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| <b>6 November 2019</b>  |                                 | <b>ITEM: 7</b> |
| <b>Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education</b>   |                                 |                |
| <b>Work Plan 2019-2020 – Second Draft</b>   |                                 |                |
| <b>Wards and communities affected:</b><br>All   | <b>Key Decision:</b><br>Non-Key |                |
| <b>Report of:</b> Deborah Weston, Associate Adviser for Religious Education   |                                 |                |
| <b>Accountable Assistant Director:</b> Michele Lucas, Assistant Director of Education and Skills  |                                 |                |
| <b>Accountable Director:</b> Roger Harris, Corporate Director of Adults, Housing and Health and Interim Director of Children’s Services |                                 |                |
| <b>This report is Public</b>  |                                 |                |

## **Executive Summary**

Following the discussion of the non-statutory guidance on RE and the review of the 2018-19 work plan at the last meeting, SACRE worked on a draft work plan for 2019-20. This report proposes a second draft of that plan for adoption at the autumn term meeting.

### **1. Recommendation(s) that SACRE:**

#### **1.1 Consider the adoption of the draft work plan for 2019-2020**

### **2. Introduction and Background**

2.1 This work plan sets out a list of objectives for SACRE based on the responsibilities for SACRE described in the non-statutory guidance. For each of these responsibilities, there follows a set of actions and success criteria.

### **3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options**

3.1 The scope of work plan must take account of the current SACRE budget which comes from the CSSB (central schools services block) of funding which is allocated to each local authority.

3.2 National and local developments in RE or in education more generally may require SACRE to edit the plan during the year.

#### **4. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 4.1 A well designed workplan specifies objectives for a **committee**, actions to meet the objective, criteria to evaluate the success of the actions and timelines for completion of the goals.

#### **5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)**

- 5.1 Not applicable

#### **6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact**

- 6.1 the Local Authority reviews its Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education on a regular basis;
- Publishes an Annual Report of its work;
  - Offers guidance on resources and methods of teaching and in consultation with Thurrock Schools;
  - Monitors the quality of provision for RE and Collective Acts of Worship in Thurrock.

This exercise falls under all three elements of this programme.

#### **7. Implications**

##### **7.1 Financial**

Implications verified by: **David May**  
**Strategic Lead Finance**

There are no financial implications to this report since the analysis of the data collected through this exercise will be conducted by the Associate RE Adviser as part of her work

##### **7.2 Legal**

Implications verified by: **Lucinda Bell**  
**Education Lawyer**

The legal duties on the advisory council are set out in section 391 Education Act 1996. The main one is to advise the local authority on such matters connected with the religious worship in community schools or in foundation schools which do not have a religious character and the religious education to be given in accordance with an agreed or other syllabus as the authority may refer to the council or as the council may see fit.

### 7.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Natalie Warren**  
**Strategic Lead for Community Development**

SACRE will continue to dedicate time for the discussion of the way in which religious education can help improve the level of community cohesion in Thurrock. The Agreed Syllabus is specific about the expected outcomes of teaching of religious education in this respect. The teaching of RE should help schools to fulfil their statutory duty to promote community cohesion and to encourage better respect and tolerance for those with different religions and beliefs.

### 7.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

- Not applicable

### 8. **Appendices to the Report**

- Appendix 1 - Developing an action plan for SACRE – second draft
- Appendix 2 - SACRE Work Plan– second draft

#### **Report Author:**

Deborah Weston

Associate Adviser for RE