



Report of the activities of the Association 2012 – 2013

1. The Association met on three occasions: 26 June 2012 at Llandudno Junction, 23 November 2012 in Merthyr Tydfil, and 22 March 2013 in Newport. We are grateful to the hosting SACREs and local authorities for their generous support and hospitality.

2. The Executive Committee met on three occasions in Cardiff: 16 October 2012, 6 February 2013, and 16 May 2013.

The Executive Committee had a full agenda throughout the year that included:

(a) working with Welsh Government in an advisory role during the production of the document, *Review of SACRE Reports*;

(b) being consulted by Estyn in relation to Estyn's Thematic Review of Religious Education at key stages 3 and 4 (recognising that the decision to conduct a thematic review of the subject came from a request made to the Minister of Education and Skills by the Association);

(c) planning the next conference of the Association for October 2013, which includes as speakers Leighton Andrews, Minister of Education and Skills and Mark Campion, Estyn;

(d) providing national training for secondary RE teachers in the use of levels in RE at key stage 3, which was a response to needs identified by the Association as a result of the Welsh Government's key stage 3 moderation process;

(e) discussing and monitoring developments in Wales which are significant for the role of SACREs and their statutory duty to monitor and support Religious Education, such as the new regional arrangements with regard to consortia and the curriculum review;

(f) participating in bodies relevant to Religious Education outside Wales, such as the RE Council for England and Wales and the European Forum for Teachers of Religious Education;

(g) working with the RE Council for England and Wales to develop and trial an adapted version of the RE Quality Mark in Wales.

Throughout the year the close supportive relationship that exists between the Association and NAPfRE has been greatly valued.

6. Accounts. During the year income exceeded expenditure by £3384.66, which was an improvement on the position in 2010/11 when the income exceeded expenditure by £2184.37. The financial year commenced with a balance of £14939.22 and ended with a balance of

£18812.88. The finances of WASACRE, therefore, remained in a healthy condition, which has assisted WASACRE in funding its planned activities for the year.

The main source of income for WASACRE during 2011/12 was through annual subscriptions, paid by member SACREs. The bank interest remained small. Members accepted Treasurer's recommendation that the subs go up from £400 to £408 pounds.

7. New members of the Executive Committee. At the summer 2012 AGM, it was confirmed that Bethan James had taken over from Gill Vaisey as NAPfRE representative on the Executive Committee. Phil Lord (Denbighshire SACRE) was elected and Rheinallt Thomas (Anglesey SACRE) was re-elected to the Executive Committee for the period 2012-2015.

8. NAPfRE and WASACRE presentations. The Association received interesting and valuable presentations from:

- SACREs and the Local Community: WASACRE survey by Dr Tania ap Sion
- Young People's Attitudes to Religious Diversity by Professor Leslie Francis
- Further Education: Religious Education and Chaplaincy by Jonathan Martin and Andrew Morton
- Religious Education in the Higher Education Sector by Lynda Maddock
- National KS3 training on application of levels in Religious Educations by Gavin Craigen
- Religious Education Quality Mark by Phil Lord
- Presentations by advisors on the Foundation Phase