

SIKH FAITH REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEE A

Report By: Committee Officer (Scrutiny)

Purpose

1. To consider inviting representation from the Sikh faith.

Background

2. Since its formation in 1998 Herefordshire SACRE has sought to broaden the range of faiths represented on Committee A (Christian denominations and other religious and religious denominations) by seeking appropriate authoritative representation from other faiths.
3. Members will be aware that in accordance with the statutory requirement the current membership of Committee A is comprised of:
 - One Roman Catholic representative (nominated by the Roman Catholic hierarchy)
 - One Free Church representative (nominated by Churches Together in Herefordshire)
 - Other Faith representatives - one Bahá'í, one Muslim and one representative of other faiths as a whole.
4. While paragraph 110 of DfE Circular 1/94 states that "it is the Local Education Authority (LEA) who appoints the members of the five Committees..." the LEA would clearly give serious consideration to any change SACRE wished to make to its membership.
5. At its meeting on 20th March 2006 members heard a very informative presentation on the Sikh faith given by Mr Harvinder Singh and Mr Popinder Matharu. It is suggested that SACRE consider whether it recommend to the LEA that the membership of Committee A be extended to include one representative from the Sikh faith.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT SACRE consider the range of faiths on Committee A and whether it wishes to recommend to the Local Education Authority that the membership of Committee A be extended to include a representative from the Sikh faith.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- None identified.