settings.

#### Collective Worship Bespoke Professional Learning

The EAS supports the successful provision for collective worship in schools. As a result of the Head Teacher Briefings, a need for clarification around how the Curriculum for Wales has impacted this provision was identified from a small number of schools. A bespoke offer was sent to all Caerphilly schools to further support the delivery of collective worship and the uptake was as follows:

- 4% of the Caerphilly schools engaged with this offer;
- 3% of Caerphilly English primary schools engaged with this offer;
- 18% of the Caerphilly Secondary schools engaged with this offer.

Lewis School Pengam is progressing with its collective worship provision. They have identified weekly themes and created reflection book to be used daily during form time. A presentation was also given to SACRE to share their developing provision.

#### Bespoke RVE Support

The EAS and Caerphilly SAC on RVE recognised a need to support schools during the transition from RE to RVE, following feedback from the Head Teacher Briefings and network meetings. The direct impact of this was to offer Caerphilly schools bespoke support. The offer included support with understanding and implementing the new Agreed Syllabus, progressive curriculum design for RVE; GCSE and AS/ A Level, and any other aspect of RE/RVE that may be needed.

- 10% of the Caerphilly English schools engaged with this offer and all primary;
- 22% of Caerphilly Welsh primary schools engaged with the offer;
- 22% of Caerphilly Welsh primary schools engaged with the offer.

All schools that engaged with the offer were ready and willing to improve their RVE curriculum, and enthusiastic to explore alternative ways of planning to integrate RVE into their wider humanities curriculum. The offer challenged thinking around different concepts within RVE/humanities.

Practitioners were shown examples of conceptual progression maps, mapping threads from the descriptors of learning to chosen substantive concepts. Practitioners then utilised the conceptual maps to independently create contextual progression maps and plan units/topics of work. Emphasis

was placed on chosen topics having purpose and value, how they would build on previously acquired knowledge and skills and how this knowledge and skill might develop with future learning.

Nearly all practitioners who engaged with this professional learning were satisfied with the learning experience. In addition, a majority of practitioners strongly agreed that they have acquired new knowledge and skills that will develop them in their role. Most practitioners noted that they acquired greater understanding of how conceptual curriculum design can enable learner progression and are willing to take risks, experiment and innovate in their practice utilising the learning and resources they have acquired.

### **3. Caerphilly Standing Advisory Council for Religion, Values and Ethics (SAC on RVE)**

The Caerphilly SAC on RVE consists of 18 members – 6 councillors, 6 teacher representatives, 3 religious and 3 non-religious members who meet on a termly basis. The meetings are purposeful and follow a set agenda, where members advise on what school pupils should study in RVE lessons. As well as termly meetings, sub-groups have also successfully met to create the Caerphilly Agreed Syllabus for RVE and a bespoke Collective Worship survey for schools.

Termly meetings are offered as a hybrid model where members are able to join via Microsoft Teams or in the Council Chamber in Ty Penallta. Although this model allows for flexibility, it has meant members have not met in person since before Covid and members do not know each other. Therefore an additional training session is going to be offered to all members in the summer term which will be in-person and cover the role of being a member of the Caerphilly SAC for RVE. It is hoped these sessions will be attended by everyone and allow members to explain a little about themselves and what they are able to offer in their role.

### **4. Summary**

As a result of the professional learning offer brokered by the EAS, leaders of RVE across the LA have increased knowledge and understanding of the mandatory requirements of RVE. Early evidence suggests that headteachers and senior leaders have greater confidence in the mandatory requirements for RVE.

The opportunity to work with the LNS and RE Today, have afforded delegates the opportunity to observe first hand a range of exemplar practice, whilst developing networks of support with other colleagues.

Where schools have attended sharing practice events, or bespoke professional learning sessions, feedback suggests that delegates have left the sessions with increased pedagogical knowledge around RVE, and have benefitted from seeing models of emerging practice that can be adapted for use within their own settings.

However, records show there are some schools across Caerphilly who have not engaged with any of the professional learning offers for RVE. Therefore, it is imperative these schools are contacted on an individual basis to ensure all schools are being provided with the same opportunities, which in turn will ensure all pupils across Caerphilly are being provided with the .

### 5. Strategy moving forward – Summer 2023 onwards

As part of this MER, the EAS RVE Partner and School Improvement Officer have co-constructed a number of short, medium, and longer term goals:

Short term goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The EAS RVE partner and School Improvement Officer to continue to meet on a monthly basis to discuss developments.</li> <li>• Engage with those schools who are yet to engage with RVE professional learning opportunities. Particularly focusing on Trinity Fields and 3-18 School.</li> <li>• Contact all schools to request the direct email addresses of all Humanities/RVE leads. This will ensure all emails are sent directly to AoLE leads.</li> <li>• SAC on RVE training for all members – July 2023.</li> </ul>
Mid-term goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop the Primary professional learning offer further on Curriculum Planning for RVE.</li> <li>• Develop a cluster model for supporting progression within RVE.</li> <li>• Support for non-specialists.</li> <li>• Send out the Collective Worship policy to all schools. Collate data and offer PL support to schools accordingly. Share good practice in future SAC on RVE meetings.</li> <li>• Create a SAC on RVE plan for 2023-24, which all members will contribute to.</li> <li>• Ensure all member places are filled on SAC on RVE committee.</li> </ul>
Long term goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create exemplar materials for schools.</li> </ul>

Report by:

Hayley Jones  
EAS Curriculum Partner for SAC and RVE

6<sup>th</sup> June 2023

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## CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**REPORT TO: CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS**

**DATE: 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023**

**SUBJECT: CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE**

### **A PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To provide an update on the correspondence received by Caerphilly SAC and/or circulated on behalf of Caerphilly SAC since the last meeting.

### **B BACKGROUND**

Since March 2023, the following items have been circulated in relation to Caerphilly SAC on RVE :-

1. All Caerphilly SAC on RVE Members – The Free Church Council of Wales – Linking Churches and Schools, and Guidance for Primary and Secondary School Visits.
2. All Schools – JSHASW Holocaust Education Training 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023.
3. All Caerphilly SAC on RVE Members – Information on Spring WASACRE Meeting – Paper (21<sup>st</sup> March 2023).
4. All Caerphilly SAC on RVE Members – Clarification from Welsh Government regarding the co-existence of SAC and SACRE.
5. All Schools and all Caerphilly SAC on RVE Members – New Professional Learning Opportunities for RVE.
6. All Schools – Information on the Full 14-16 Qualifications Offer.
7. Education Scrutiny Committee Members – EAS Summer Survey 2023.
8. All Caerphilly SAC on RVE Members – Nominations Information for the WASACRE Executive Committee Elections 2023.
9. All Caerphilly SAC on RVE Members – Draft Minutes of the WASACRE Spring Term Meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023, and notification of WASACRE Summer Term Meeting and AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023.
10. All Schools – Qualifications Wales Full 14-16 qualifications offer consultation.

### **C RECOMMENDATION**

For Caerphilly SAC to note the details of the correspondence update.

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## CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**REPORT TO: CAERPHILLY STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON  
RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS**

**DATE: 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2023**

**SUBJECT: SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2023/24**

### **A. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To confirm the dates of forthcoming Caerphilly SACRE meetings for 2023/24.

### **B. BACKGROUND**

Proposed dates of forthcoming meetings:

**Autumn Term 2023** – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 3pm (multi-locational meeting – to be held in Penallta House, Ystrad Mynach and online via Microsoft Teams)

**Spring Term 2024** – Date and location to be confirmed and will be circulated to SAC on RVE Members once the arrangements have been made.

**Summer Term 2024** - Date and location to be confirmed and will be circulated to SAC on RVE Members once the arrangements have been made.

### **C. RECOMMENDATION**

For Caerphilly SAC to note the date of future meetings during 2023/24.

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**Wales Association of SACREs meeting,  
Virtual via Microsoft Teams  
21st March 2023  
10.30am – 1.00pm.**

## Attendance

<p><b>Ynys Môn / Anglesey</b> Rheinallt Thomas (RT) Gwynedd Hughes (GH)</p> <p><b>Blaenau Gwent</b></p> <p><b>Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr / Bridgend</b> Alice Parry (AP) Edward Evans (EE)</p> <p><b>Caerffili/ Caerphilly</b></p> <p><b>Caerdydd / Cardiff</b></p> <p><b>Sir Gaerfyrddin / Carmarthenshire</b> Jennifer Harding-Richards (JHR)</p> <p><b>Ceredigion</b> Mary Davies (MD)</p> <p><b>Conwy</b> Collette Owen (CO) Phil Lord (PL)</p>	<p><b>Sir Ddinbych / Denbighshire</b> Collete Owen (CO) Phil Lord (PL)</p> <p><b>Sir y Fflint / Flintshire</b> Anna Stephens (AS) Debbie Owens (DO) Jane Borthwick (JB)</p> <p><b>Gwynedd</b> Sibani Roy (SR) Paul Rowlinson (PR) Eurfryn Davies (ED)</p> <p><b>Merthyr Tudful / Merthyr Tydfil</b></p> <p><b>Sir Fynwy / Monmouthshire</b> Louise Brown (LB)</p> <p><b>Castell-nedd Port Talbot / Neath and Port Talbot</b> Nia Jenkins (NJ) Rachel Samuel (RS) Wayne Carpenter (WC)</p> <p><b>Casnewydd / Newport</b> Hayley Jones (HJ) Huw Stephens (HS) Neeta Baicher (NB)</p>	<p><b>Sir Benfro / Pembrokeshire</b> Clare Campbell (CG) Sam Skerme-BlackHall (SB) Marc Tierney (MT) Mike James (MJ) Amanda Lawrence (AL) Clare Campbell (CC) Sian Rowles (SR) Jennifer Harding-Richards (JHR) Lydia Cheshire (LC)</p> <p><b>Powys</b> John Mitson (JM) Fiona Thomas (FT) John Meredith (JM)</p> <p><b>Rhondda Cynon Taf</b> Donna Graves (DG)</p> <p><b>Abertawe / Swansea</b> Jennifer Harding-Richards (JHR)</p> <p><b>Torfaen</b></p> <p><b>Bro Morgannwg / Vale of Glamorgan</b></p> <p><b>Wrecsam / Wrexham</b> Tania ap Siôn (TS) Libby Jones (LJ)</p> <p><b>NAPfRE</b></p> <p><b>EFTRE</b> Phil Lord (PL)</p>	<p><b>Observers:</b></p> <p><b>REMW</b> Paul Morgan (PM)</p> <p><b>WJEC</b> Andrew Pearce (APE)</p> <p><b>ESTYN</b> Gwawr Meirion (GM)</p> <p><b>Welsh Government</b></p> <p><b>REC</b> Kathy Riddick (KR)</p> <p><b>Church in Wales</b> Elizabeth Thomas (ET) Jennie Downes (JD)</p> <p><b>Catholic Education Service</b> Angela Keller (AK)</p> <p><b>Qualification Wales</b> Kate Russell (KRU) Philip Blaker (PB)</p> <p><b>Interfaith Network</b></p> <p><b>ADEW</b> University Of Wales Elin Stock (ES)</p> <p>USW Trinity St David Rachel Bendall (RB)</p> <p><b>Minutes (from recording)</b> Jo Nicholls (JNI)</p>
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## **Minutes of the meeting**

### **1. Introduction and welcome**

TaS welcomed everyone to the Spring meeting and thanked the Pembrokeshire Local Authority and SAC / SACRE for hosting the meeting. TaS thanked Lydia Cheshire and the team for their work in setting up this meeting.

TaS welcomed and introduced the Chair of Pembrokeshire SACRE - Cllr Sam Skyrme-Blackhall.

Cllr Sam Skyrme-Blackhall welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave the following introduction:

“Enabling young people to learn without judgements and prejudices, understand, grow and develop their own views and perspectives on all things is a privilege we should embrace. We gather towards the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> term of operating the new syllabus and no doubt there is much learning and experiences we can share throughout our time together. I am proud of the work being done in here in Pembrokeshire – supporting our Schools – and critically the work in our Schools – supporting our young people. From specific support for Early Years to working with Headteachers to share learning – we are all finding our way and I am grateful to our dedicated officers who are driving this forward with real commitment and purpose. I know that is a shared experience across Wales. Of course, we will adapt and flex as we find the best route forward – that is the nature of anything new. But in doing so, we need to remember our core values – the things that shaped the development of this new curriculum and keep them in mind as we embed this. Getting this right is so important – and in doing so we will truly help our young people to be healthy, confident individuals, leading fulfilling lives as ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world”.

Pembrokeshire SACRE shared the following two presentations:

- i)  [WASACRE 21.3.23.mp4 \(video\)](#)
- ii) [Religion Values and Ethics in Pembrokeshire](#)

### **2. Quiet reflection**

### **3. Apologies**

Apologies from the Executive Committee members – Vicky Barlow, Jennie Downes, Mathew Maidment, Paula Webber. Chris Abbas, Blaenau Gwent and Chris Owens, WJEC.

### **4. Minutes of the last meeting Microsoft Teams held on 16th November 2022**

RS – Fiona Thomas needs removing from the NPT SACRE attendee list.

The minutes on the last meeting were formally agreed.

### **5. Matters arising from minutes of the last WASACRE meeting**

- Item 7 part 4 – Welsh Government (WG) clarity on the date until which SAC and SACRE will need to co-exist.
- WG colleagues have clarified that the reference to these bodies needing to be in place until 2025 was intended to mean the 2025 academic year commencing in September which concludes in the summer of 2026, but they appreciate that the earlier response was potentially ambiguous in that regard and subject to interpretation.

## 6. Welsh Government matters:

### i) Meeting (15<sup>th</sup> December 2022)

Representation from WASACRE/NAPfRE - Tania ap Sion, Libby Jones, Rachel Samuel.

Rachel Samuel gave feedback on the outcomes of several agenda items as follows:

#### 1. SACRE annual reports – structure review

John Pugsley asked WASACRE to submit a proposal outlining what needs to be done for the Welsh Government review of Annual Reports. Funding can be offered for any work required. The proposal should be sent to John Pugsley and Kerry Davies who will make a proposal to Lloyd Hopkin and their legal team.

#### 2. Information communication update on RVE / Case studies for RVE Learning.

Explanation of what WG is looking for in terms of evidence of good practice.

To demonstrate 'what and how' RVE takes place in the classroom. The case studies will be produced in film form. Two different schools are needed to demonstrate visual activities, with resources and assessments being cut into the film afterwards. Kerry Davies would look at the filming brief that WG has provided to identify the requirements. This challenges NAPfRE colleagues to find the best examples and how to decide what could be shared. Links to examples of films to be shared with SACREs from a pilot carried out in Swansea to give an idea of what they are looking for.

#### 3. Update on Adjustments to RVE guidance on Hwb

The adjustments we have requested have been logged in for the next review cycle. In summer 2023 there will be a review with SACREs and other relevant bodies. The Legal Team has the final say if the modifications are accepted (Pat McCarthy) - WG emphasises that it has not been forgotten and will be addressed in due course. Kerry Jones to find out how the process will work to make sure it happens. John Pugsley to share the feedback from PMcC with the WASACRE Executive Committee representatives.

#### 4. Inquiry by local Authority - Termly activities in primary schools and the right to withdraw

JHR: Have had inquiries from schools regarding the compulsory nature of RVE for ages 3 -16. Especially affects primary schools at this time of year with nativity plays, Christmas stories etc. A small group of representatives in the community are asking that their children be taken out of these activities. We discuss with schools how to differentiate between RVE and joint worship and the ethos and culture of the school.

We are aware that there is no right of withdrawal but we are asking for clarification on how we differentiate between those aspects for primary colleagues.

WG response:

Advice is the same as for previous application in July 2022.

- Schools should have clear lines of communication with parents, ensuring they understand what is included and why.
- Where parents (or even learners) seem to have concerns about specific learning it will help to discuss sensitively with parents and understand where these concerns have arisen and explore how they can be addressed. It is very possible that these doubts are due to a misunderstanding about what is covered or what is required by the Curriculum for Wales.
- From September within the Curriculum for Wales, it is clear that there is no legal right to withdraw (which means, unlike in the past, parents have a right to have their request to withdraw their child granted), but of course some parents may try to take their children out of certain aspects. The school has discretion as to how to manage that and will need to come to a decision with the learner and the family. Obviously, that is in everyone's interest - naturally, we don't want learners to be taken out of the mainstream by parents entirely because of fears about the curriculum.

Additional advice was given:

- Identify the issue
- Is it a matter of Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE)?
- If it is RSE, draw the schools' attention to the expectations regarding the code and the RSE guidelines, in particular:
  - The importance of pluralism – i.e. being able to assure the parents that teaching is presented in a multiple manner and this is the school's legal duty
  - The requirement of the code to ensure that a range of views and beliefs are considered in the context of RSE
  - The importance of close lines of communication with parents and carers on these issues
  - Refer the LA and the school to the Frequently Asked Questions on Relationship and Sexuality Education as it may be helpful.

The response of those present from WASACRE and NAPfRE was that we do not think the question has been adequately answered - How can schools differentiate between RVE, collective worship, and the ethos and culture of the school, in order to avoid complaints and issues relating to removal back?

#### 5. Identify support and resources for RVE

WASACRE was asked to produce a general map to show what is already offered in terms of support and resources in Wales. John Pugsley to send a resource document to support that work. JP and KD need to be kept up to date by WASACRE.

#### 6. Resources of the Council of Free Churches



This is something for the Governance side within WG. It is not directly related to classroom practice. The information will be shared with Claire Horton from WG to see if there is anything that WG can support in reference to the documents.

## 7. RSE Judicial Review Update

When this meeting took place, WG was still waiting for an outcome. JP confirmed that as soon as he gets something that goes to the public he will send it to us first. We now know this outcome – the court sided in favour of WG and for RSE to remain mandatory for all learners. The parents have started their appeal. We still don't know how it will affect RVE if the appeal is successful.

### ii) Informal agreed syllabi monitoring process

Tania ap Sion reported on the informal agreed syllabi monitoring process / review, as follows.

On 15 December 2022, the WG invited WASACRE to undertake: “an informal monitoring process of the agreed syllabi for each LA to get a sense of how faithful these are to the vision and ethos of RVE in the Curriculum for Wales”.

This is part of the supportive approach that the WG is taking during the period of curriculum roll-out, recognising the importance of being supportive earlier rather than later. In practice, the review is a short desk-based exercise, which involves looking at the text of the agreed syllabi for each local authority. It goes no further than reviewing the texts themselves. At the end of March, a report will be submitted to the Welsh Government on the findings. After this, sometime in the near future, the Welsh Government has confirmed that we will be able to use relevant parts of this research to share practice among the local authorities – including possibly showcasing particular examples. Within this, the importance of local determination should always be kept to the fore while also seeing the value of sharing practice within that. The review process itself has been rigorously set up and approved by the Welsh Government:

1. There has been careful selection of the 6 Team members who are well placed to carry out this review;
2. We created a proforma based on a sample of five agreed syllabi, covering language, syllabus content, clarity, local context, and editing. This proforma was then used for all the agreed syllabi to ensure consistency in approach.
3. We also ensured that each agreed syllabus was reviewed by at least 2 or 3 team members at the level of the individual, small group, and then as a whole Team.
4. No team member reviewed any agreed syllabi that they had been personally involved in, and we allocated random numbers to the agreed syllabi throughout the review process and report writing.

We are very grateful to all 22 SACs for sharing with us their agreed syllabus so promptly, and we hope that you will find this a really helpful exercise.

I am also very grateful to all the members of the Team who have worked together so effectively and well over the past seven weeks to ensure that we complete the review and submit the Report to the Welsh Government on time.

**7. Report on Estyn meeting (14<sup>th</sup> February 2023) – Monitoring standards and progress** - WASACRE Executive members present: AP, RS, MM, and LJ

Alice Parry gave feedback to the meeting that WASACRE had requested a meeting with ESTYN to receive an update on the plans for monitoring RVE within the Curriculum for Wales. WASACRE Members were grateful of the briefing paper that was shared in advance of the Autumn Meeting in November 2022 and wanted to discuss the following items in more detail:

1. Monitoring the provision of RVE in schools and regard to the Agreed Syllabus

Estyn is not a monitoring organisation. However, Inspection teams will be looking at the broad curriculum plan of each school it inspects, and if a particular element of the curriculum was missing, e.g. mandatory RVE, this would be raised with the school and would be included in the final report. They may consider whether RVE is being taught within the spirit of the CfW, but would not be specifically monitoring objective, critical and pluralistic approach and delivery of RVE.

2. Monitoring standards and progression in RVE

Very rarely would a report include a comment on standards and progression within a specific subject. There may be comments on the acquisition of particular skills etc. in certain subjects, as way of example of progression, which could include RVE. Inspectors are looking at standards and progression overall. Data is for the school only, to inform their own planning. Colleagues made it very clear that schools should not produce data especially for Estyn to prove that their learners are making progress or are achieving set targets or standards. Every school should know every learner, in the sense of, where they are, where they need to be, and how they can get there. If inspectors look at school data, it will be to build a picture of whether, and how well, the school knows its learners. Inspectors will not be looking for 'evidence' of progression, i.e. comparing standards with other schools or classes or years groups etc. It wants to see how the school uses its own data to inform their planning for improvement and progression.

3. Collective worship

Estyn colleagues shared the 2017 Estyn guidance on collective worship which all Inspectors are given prior to an inspection. This includes components which collective worship may incorporate and also FAQ that may be helpful to schools. The school context is taken in to consideration regarding collective worship in both primary and secondary settings and pointed out the reference in the guidance to 'thought for the day' and reflection time as well as prayers and more traditional forms of worship. Estyn colleagues were not aware or any renewed interest in collective worship within inspection teams, and are aware that opportunities for SMSC development can be provided elsewhere in the curriculum and within the ethos of the school.

4. Effective practice

'Green shoots' are being identified during inspection visits, but it is still early days. Teams are seeing some appropriate RVE provision in line with the guidance.

Engagement visits are taking place but there hasn't been any focusing on RVE yet. There are a variety of channels through which possible engagement visits can be identified. There could be an EV in the future focussing on RVE or C/W but that would depend on whether those specific elements are identified as an area of interest for an EV. When an EV takes place a report is published on the Estyn website.

In conclusion, colleagues from WASACRE and Estyn felt that the meeting had been beneficial and all agreed that a twice yearly meeting would be arranged between the two bodies in future. WASACRE colleagues invited Estyn colleagues to provide updates at the WASACRE main meetings as and when needed.

## **8. Professional Learning presentation**

Libby Jones gave an update on this agenda item and shared a clip from one of the RVE playlists from the first batch of five professional learning resources that have now been published on Hwb, called, 'What's new'. The links to the resources on Hwb will be shared with SACREs for wider distribution. She reported as follows:

We are very grateful to our Welsh Government colleague Rachael Hicks for pushing these resources forward, through to publication. We have waited a long time for them, but it is worth the wait as the quality of these resources is exceptional. I have already shared a clip from the, 'What's new for secondary schools' playlist which Alice Parry created and features in. Today I am going to present the, 'What's new for Headteachers' playlist. There will be a policy Insight event held on 25<sup>th</sup> April (link in the chat) which will showcase these resources along with other useful resources that schools and SACREs can use.

LJ shared her screen and presented the playlist, stopping on specific pages to draw attention to some interesting and useful information, including, the description of 'have regard to', self-evaluation, implications for Headteachers, reflections and questions, and the case studies. The Headteacher's playlist also has the same introductory sections and information as the other playlists in this first batch, such as the welcome page, contents, aims and critical engagement pages.

Link for policy insight event: <https://hwb.gov.wales/professional-development/policy-insight-events/>

Links for the bilingual resources on Hwb:

English: <https://hwb.gov.wales/repository/resource/eef7e399-93bb-4d7c-ab68-145c93f4c6d3/en>

Cymraeg: <https://hwb.gov.wales/repository/resource/eef7e399-93bb-4d7c-ab68-145c93f4c6d3/cy>

Members raised questions regarding 'have regard to' and agreed syllabi, which LJ clarified and members also shared very positive comments about the resources. One question was raised regarding SACRE members having access to Hwb. The resources can be accessed without needing a log in, but it was suggested that Members seek advice and support from their local authority.

## **9. Conversations with England colleagues (NASACRE, REC, Regional RE Hubs)**

TaS reported that conversations are currently taking place with England colleagues. Education in Wales is becoming increasingly different to England with the introduction of the Curriculum for Wales. This raises a number of issues concerning how we value one another and how we work together.

### **NASACRE**

The WASACRE Executive welcomed an invitation from NASACRE to restart conversations. A meeting was held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023 with the Chair of NASACRE, Linda Rudge and Sue Holmes the Secretary and members of the WASACRE Executive Committee -TaS, EE and LJ.

The purpose of the meeting was to restart the sharing of recent events and updates and to explore the potential links between the two associations. It was mutually recognised that although the associations had so much in common there was also so much divergence.

To summarise –possible areas for further conversations were identified:

- 1) NASACRE occasionally receives enquiries from SACs and SACREs from Wales about professional learning and the NASACRE annual conference. It was resolved to put LJ in touch with the NASACRE administrator to discuss these questions as it is important to have the correct lines of communications.
- 2) To explore the possibility of including an item at the NASACRE conference where there might be mutual cross overs and where WASACRE could contribute usefully.
- 3) NASACRE is going to share their newsletter which is distributed 3 / 4 times a year.

The aim is to put in place more regular conversations and develop the relationship between NASACRE and WASACRE.

### **REC**

In February WASACRE received a request for a meeting from Indy Nottage, Executive Officer for the RE council for England and Wales to discuss how the REC can best support WASACRE in our Wales context. TaS, LJ (WASACRE Executive Members) and Paula Webber (Chair of NAPfRE, WASACRE Executive member) met with REC on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

It was an open, frank, and positive conversation about our concerns regarding the relationship between WASACRE and REC. WASACRE have worked closely with REC on a number of projects in the past but currently it appears that the relationship is not working as effectively as it could.

The outcome of the meeting was for the REC to organise a meeting with representatives of the Wales focused REC organisations i.e., WASACRE, Church in Wales, REMW, members of the REC board - Kathy Riddick, the Chair Sarah Lane Court and Indy Nottage. The meeting is to be arranged in April 2023.

The aim is to create a structure to enable communication and collaboration within the REC over the long term. The structure needs to reflect the needs of the organisations in Wales and ultimately Wales learners. There has been a suggestion to set up a REC Wales forum.

### **Regional RE Hubs**

Both the Chair and Vice Chairs of WASACRE and NAPfRE received an email from the lead director for a new online platform called Regional RE Hubs asking what we wanted to see on it for the Wales area.

The background of the Regional RE hubs is as follows:

The 1<sup>st</sup> year was funded by Dept of Education in England to address specific England RE requirements. Now in its 2<sup>nd</sup> year, it is funded by charities and has one more year of funding. After this it hopes to receive further funding from Dept of Education, England.

The steering group includes organisations such as REC, RE Today, AERIAC, AWRI and NASACRE. The aim of the regional hubs is to improve communication between teachers, professional development, resource providers and research communities. It is an information exchange to increase accessibility to support, training, and resources for the regions. They also run a course which is being accessed by places of worships and other places in Wales which awards an RE hub accreditation.

A meeting was held on the 12th January 2023. The WASACRE Executive members shared their concern that the Regional RE hubs have been developed without any direct communication with WASACRE or NAPfRE. This is an issue that must be addressed and raises the questions as to how WASACRE and NAPfRE are perceived by these groups in England and how communications can be improved. It raised questions - what are our needs in Wales? How can we identify our needs? How to deal with them?

RT: Two members of REMW have met with Indy Nottage. REMW also commented that this initiative has come as a surprise.

TaS: Confirmed that colleague JHR has been involved with the RE hubs.

LB: REC has always been England based. LB wondered whether it would be better that it is called REC for England. All research and documents are based on England. It would be another layer of work for WASACRE.

TaS: It is always valuable to collaborate and share practice with our colleagues in England and Europe but we must consider what is meaningful to us in Wales.

#### **10. EFTRE Conference (August 2023)**

PL gave an update and shared [the link to the EFTRE conference](#) 'Bridges over Troubled Waters – RE in changing times' which is to be held in Rome on 24-27 August 2023. TaS, with European colleagues, will be presenting the findings of a European wide project, impact of Covid on teaching RE. Other presenters include Kathryn White from Culham St. Gabriel's Trust. The programme also includes workshops and potential off-site visits to a synagogue, non-Catholic cemetery, catacombs and a Muslim community.

PL, TaS and possibly LJ will be attending the conference.

WASACRE would like to support a teacher from Wales to attend and we would ask them to provide feedback on their experience on their return. TAS mentioned that this is an excellent opportunity for a teacher and confirmed that WASACRE will fully fund the travel, conference attendance and accommodation.

**ACTION:** If any teachers are interested, please contact WASACRE, before the Easter break.

#### **11. Up-dates:**

- **REC**  
 KR: REC is in its 50<sup>th</sup> year with an in-person celebration planned at the start of May. REC is refocusing on how to obtain the maximum benefit from members. If REC are to continue to represent Wales, it requires a permanent member of the board to represent Wales. Serious thought is required about the benefit in this relationship.  
 The continued work on the religion and world views resources is taking up a lot of REC's time, a project which is focused on England. We could look at and see if the document is of interest to the curriculum for Wales.
- **EFTRE**  
 PL encourages everyone to look at the website, there are interesting reports available. There are studies that could be done with secondary schools on the nature of RE education systems around Europe.
- **REMW**  
 REMW met with Indy Nottage.  
 REMW aim to revisit the paper previously presented to WASACRE. This paper described the potential changes in the nature of REMW with a view to making progress on this matter.
- **NAPfRE**  
 The PL working group are looking at the right of withdrawal and the advice that SACREs and head teachers may give. Any outcomes will be passed on to WASACRE.
- **IFN**  
 No update
- **Estyn**  
 14<sup>th</sup> February meeting already reported earlier in the meeting.
- **WJEC**
  - LJ read out a report from Christopher Owens:
    - The WJEC Autumn Professional Learning formerly known as CPD for GSCE Religious Studies was successfully completed in Swansea, Cardiff and Llandudno in December 2022 with additional online PL in January 2023. Materials from the PL events are available on the WJEC website.
    - WJEC submitted a detailed response to the Welsh Government's consultation on the proposals for the new GSCE Religious Studies for start of teaching in Sept 2025.
    - WJEC's working deadline is completion of the new specification with specimen assessment materials for Sept 2024, with the first teaching scheduled for Sept 2025.
    - Disappointingly there has been a decline in entry of RE across all examination levels for the summer series 2023.
    - Entry for AS Religious Studies dropped by 350 candidates from pre covid levels and this has rolled into advanced level studies.
    - At GSCE level there has been a very significant decline in entry for the summer 2023 series of around 6,500 candidates. Any decline is a cause for concern not least for future uptake of AS and advanced levels and has further implications for higher education.

TaS stated that the decline in candidates is to be an agenda item for a future meeting.

RS mentioned that all GSCE, AS and AL examinations this summer in Religious Studies have had a pre-release information gone out to schools on certain areas in the syllabi that should be given greater attention. RS is happy to circulate the links to SACREs.

**ACTION:** RS to share this link with SACREs

- **Report from the Executive Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

TaS confirmed there was nothing further to report that hadn't already been covered on the agenda.

## **12. Correspondence**

LJ reported on the following correspondence:

- Received correspondence from Education Workforce Council (EWC) asking WASACRE to nominate members for the EWC. This needs to be taken to the WASACRE Executive Committee.
- Received correspondence from the Children, Young People and Education Committee (CYPE) stating they are currently undertaking a long-term enquiry into the implementation of the two key educational reforms during the last Senedd which is the Curriculum Assessment Wales at 2021 and the Additional Learning Needs and Educational Tribunal Act 2018.
- Over the course of the sixth Senedd the Committee will carry out a series of short focus thematic check-ins. Each check-in will include engagement activities and scrutiny of a Welsh Government Minister. The first of these check-ins took place in spring/ summer 2022 and further information is available via a link. This link can be shared with SACREs.

**ACTION:** WASACRE to share this link with SACREs.

## **WASACRE Elections**

There are 2 places available on the WASACRE Executive Committee, nominations from SACs and SACREs need to be with LJ or AP by Friday 31st March. The list of nominees will be circulated to SACs and SACREs by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April. Nominees should be available to attend the Exec Committees meetings regularly should they be successfully elected at the AGM.

## **13. Any other business (to be agreed in advance of the meeting with the Chair)**

KRU, Qualification Wales has been leading on the development of GSCE of Religious Studies and dealing with the WASCRE responses to the consultation. KRU informed WASACRE of the new consultation that is now out which is called 'The Full Offer', these are qualifications (entry level, level 1 etc) that support the new curriculum in Wales.

One question within the consultation links to whether there should be a specific qualification linked to the RVE guidance.

KRU encourages WASACRE to share the consultation link with RS teachers for their feedback. The more responses received the more valuable it is. The consultation is open until June 2023.

KRU thanked WASACRE for all its work in relation to the GSCE consultation.

HS congratulated all those who have spent a lot of time and effort using their expertise in serving us in their capacity as WASACRE.

MJ seconded HS's kind words and thanked the Committee for all of their hard which is very much appreciated.

TaS appreciated this recognition of WASACRE's work.

NB wished the Bahai community a very happy new year.

**14. Date for next meeting: Summer Term, Denbighshire.**

This will be an online meeting on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

TaS thanked Pembrokeshire for hosting and thanked the attendees.