



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

**Dydd Llun, 2 Chwefror 2015, Caerdydd/
Monday, 2 February 2015, Cardiff**

Minutes

ATTENDANCE LIST

Tania ap Siôn, Gavin Craigen, Phil Lord, Bethan James, Vicky Thomas, Mary Parry, Libby Jones

1. Croeso / Welcome

Chair, Tania ap Sion welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Ymddiheuriadau / Apologies

Gill Vaisey, Edward Evans, John Mitson, Rheinallt Thomas

3. Cofnodion cyfarfod y Pwyllgor Gwaith diwethaf (26/09/2014) / Minutes of the last Executive meeting (26/09/2014)

The minutes were accepted as true record of the meeting.

4. Materion yn codi / Matters arising

Item 5. REQM Example schools- Members agreed to include on the WASACRE website a list of the schools in Wales who have achieved the REQM. It was decided that it is too late to send this information directly to Professor Donaldson. Huw Lewis will be making a speech on Thursday, 5 February 2015 which is available by webinar to view. Vicky Thomas suggested looking out for CPD for teachers, including RE specific CPD. NAPfRE will set aside time on the next agenda to discuss Professor Donaldson's report and the Minister's response which should be published some time in February. The general feeling of the committee was that RE is in a stronger position than other non-statutory subjects.

Item 5. Developing a questionnaire to access learner perceptions of. It was agreed that this would be discussed further at the next NAPfRE meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the value of the questionnaire, who would be responsible for it and what the results would be used for. Tania ap Sion commented that it would be useful in getting a representative access to the 'pupil voice'. Vicky Thomas added that it would help improve the status and position of RE and would send out the message that RE is important. Phil Lord suggested that it could be part of a bigger package to help schools complete their self-evaluation and WASACRE could provide the survey as a tool for this. The results of the survey could then be used to analyse RE in Wales and there would be a better chance of getting a good response from schools. Vicky Thomas suggested a primary and a secondary package. Tania ap Sion commented that the questionnaire would need to be carefully constructed to be useful, but that it is worth doing and pursuing. Members agreed that a small group of the Executive Committee would decide on draft areas for questions at the next Executive meeting in May and that the Donaldson Report would also be taken account of and a response to it could be written at the meeting.

Item 6. What Islam Really says leaflet- Libby Jones explained that Cardiff SACRE originally shared the leaflet with the Executive Committee for our information. If other SACREs were

interested in using it, arrangements could be made for this by contacting Barrie Phillips via Carys Pritchard.

5. Cofnodion cyfarfod CCYSAGauC, 26 Tachwedd 2014 / Minutes of the WASACRE meeting, 26 November 2014

Following some slight amendments to specific wording, the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Members agreed to send the minutes out to SACREs in English immediately, and once translated Libby Jones will send them out bilingually to all SACREs in time for the next meeting. Gavin Craigen suggested that in future as soon as the minutes are completed they are sent to Executive Committee members for checking and then sent for translation so that they can be circulated more quickly.

6. Materion Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government matters

- Adolygiad Donaldson/ *Donaldson review* – Members decided that no additional discussion was needed on this matter.
- Cyfarfod Llywodraeth Cymru/ *Welsh Government contact meeting-*

Tania ap Sion updated members on the current position in regard to the reinstatement of the Minister's meeting. In his last letter to WASACRE the Minister said that he would not be making any decision about this until after the Donaldson Report has been published. In the meantime, a meeting has taken place between John Pugsley and Steve Price from Welsh Government and Tania ap Sion and Libby Jones from WASACRE. In this meeting it was agreed that at least two meetings a year would take place in order to maintain a supportive working relationship between the two organisations. The nature of this relationship was discussed by members.

7. Bagloriaeth Cymru ac AG/ Welsh Baccalaureate and religious education

Members agreed that a presentation on this would be useful at the next WASACRE meeting on 6 March 2015. Libby Jones will ask John Pugsley from Welsh Government if a statement can be included in the WBACC documentation specifically about Religious Education.

8. Adroddiadau arolygu Estyn / Estyn inspection reports (SMSC and collective worship)

Vicky Thomas updated members on the correspondence between Caerphilly SACRE and Estyn. A letter was received from Anne Keane to confirm that inspectors would be reminded of the requirement to report on the social, moral, spiritual and cultural development of pupils in their next e-shot. Members were pleased with the response from Estyn and decided to respond again to Anne Keane in Autumn 2015 after collating evidence to check whether this requirement has been fulfilled. Members also agreed that it is important to write to the Minister for Education and Skills regarding the reporting of collective worship by Estyn.

9. Monitro CYSAG (addysg grefyddol ac addoli ar y cyd)/ SACRE monitoring (religious education and collective worship)

Members shared their experience of using the SACRE monitoring forms in their own Local Authorities and reported mixed success. Tania ap Sion thanked Bethan for sharing examples of good self-evaluation from Gwynedd and Anglesey and said that John Pugsley from Welsh Government was impressed with the information in the SACRE reports, which she felt suggests that it is worthwhile for SACREs to carry on using the monitoring form. Members agreed that it would be helpful if John Pugsley would ask Welsh Government to support the SACRE monitoring forms to ensure the completion of them by all schools. This will be included as an agenda item at the next Welsh Government meeting.

10. Datblygiadau arholiadau AC yng Nghymru/ RS examination developments in Wales

Vicky read through her paper which was included with the papers for the meeting. It was agreed that this would also be discussed in the main meeting in March.

11. Cyngor AG Cymru a Lloegr/ RE Council for England and Wales

Wales is no longer represented on the Board of REC (since May 2014). In the past Wales has had a co-opted place/s but there has never been a place for Wales in any other capacity. The REC is

now giving Wales the opportunity to offer nominations for an elected position, but our nominees may or may not get elected. Gavin Craigen proposed writing to the REC to express disappointment and to request that a place on the board is safeguarded for Wales. If this were not done, the REC would find it difficult to retain 'Wales' in its name. Libby Jones will write an email/letter.

12. Gohebiaeth / Correspondence

There was no correspondence in addition to that already discussed.

13. Agenda ar gyfer cyfarfod y Gymdeithas (NPT), 6 Mawrth 2015 / Agenda for the Association meeting (Neath Port Talbot), 6 March 2015

Rachel Bendal- "The LNF and Maintaining an RE Focus"

Mary Parry- "Engaging boys in RE and raising their standards"

14. U.F.A. / A.O.B

Phil Lord is stepping down as the REQM link person. The work establishing the REQM in Wales has been completed and there is now a need for a link person from Wales only. It was agreed that Libby Jones would take on this role. Tania ap Sion thanked Phil Lord for his initiative, hard work and dedication in relation to the REQM.

15. Dyddiad cyfarfod nesaf y Pwyllgor Gwaith / Date of the next Executive meeting: Monday, 11 May 2015 / Monday, 11 May 2015. City URC.

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