

# Individual Executive Member Decision

---

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>West Berkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education – Group D Representation</b>
<b>Report to be considered by:</b>	Individual Executive Member Decision
<b>Date on which Decision is to be taken:</b>	5 September 2013
<b>Forward Plan Ref:</b>	ID2718b

**Purpose of Report:** To recommend Mr Keith Harvey as a representative of the Local Authority to become a Member on the West Berkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education.

**Recommended Action:** To agree the appointment of Mr Keith Harvey as a representative of the Local Authority to become a Member on the West Berkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education.

**Reason for decision to be taken:** Additional representation from the Local Authority to sit on the SACRE

**Other options considered:** None

**Key background documentation:** Education Act 1996.

Portfolio Member Details	
<b>Name &amp; Telephone No.:</b>	Councillor Irene Neill - Tel (0118) 971 2671
<b>E-mail Address:</b>	ineill@westberks.gov.uk

Contact Officer Details	
<b>Name:</b>	Jayne Mann
<b>Job Title:</b>	Strategic Support Officer
<b>Tel. No.:</b>	01635 519458
<b>E-mail Address:</b>	Jmann@westberks.gov.uk

## Implications

<b>Policy:</b>	In accordance with Section 390 of the Education Act 1996 the SACRE requires representation from the Local Authority.
<b>Financial:</b>	None as a result of this report
<b>Personnel:</b>	None as a result of this report
<b>Legal/Procurement:</b>	None as a result of this report
<b>Property:</b>	None as a result of this report
<b>Risk Management:</b>	None as a result of this report

Is this item relevant to equality?	Please tick relevant boxes		Yes	No
Does the policy affect service users, employees or the wider community and:				
• Is it likely to affect people with particular protected characteristics differently?			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Is it a major policy, significantly affecting how functions are delivered?			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Will the policy have a significant impact on how other organisations operate in terms of equality?			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Does the policy relate to functions that engagement has identified as being important to people with particular protected characteristics?			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Does the policy relate to an area with known inequalities?			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Outcome</b> (Where one or more 'Yes' boxes are ticked, the item is relevant to equality)				
Relevant to equality - Complete an EIA available at <a href="http://www.westberks.gov.uk/eia">www.westberks.gov.uk/eia</a>			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Not relevant to equality			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Consultation Responses

### Members:

**Leader of Council:** Cllr Gordon Lundie

**Overview & Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman:** Cllr Brian Bedwell

**Ward Members:** None

**Opposition Spokesperson:** Cllr David Allen

**Local Stakeholders:** Jo Fageant, Adviser, the Diocese of Oxford.

**Officers Consulted:**

**Trade Union:** None

Is this item subject to call-in?	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
----------------------------------	--	------------------------------

## Supporting Information

---

### 1. Background

- 1.1 The Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) was established in accordance with Section 390 of the Education Act 1996 by West Berkshire District Council acting as the Local Education Authority.
- 1.2 The SACRE was established to advise the Local Authority on such matters connected with religious worship and advise on methods of teaching, the choice of materials used and the provision of training for teachers.

### 2. Nominations for membership of the West Berkshire SACRE

- 2.1 The Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education comprises four groups each with a single vote to use when voting is necessary.

The four committees are:

Group A: Representatives of Christian denominations other than the Church of England and of other religions	Group B: Church of England representatives
Group C: One representative from each of the following teacher associations: NUT, NAS/UWT, ATL, PAT, NAHT and ASCL	Group D: Representatives of the local authority

- 2.2 The Local Authority is responsible for appointing members to each of these four committees and this is usually achieved by seeking nominations from each area.
- 2.3 Members have taken the opportunity to consider the rationale for minority faith group representation taking into account that:

“The 1996 Education Act says that group A should consist of ‘a group of persons to represent such Christian denominations and other religions and denominations of such religions as, in the opinion of the authority, will appropriately reflect the principal religious traditions in the area’; ... and ‘The number of representative members appointed ...to represent each denomination or religion required to be represented shall, as far as consistent with the efficient discharge of the group’s functions, reflect broadly the proportionate strength of that denomination or religion in the area.”

- 2.4 The SACRE has representatives from the Free Church, Jewish and Sikh communities, but has vacancies in other religious groups.
- 2.5 In accordance with the SACRE constitution, the Executive Member for Children and Young People is requested to accept Mr Keith Harvey as the Local Authority

representative on the West Berkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education.

## **Appendices**

---

There are no Appendices to this report.