

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Report

<b>Decision Maker/Committee/Panel:</b>	Executive Member for Education
<b>Date:</b>	19 January 2024
<b>Title:</b>	Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education Annual Report 2022-2023
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Childrens Services

**Contact name:** Justine Ball

**Email:** [justine.ball@hants.gov.uk](mailto:justine.ball@hants.gov.uk)

### Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is for the Executive Member for Education to receive the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education's Annual Report.

### Recommendation(s)

2. That the Executive Member for Education notes the contents of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education's Annual Report 2022-2023.

### Contextual information

3. The Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education's (SACRE) role is to advise the authority on how best to improve the provision of religious education (RE) and collective worship for schools in Hampshire, as RE is not part of the National Curriculum. Through SACRE, local communities and teachers can influence and support its provision.
4. SACRE carries out its role by requiring the Local Authority to review its agreed syllabus when thought necessary and by considering applications to modify the 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character' requirement for collective worship, known as a determination.

5. SACRE has a duty to provide a report on its activities each year. This report is provided to the National Association of SACREs, the Department for Education and Ofsted alongside the Children's Services Directorate's management team and the authorities' Councillors.
6. The Annual Report detailing SACRE's work in 2022-2023 was agreed by SACRE at its meeting on 7 November 2023 and is attached at Appendix 1.

### **Consultation and Equalities**

7. No consultation has been required.

### **Climate Change Impact Assessment**

8. Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience impacts of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.

### **Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation**

9. The carbon mitigation tool and climate change adaptation tools were not applicable on this occasion because the decision relates to a programme that is strategic/administrative in nature.

## REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

### Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	No
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	No
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	No
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	Yes

### Other Significant Links

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>	
<u>Title</u>  Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education	<u>Date:</u> 7 November
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>	
Education Act 1996	<u>Date</u>

### Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:**

### **1. Equality Duty**

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

### **2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

This report is not proposing any action that will lead to any impact in this area.