

Individual Executive Member Decision

Appointment of a Representative on the West Berkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Committee considering report: Individual Executive Member Decision

Date ID to be signed: 20 April 2017

Portfolio Member: Councillor Lynne Doherty

Forward Plan Ref: ID3288

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To recommend the appointment of Ms Clare Nolan (Religious Education teacher at Little Heath School) as a teaching union representative (NUT) on the West Berkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education.

2. Recommendation

2.1 To agree the appointment of Ms Clare Nolan as a teaching union representative (NUT) on the West Berkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education.

3. Implications

3.1 **Financial:** N/A

3.2 **Policy:** This is in accordance with the SACRE requirements of Section 390 of the Education Act 1996.

3.3 **Personnel:** N/A

3.4 **Legal:** N/A

3.5 **Risk Management:** N/A

3.6 **Property:** N/A

3.7 **Other:** N/A

4. Consultation Responses

Members:

Acting Leader of Council: Councillor Graham Jones

Overview & Scrutiny Management Councillor Emma Webster

Commission Chairman:

Opposition Spokesperson: Councillor Mollie Lock

Local Stakeholders: WBC SACRE – Alison Harris, Independent Consultant; Keith Harvey, Headteacher and Independent Advisor; and The Revd Mary Harwood, Chairman; are all in support of the nomination.

Officers Consulted: n/a

Trade Union: n/a

5. Other options considered

5.1 N/A

6. Introduction/Background

6.1 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.

6.2 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.

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: Representatives of Christian denominations other than the Church of England and of other religions	Group B: Church of England representatives
Group C: Up to 6 Education Union representatives from the following Unions, with no more than 3 from any one union: NUT, NAS/UWT, ATL, PAT, NAHT,SHA	Group D Representatives of the local authority

6.3 The Local Authority is responsible for appointing members to each of these four groups. This is usually achieved by seeking nominations from each area. There is currently only one representative in Group C (Education Union representatives). In order to allow additional representatives to join the West Berkshire SACRE, the committee recently changed its constitution to allow up to three members per union group, as set out in the table above.

6.4 A nomination has been received for Ms Clare Nolan, Religious Education teacher at Little Heath School, currently a member of the NUT. If appointed, Ms Nolan would represent Group C on the West Berkshire SACRE. The nomination has been supported by the Local Stakeholders as set out in the consultation responses. As Ms Nolan is a new member of the NUT then it has not been possible to obtain a letter of support from the union. Following consultation no objections were received to this nomination.

6.5 It is therefore proposed that this nomination be accepted.

7. Supporting Information

7.1 The Education Act 1996.

8. Options for Consideration

8.1 To appoint Ms Clare Nolan to Group C (Education Union representatives) of the West Berkshire SACRE.

9. Proposals

9.1 To appoint Ms Clare Nolan to Group C (Education Union representatives) of the West Berkshire SACRE.

Background Papers:

The West Berkshire SACRE Constitution

Subject to Call-In:

Yes: No:

Officer details:

Name: Jo Watt
Job Title: Appeals Officer
Tel No: 01635 519458
E-mail Address: jo.watt@westberks.gov.uk

10. Conclusion

10.1 In order to maintain the structure of the West Berkshire SACRE, it is necessary to appoint representatives to each of the groups of representatives.

11. Appendices

There are no appendices to this report.