

Individual Executive Member Decision

Title of Report:	Appointment of Representatives on the West Berkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education
Report to be considered by:	Individual Executive Member Decision
Date on which Decision is to be taken:	18 December 2014
Forward Plan Ref:	ID2915

Purpose of Report: To recommend the appointment of Mrs M Pratico and Mr Robin Sharples as Church of England representatives, Becky Aboutaj as the Muslim representative and Sr Harriet Thomas as the Catholic representative on the West Berkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education.

Recommended Action: To agree the appointment of Mrs M Pratico and Mr Robin Sharples as Church of England representatives, Becky Aboutaj as the Muslim representative and Sr Harriet Thomas as the Catholic representative on the West Berkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education.

Reason for decision to be taken: To fill four vacancies on the Group.

Other options considered: n/a

Key background documentation: Education Act 1996

Portfolio Member Details	
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Implications

Policy:	In accordance with Section 390 of the Education Act 1996 the SACRE requires representations from the Church of England, the Muslim faith and the Catholic Church.
Financial:	n/a
Personnel:	n/a
Legal/Procurement:	n/a
Environmental:	n/a
Property:	n/a
Risk Management:	n/a
Equalities Impact Assessment:	The above communities would have a full quorum of representatives.

Consultation Responses

Members:

Leader of Council:	Councillor Gordon Lundie
Overview & Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman:	Councillor Brian Bedwell
Ward Members:	All Members
Opposition Spokesperson:	Councillor David Allen
Local Stakeholders:	WBC SACRE:- Jo Fageant, Adviser, the Diocese of Oxford
Officers Consulted:	n/a
Trade Union:	n/a

Is this item subject to call-in?	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
If not subject to call-in please put a cross in the appropriate box:		
The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval		<input type="checkbox"/>
Delays in implementation could have serious financial implications for the Council		<input type="checkbox"/>
Delays in implementation could compromise the Council's position		<input type="checkbox"/>
Considered or reviewed by Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission or associated Task Groups within preceding six months		<input type="checkbox"/>
Item is Urgent Key Decision		<input type="checkbox"/>
Report is to note only		<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 set the RE syllabus, advise the Local Authority on 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 groups are:

Group A: Representative 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 association: 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 of each of these four groups. This is usually achieved by seeking nominations from each area.
- 2.3 Nominations had been received for Mrs. M. Pratico, Mr. Robin Sharples, Becky Aboutaj and Sr Harriet Thomas and following consultation no objections were received to these nominations.
- 2.4 There are two vacancies for Group A representatives (Free Church). A letter has been sent to West Berkshire Council by the Fellowship nominating Mrs M. Pratico and Mr Robin Sharples.
- 2.5 There is also a vacancy for a Group A representative (Muslim). A letter has been sent to West Berkshire Council by All2gether nominating Becky Aboutaj.
- 2.6 Sr Harriet Thomas has been nominated by the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth as a representative for the Catholic Church.
- 2.7 It is therefore proposed that these nominations be accepted.

Appendices

There are no appendices to this report.