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Chief Officer (Governance)
Prif Swyddog (Llywodraethu)



CS/NG

1 February 2024

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To: Cllr Dave Mackie (Chair)

Councillors: Marion Bateman, Paul Cunningham, Adele Davies-Cooke, Mared Eastwood, Roz Mansell, Debbie Owen and Andrew Parkhurst

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS:

Church in Wales Representatives

(St Asaph Diocese)

Jennie Downes (Diocesan Office)

Marina Parsons (Headteacher Trelawnyd)

Roman Catholic Representatives

Wendy White (Diocesan Office)

and John Morgan (St Anthony's Catholic Primary School)

Presbyterian Church of Wales

(Henaduriaeth y Gogledd Ddwyrain)

Rev. Huw Powell Davies and
Ann Smith

TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS:

Secondary Heads

Catherine McCormack (St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School)

Primary Heads Federation

Anna Stephens (St John the Baptist VA School)

Secondary RE Specialist

Lyn Oakes (Alun High School)

College Representative Deeside VI

Robert Hughes (Coleg Cambria)

Primary Classroom Teachers

Amira Mattar (Westwood CP School)

Special School Representative

Julian Lewis (Ysgol Pen Coch)

Dear Sir / Madam

A remote meeting of the **FLINTSHIRE SACRE / STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)** will be held on **WEDNESDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY, 2024** at **4.00 PM** to consider the following items.

Yours sincerely

Steven Goodrum
Democratic Services Manager

The meeting will be live streamed onto the Council's website. A recording of the meeting will also be available, shortly after the meeting at <https://flintshire.publici.tv/core/portal/home>

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact a member of the Democratic Services Team on 01352 702345.

A G E N D A

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: CODE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONDUCT

Members are reminded that they must declare the **existence** and **nature** of their declared personal interests.

3 MINUTES (Pages 5 - 8)

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting.

4 ANALYSIS OF INSPECTION REPORTS (Pages 9 - 12)

To receive a report from Vicky Barlow, Senior Manager for School Improvement, Education and Youth Portfolio

5 CRITERIA FOR CO-OPTION OF MEMBERS

To receive a verbal report from Kim Brookes, Clerk to the Committee (Senior Manager Business Support and School Governance, Education and Youth Portfolio).

6 TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)

To receive a verbal update on the proposed timetable from Kim Brookes, Clerk to the Committee (Senior Manager Business Support and School Governance, Education and Youth Portfolio)

7 CORRESPONDENCE

8 WASACRE CONFERENCE JUNE 13 2024

Diary marker circulated previously to members.

9 FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings will be held at 4pm on the following dates:

Wednesday 5 June 2024

Procedural Note on the conduct of meetings

The Chair will open the meeting and introduce themselves.

The meeting will be attended by a number of Councillors. Officers will also be in attendance to present reports, with Democratic Services officers acting as hosts of the meeting.

All attendees are asked to ensure their mobile phones are switched off and that any background noise is kept to a minimum.

All microphones are to be kept muted during the meeting and should only be unmuted when invited to speak by the Chair. When invitees have finished speaking they should go back on mute.

To indicate to speak, Councillors will use the chat facility or use the electronic raise hand function. The chat function may also be used for questions, relevant comments and officer advice and updates.

The Chair will call the speakers, with elected Members addressed as 'Councillor' and officers addressed by their job title e.g. Chief Executive' or name. From time to time, the officer advising the Chair will explain procedural points or suggest alternative wording for proposals, to assist the Committee.

If and when a vote is taken, the Chair will explain that only those who oppose the proposal(s), or who wish to abstain will need to indicate. The officer advising the Chair will indicate whether the proposals are carried.

If a more formal vote is needed, this will be by roll call – where each Councillor will be asked in turn (alphabetically) how s/he wishes to vote

At County Council and Planning Committee meetings speaker's times are limited. A bell will be sounded to alert that the speaker has one minute remaining

The meeting will be live streamed onto the Council's website. A recording of the meeting will also be available, shortly after the meeting at <https://flintshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
SACRE / SAC COMMITTEE
23 NOVEMBER 2023

Minutes of the meeting of the SACRE Committee of Flintshire County Council held virtually on the 23 November 2023

IN ATTENDANCE:

Elected Members:

Cllr Dave Mackie (DM); Cllr A Parkhurst (AP); Cllr Mared Eastwood (ME);
Cllr Marion Bateman (MB); Cllr Adele Davies-Cooke (AD)

Church in Wales Representatives (St Asaph Diocese):

Jennie Downes (JD); Marina Parsons (MP)

Presbyterian Church of Wales representatives:

Rev Huw Powell Davies (HD); Ann Smith (AS)

Roman Catholic Representative:

John Morgan, Headteacher St. Anthony's RC Primary school

Primary schools' representative:

Amira Mattar (Westwood CP School);

Primary Heads' representative:

Anna Stephens (AS), St John the Baptist VA School:

Secondary schools' representative:

Lyn Oakes, Alun High School

Education Representatives:

Vicky Barlow (VB), Senior Manager School Improvement; Jane Borthwick (JB) Senior Learning Adviser.

Also, in attendance:

Kim Brookes (KB), Senior Manager, Education & Youth (Clerk); Karen Jones, Democratic Services Clerk; KJ confirmed meeting was being recorded.

Clerk welcomed colleagues to the meeting. It was confirmed that the numbers present meant the meeting was quorate.

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR 2023-24

Clerk asked Members to elect a Chair for the Committee. Cllr Dave Mackie (DM) nominated and accepted as Chair for the year.

2. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR FOR 2023-24**

Chair thanked Members for the nomination and asked for nomination as Vice Chair to the Committee. Marina Parsons (MP) nominated and accepted as Vice Chair for the year.

3. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Paul Cunningham; Cllr Debbie Owen; Cllr Roz Mansell; Catherine McCormack; Wendy White; Robert Hughes; Julian Lewis

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – CODE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONDUCT**

None declared but noting those Elected members who are school governors.

5. **MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD 7 JUNE 2023**

Agreed: minutes accepted as a true record.

6. **WASACRE MEETING HELD ON 25 OCTOBER 2023:**

VB reminded members that we may provide four attendees to each termly meeting of the WASACRE. Meetings are on-line which enable good representation. National professional learning resources are available on Hwb with further resources on cross curricular themes coming online by end of term; Useful playlist available for governors in ensuring RVE and collective worship are met.

VB reminded members of the standing request for future ideas and resources that would be useful, and Heads Feds have been asked for ideas also.

JD advised that the RVE Annual Conference is to be held in Wrexham on the 13 June 2024 and will be a mix of on-line and in-person seminars. Minister for Education invited to attend.

Chair noted the dynamic work that WASACRE provides.

Action: VB to share details of Annual Conference and booking arrangements.

7. **DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT FOR SACRE 2022 - 2023**

VB reminded members of duty of this Committee to produce an annual report based on national guidance and template. Updated guidance is due but subject to Committee approval, final draft needs to be submitted to translation.

In response to Cllr AP, VB advised that schools must have processes in place in response to requests to withdraw from RVE. No complaints have been received by SACRE. WASACRE have provided advice to authorities on dealing with any such requests from parents.

HP thanked VB for producing the report. **Approved:** annual report 22/23

8. **ANALYSIS OF ESTYN INSPECTION REPORTS**

VB was pleased to note the positive comments referred to in the detailed report attached. No schools had received any recommendations of RVE or collective worship during this Estyn inspection cycle. Cllr ME pleased to note the report and thanked VB. VB asked the Committee to acknowledge the support provided to schools by Jane Borthwick, Senior Primary Learning Adviser.

9. **WJEC CONSULTATION ON RELIGIOUS STUDIES GCSE PROPOSALS**

VB drew the Committee's attention to the WJEC's current consultation on GCSE proposals at

<https://www.wjec.co.uk/home/qualifications-in-development/qualified-for-the-future-wjecis-ready-to-deliver/consultation>.

LO confirmed secondary schools were contributing.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

VB advised members that a request had been received from a member of school staff requesting to join the SACRE.

Clerk advised that the existing terms of reference do provide for 'co-opted members' to assist SACRE in the performance of its functions, with the Committee determining the terms of reference for any such appointments. Clerk advised that a future meeting of the SACRE an agenda item be considered on the appointment of co-opted members, how many, for what 'purpose', how long they are co-opted for and whether they have voting rights. Once the Committee have approved the criteria, they could then have a vote on applications.

Action: to agenda consideration of co-opted committee members.

11. FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings will be held at 4pm on the following dates:

Wednesday 7 February 2024

Wednesday 5 June 2024

Chair thanked Committee members and Officers for their attendance. Meeting ended 16.58pm

Analysis of Estyn Inspection Reports

Flintshire SACRE

February 2024

Reports published in autumn term 2023

School	Inspection by Estyn
Argoed High School	September 2023
Ysgol Derwen	October 2023
Ysgol Croes Atti	October 2023
Wepre	October 2023

1. Inspection Area: Learning

1.1 As they mature, they (*youngest pupils*) build on their writing skills effectively in a suitable range of genres, for example when recalling previous knowledge to re-write a story about St Winifred and using rich Welsh vocabulary. (Ysgol Croes Atti)

1.2 Pupils develop their creative skills through their work on other cultures. For example, they design lanterns for a Swiss festival. (Wepre CP)

2. Inspection Area: Wellbeing and attitudes to Learning

2.1 Nearly all pupils show a strong awareness of the importance of their contributions towards creating a caring society and they develop effectively as ethical and well-informed citizens. They are fair and caring in their interactions with others and support the school in arranging fund raising events to support others in society, and for a defibrillator at the school. (Ysgol Derwen)

2.2 The inclusive pupil voice groups allow pupils to take an active part in school life and their representatives demonstrate a range of leadership skills. This includes Year 6 'buddies' that keep younger pupils safe and interact with them at playtimes. They fulfil their responsibilities conscientiously and representatives are proud of their valuable contributions and achievements. (Ysgol Derwen)

2.3 Many pupils have a sound understanding of their rights and responsibilities as global citizens. The 'Y Byd a'i Bethau' council presents the importance of recycling to the school's pupils and then shares advice with parents by e-mail. They have also

contributed food and various products to the local food bank. These initiatives help them to develop as ethical and responsible citizens. (Ysgol Croes Atti)

3. Inspection Area: Teaching and Learning Experiences

3.1 In planning to implement a Curriculum for Wales, leaders have maintained a clear focus on the quality of teaching. They have consulted appropriately with staff and pupils to formulate a vision for their curriculum. Subject leaders have developed their learning plans suitably in line with this vision. (Argoed High School)

3.2 The school provides a broad and balanced curriculum that aligns effectively to the vision and principles of Curriculum for Wales and the school's inclusive ethos. (Ysgol Derwen)

3.3 Teachers provide learning experiences that inspire pupils. They have a good understanding of the curriculum and plan effectively across the classes. As a result, staff share their expertise across the curriculum successfully. Activities are planned purposefully and build gradually on pupils' existing knowledge, understanding, skills and experiences to ensure progression in their learning. (Croes Atti)

3.4 The school is beginning to implement its curriculum to align with the principles of Curriculum for Wales appropriately. Its approach to teaching and learning linked to relationships, for example, ensures there are suitable opportunities for pupils to learn about global faiths and cultures and about the role that influential people have played in overcoming barriers to change. *However, teachers often use low level activities such as colouring, and do not provide suitable opportunities to deepen pupils' learning or to make links in their learning through authentic experiences in their locality.* (Wepre CP)

4. Inspection Area: Care, Support and Guidance

4.1 The school's provision for pupils' spiritual and moral development is a strength. Pupils develop a clear understanding of right and wrong through discussions during tutor time, presentations in weekly assemblies and planned whole-school awareness days on important themes such as generosity and respect. (Argoed High School)

4.2 Staff encourage all pupils to take on leadership roles effectively on a variety of elected groups. This provision broadens their understanding of the importance of becoming active citizens and the importance of individuals' contributions to support and sustain a purposeful society. For example, members of the school council lead on

arranging fundraising days and coffee mornings to support charities and communities affected by war. (Ysgol Derwen)

4.3 The school has a beneficial range of opportunities that help pupils to develop a good understanding of their Welsh heritage. For example, the school promotes their 'cynefin' effectively, through each class studying different aspects of the locality and different areas of Wales. (Ysgol Derwen)

4.4 The school uses collective worship successfully to promote pupils' spiritual and moral development. For example, pupils support a local food bank through collecting donations in their harvest festival celebrations. These activities contribute well to pupils' understanding that supporting each other is important in a caring society. (Ysgol Derwen)

4.5 The school provides opportunities that contribute towards developing pupils' spiritual and ethical beliefs and helps them to investigate issues relating to tolerance and respect for others. Following an imaginary hot chair session with Martin Luther King, Year 3 and 4 pupils develop moving speeches about dreams of a fair and equal world for all. (Ysgol Croes Atti)

4.6 The school provides suitable opportunities for pupils to learn about cultures around the world, for instance when studying festivals in South Africa and Mexico. The school's curriculum experiences help pupils to reflect on religions, beliefs and values. Older pupils compare similarities and differences between religious beliefs and traditions. As a result, pupils talk confidently about how different religions, traditions and cultures are similar to theirs. (Wepre CP)

4.7 The school provides valuable experiences to promote pupils' moral and spiritual development. Regular collective worship provides effective opportunities for pupils to reflect on Christian beliefs. For example, pupils consider how the Bible message of treating others as they want to be treated can guide them in their lives. (Wepre CP)

5. Inspection Area: Leadership and Management

5.1 The headteacher's vision of nurturing a happy, successful school is clear, and shared by staff and governors alike. He is a reflective leader who has a sound understanding of the school's main strengths and areas for improvement. (Argoed High School)

5.2 The headteacher focuses on placing the school at the heart of its community and he ensures that the learning and well-being of pupils remains at the centre of this vision.

The governors and staff support this philosophy and implement it to the best of their abilities. The headteacher encourages staff to model behaviours and values that are based purposefully on the school's caring ethos, which aim to benefit the school community and the lives of its pupils. As a result, leaders ensure that a caring and supportive atmosphere permeates throughout the school, which the pupils embrace positively. (Ysgol Derwen)

5.3 The headteacher's effective leadership sets a clear strategic direction for the school's development. He leads a successful team of leaders and staff who have succeeded in working with stakeholders to create a shared vision. This is based on developing pupils' Welsh language skills and creating a Welsh culture as a central element of the school's life and work. As a result, there is a strong sense of Welshness. (Ysgol Croes Atti)

5.4 School leaders have established a clear vision for the school and create a positive ethos where all pupils and staff feel valued and develop excellent relationships. (Wepre CP)

5.5 . Senior leaders have worked creatively to develop a progressive curriculum in line with the expectations of the Curriculum for Wales. (Wepre CP)