



Cyfarfod Pwyllgor Gwaith Cymdeithas CYSAGau Cymru/  
Wales Association of SACREs Executive Committee meeting

Dydd Gwener, 26 Medi 2014, Caerdydd/  
Friday, 26 September 2014, Cardiff

## Minutes

### ATTENDANCE LIST

Tania ap Siôn, Gavin Craigen, John Mitson, Edward Evans, Rheinallt Thomas, Bethan James, Gill Vaisey, Vicky Thomas, Libby Jones

**1. Croeso / Welcome**

TaS welcomed all members to the meeting at City United Reformed Church.

**2. Ymddiheuriadau / Apologies**

Mary Parry, Tim Rowlands.

Members requested a current list of the Executive members to circulate to all SACREs with the minutes of the July meeting. LJ actioned this.

**3. Cofnodion cyfarfod y Pwyllgor Gwaith diwethaf (14/05/2014) / Minutes of the last Executive meeting (14/05/2014)**

Minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by Vicky Thomas and seconded by Phil Lord.

**4. Materion yn codi / Matters arising**

Item 6. RE Council for England and Wales AGM. EE was concerned about not being able to hear the Minister, Huw Lewis' speech at the REC meeting. Rheinallt Thomas shared with members that in the Free Church meeting members were impressed with the speech and published it in the weekly newsletter.

**5. Cofnodion cyfarfod CCYSAGauC, 2 Gorffennaf 2014 / Minutes of the WASACRE meeting, 2 July 2014**

TaS thanked GC for chairing the meeting. The minutes were accepted by members as ready for circulation and LJ will circulate them to SACREs in English before arranging for them to be translated.

VT raised the question of how we choose example schools to highlight to Professor Donaldson. PL suggested using the REQM schools on the understanding that they have already achieved the Quality Mark in religious education and should therefore be able to offer examples of good practice. Members agreed that this was a good idea and PL agreed to chase this up.

BJ has made enquiries on developing a questionnaire that could be used by individual SACREs and/or WASACRE, which asks pupils about RE, so that departments/ schools/ LAs/ SACREs can compare their situation with other areas and nationally to help with self-evaluation. BJ explained that the model is similar to the Estyn questionnaire. VT suggested putting it on the NAPFRE agenda. TaS suggested it for a future presentation at a WASACRE meeting. The idea of an on-line questionnaire was discussed with reports being fed back or available to participating schools.

Members agreed that it would be useful to monitor and highlight patterns, that it could help with reviews in the future such as the Donaldson review, and that funding would be required.

**6. Taflen *What Islam Really Says / What Islam Really Says* leaflet**

Carys Prichard has shared the leaflet with NAPfRE and WASACRE (the leaflet was originally presented to Cardiff SACRE). The leaflet was discussed by members and it was considered that further information was required. It was agreed that LJ will check with Carys Pritchard regarding its origins and ask Cardiff SACRE whether they would be willing for WASACRE to share it with other SACREs. If Cardiff SACRE agree, then LJ will send the leaflet out to SACREs for their information, within the context of this being an initiative by the Cardiff Muslim community speaking as one voice about their common understanding of what Islam really says. It would depend on each individual SACRE as to whether or how they would use it.

**7. Materion Llywodraeth Cymru / *Welsh Government matters***

- Donaldson review - Professor Donaldson is currently writing up his report to present to Welsh Government and all other parties including WASACRE at the 'end of the year'. We need to be aware of this being published. We also need to send the REQM information about example schools/RE departments to him as soon as possible. BJ has highlighted that Welsh Government are drip feeding information through twitter re: education review. Members agreed to keep a watching brief.
- TaS updated members about WASACRE's Welsh Government contacts and correspondence. VT raised the point that as an Executive we should be following up on the Minister's promise to respond to us regarding our annual meeting with him and WASACRE should request a spring meeting in March/April/May. LJ will write to the Minister regarding this matter.

**8. Adroddiadau arolygu Estyn / *Estyn inspection reports***

VT raised that there are few instances of RE and Collective Worship in Estyn reports. Two reports from Caerphilly had nothing at all and one from each of the other authorities in VT's area. Vicky suggested that the Executive should write to Estyn to draw their attention to the absence of comments regarding RE and Collective Worship on quality and meeting statutory requirements. VT read out her own letter to members. Members agreed that WASACRE could write to Estyn to highlight that SACREs have noticed that some reports lack any comments on SMSC and in particular the contribution Collective Worship makes to it. Members were requested to share with WASACRE their experiences of this from their own LA for information, and LJ will write the letter to WG.

**9. Gohebiaeth / *Correspondence***

RE News. The letter received from Vaughan Salisbury from RE News was shared. LJ will add the RE News web address to these minutes. <http://www.religious-education-wales.org/> Members were asked if WASACRE should contribute financially to RE News, as suggested in VS's letter, but it was agreed not to do so.

John Mitson confirmed that the RE Council invoice was paid to the amount of £250.00. Members agreed for Libby Jones to be a 3<sup>rd</sup> named representative for WASACRE to receive correspondence with regard to REC meetings. LJ will email Sophie Agrotis from REC to accept and to seek clarification about WASACRE representation on the REC Board.

Right of withdrawal. GV raised the question of whether WASACRE should produce a guidance document on this. It was suggested that we ask SACREs if they have any guidance they already in use and to ask NASACRE also. Members agreed that we should produce some guidance and PL confirmed that we already did this for the post-16 Collective Worship guidance. Gill offered to collate all documents and work on one guidance document for WASACRE.

Exam data. LJ will request GCSE RE exam data for all LAs.

LJ confirmed that VT and PL are the WJEC representatives for the RE developments group (they will be representing WASACRE).

**10. Agenda ar gyfer cyfarfod y Gymdeithas (Torfaen), 26 Tachwedd 2014 / Agenda for the Association meeting (Torfaen), 26 November 2014**

NAPfRE presentations-

- WJEC presentation by Andrew Pearce. This will be on Data for Wales and what it tells us. LJ to write to Andrew to confirm.
- Feedback on last NAPfRE presentation and discussion.
- Monmouthshire SACRE presentation of their Yr 6 transition project. 20 minutes on each.

**11. U.F.A. / A.O.B**

GV asked about School Self Evaluation. Who is doing what in each LA? It would be useful to have an overview of what is going on in terms of whether they ask, how and their success. Feedback was requested for next meeting.

GC confirmed that in RE Today the new membership scheme for NATRE is now out. They are keen to include Wales more. GC handed out the NATRE leaflet. GC will write something about RE in Wales to go in the handbook and circulate to the Executive before sending it to NATRE.

JM raised the issue of a new Treasurer being needed soon due to his upcoming retirement. Discussion took place about the possibilities of John continuing in this role until the AGM and possibly beyond.

**12. Dyddiad cyfarfod nesaf y Pwyllgor Gwaith / Date of the next Executive meeting: 2 Chwefror 2015 / 2 February 2015.**  
City URC