

PROFESIONAL RE OFFICER FOR SACRE
National Advisory Panel for Religious Education (NAPfRE) 19/11/18

Dear Director of Education

At the recent meeting of the National Advisory Panel for Religious Education (NAPfRE) members were made aware that a number of colleagues who have previously provided professional support to LA's/SACREs/Consortia for religious education are no longer able to continue their work, due to either retirement, or limited capacity/funding issues. These colleagues have been valued and supportive members of NAPfRE for a number of years and their expertise has been relied upon at meetings.

Obviously this is a concern to NAPfRE, but also to SACREs and to teachers who value and depend on that support. As you are aware, LA's have a statutory duty to maintain a Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) and this committee works most efficiently when there is a dedicated professional religious education support officer to serve it and to ensure that its statutory duties are carried out appropriately. WASACRE recently highlighted this issue in a letter to you asking for information about the level of professional support for RE and SACRE in your LA.

With that in mind and as Chair of NAPfRE, I would like to invite you to nominate a new representative from your LA who can attend NAPfRE meetings on a termly basis, in order to keep abreast of developments and issues with regard to RE in Wales, and in order to support your local authority in dealing with matters relating to RE. Obviously it would be desirable for the representative to have expertise and experience in religious education.

NAPfRE meetings are always the day before WASACRE meetings and take place three times a year at different venues across Wales. The next meeting is in the Vale of Glamorgan on Monday 19th November 2018.

Thank you in advance for your support. If you would like to discuss any of the above with me please get in touch and I would be happy to speak with you. I look forward to your response.

With best wishes,

Libby Jones
RE Advisor
Wrexham County Borough Council
Chair of NAPfRE