

HSACRE Agreed Syllabus Conference



HSACRE AGREED SYLLABUS CONFERENCE

Date:	Thursday 30 November 2017	Members
Time:	6.15 pm (or at the conclusion of the HSACRE meeting, if earlier)	Carole Jones (Chairman) Yasmin Afnan Gail Butler Connie Dusek Robert Harwood Umesh Sharma Ruth Freedman Angela Lount Amir Ahmed (Syed Amir Ahmed) Naseem Bint Amir Richard Cawley Nicole Schnackenberg Stephen Horsman Heather Steady Jasvir Singh Rayat Father Desmond Banister Joan Bevington Mary Coulthurst Melanie Dring Angela Flux Alison Rollin Anil Bhatt Debby Mitchell Councillor Shehryar Ahmad-Wallana Councillor John Hensley Councillor June Nelson Councillor Susan O'Brien Councillor Jagjit Singh
Venue:	Committee Room 4a - Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW	
Meeting:	This meeting is not open to Members of the Public or Press	

Luke Taylor
Clerk to HSACRE
London Borough of Hillingdon,
Civic Centre
High Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1UW
Tel: 01895 250833693 Email: democratic@hillingdon.gov.uk

Agenda

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| 1 | Minutes of Previous Meeting | 1 - 4 |
| 2 | The Agreed Syllabus and Launch | 5 - 6 |

Minutes

HILLINGDON STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: AGREED SYLLABUS CONFERENCE



21 February 2017

Meeting held at Committee Room 6 - Civic Centre,
High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW

	<p>Committee Members Present: Carole Jones (Chairman), Councillor June Nelson, Councillor Susan O'Brien, Gail Butler, Angela Lount, Amir Ahmed (Syed Amir Ahmed), Naseem Bint Amir, Jasvir Singh Rayat and Melanie Dring MA BA(Hons) PGCE</p> <p>Also Present: Duncan Struthers (Advisor to HSACRE)</p> <p>LBH Officers Present: Venetia Rogers (Education Policy Manager) and Luke Taylor (Democratic Services Officer)</p>
48.	<p>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>That the minutes of the meetings held on 7 June 2016 and 10 November 2016 were agreed.</p>
49.	<p>AGREED SYLLABUS REVIEW (<i>Agenda Item 2</i>)</p> <p>Prior to the HSACRE meeting, a sub-committee was set up to look into the possibility of adding Humanism to the HSACRE syllabus. The proposed addition was sent to schools, and responses were gathered on whether schools were in favour of opposed to the addition of Humanism, and most responses were in favour of adding Humanism to the syllabus.</p> <p>It was commented that some responses highlighted that Humanism was a "philosophy, not a religion" and that Humanism could be confusing for children, although Members stated that the purpose of Religious Education in schools was to take away confusion for children and replace it with awareness. Members stated that HSACRE should not tell teachers or schools what to teach, and instead should give them the options; teachers can then choose which of the options they wish to teach.</p> <p>It was commented that a new national SACRE syllabus may still be under discussion, and it was questioned whether this would supersede the local syllabus and require further ratification that may make this decision obsolete, and the HSACRE Advisor confirmed that all SACREs would have to take on board any new national syllabus. It was also noted by the Muslim representatives that, in the future, the syllabus may be challenged as new Islamic groups, who are not Shia or Sunni Muslims, have come to the UK from Syria, and they may wish for their strand of Islam to be recognised in the Muslim section of the syllabus.</p> <p>It was proposed that the addition of Humanism to the draft syllabus be approved, with a</p>

	<p>copy of the new syllabus structure coming to the next HSACRE meeting. This proposal was put to a vote, with four members voting in favour of the addition, and four members abstaining. There were no votes against the addition.</p> <p>– RESOLVED: That Humanism is included in the draft syllabus.</p>
	<p>The meeting, which commenced at 7.40 pm, closed at 8.09 pm.</p>

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Luke Taylor on 01895 250693. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.

Minutes

HILLINGDON STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

19 July 2017

Meeting held at Committee Room 4 - Civic Centre,
High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW



HILLINGDON
LONDON

	<p>Committee Members Present: Alison Rollin, Melanie Dring MA BA(Hons) PGCE, Councillor Susan O'Brien, Councillor Jagjit Singh, Yasmin Afnan, Gail Butler, Angela Lount, Amir Ahmed (Syed Amir Ahmed) and Naseem Bint Amir</p> <p>Also Present: Elenor Paul and Duncan Struthers (HSACRE Advisor)</p> <p>LBH Officers Present: Venetia Rogers (Policy Manager, Education) and Luke Taylor (Democratic Services Officer)</p>
	<p>PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING WAS NOT QUORATE AND THEREFORE NO FORMAL DECISIONS WERE MADE</p>
	<p>MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE</p> <p>It was confirmed to the HSACRE that the meeting did not have the attendance to make quorum, and therefore no formal decision could be made. It was agreed that the meeting continue and updates be provided on each item, where possible.</p>
1.	<p>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting will be taken to the next meeting.</p>
2.	<p>REVISED AGREED SYLLABUS LAUNCH (<i>Agenda Item 2</i>)</p> <p>The advisor to HSACRE ran through the revised agreed syllabus and highlighted the changes that would be made to the document, including the addition of the Humanism.</p> <p>It was confirmed that although the Humanist representative was unable to attend the meeting, he had informed the advisor to HSACRE that he was very supportive of the new syllabus and the Humanist section. HSACRE thanked the Chairman and Ms Paul for their good work and effort in helping piece together the syllabus.</p> <p>HSACRE heard that, following discussions with the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services, it was noted that there was no disagreement on the syllabus and it was sent to schools in June.</p> <p>It was noted that further changes were still required, and the Humanist symbol would be an addition to the front page, following consultation with the HSACRE Humanist</p>

representative to agree the symbol used. It was also noted that the Islamic symbol may also need refining as it is currently slightly out of shape.

The advisor to HSACRE is now in discussions with the Communications Team to make the relevant changes to the syllabus. Once confirmed, the syllabus will then be uploaded to the Council website, along with hyperlinks to the relevant religious information so the syllabus can be easily navigated.

It was suggested that the syllabus also be sent out from Education Team in its bi-weekly email to schools, as well as from the Governor Support Service.

The Committee questioned whether it was possible to have a high profile launch for the syllabus locally, including RE coordinators and teachers where possible. Ms Paul noted that she had recently attended a syllabus launch that included RE coordinators, governors and school employees, and believed it was a good way forward and an instant way to get the SACRE message out.

The advisor to SACRE noted that there was now a term to plan for the formal launch of the syllabus. Members noted that they supported the idea, but recognised that there were budget implications for any formal syllabus launch.

It was suggested a small group of HSACRE members may wish to meet to brain storm ideas for such a launch, and that this could be facilitated over the next couple of months.

The meeting, which commenced at 7.10 pm, closed at 7.35 pm.

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Luke Taylor on 01895 250693. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.

THE AGREED SYLLABUS AND LAUNCH

Contact: Duncan Struthers - Advisor to SACRE
Carole Jones - Chairman to HSACRE

REASON FOR REPORT

To verbally update members on the Hillingdon Agreed Syllabus and discuss the potential launch of the syllabus.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. To note the verbal update on the Hillingdon Agreed Syllabus Review;**
- 2. To delegate authority to the Chairman of HSACRE, Advisor to HSACRE and relevant officers to make any minor changes to the Hillingdon Agreed Syllabus as necessary, and agree the final version of the Hillingdon Agreed Syllabus on behalf of HSACRE;**
- 3. To send the Hillingdon Approved Syllabus to the Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services for approval; and**
- 4. To agree the next steps for a potential launch for the Hillingdon Agreed Syllabus.**

BACKGROUND

1. At the previous meetings of the Agreed Syllabus Conference, changes were suggested to the Agreed Syllabus, and at the meeting in February 2017, it was agreed to add Humanism to the Agreed Syllabus.
2. The advisor to HSACRE has been finalising the Agreed Syllabus with the Communications Team at Hillingdon Council, and these discussions are ongoing.
3. At the previous meeting of the Agreed Syllabus Conference in July, HSACRE noted their support for the formal launch of the syllabus, but recognised there were budget implications for any formal syllabus launch.
4. The London Borough of Hillingdon Constitution states that it is the responsibility of the Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services "*to approve the Agreed Syllabus from the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education*", and it must receive the approval of the Cabinet Member before it is published.

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