



Lambeth SACRE Annual Report 2018

**Lambeth Standing Advisory Council on
Religious Education**

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Lambeth SACRE is a member of the National Association of SACREs

<http://www.nasacre.org.uk/>



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1 Overview

SACRE Meetings

09.02.2018	International House, Brixton
17.04.2018	Lilian Baylis Technology College
05.06.2018	St Jude's CE School
29.11.2018	Lilian Baylis Technology College

The Lambeth Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) also met on 5 occasions during the year. The two bodies have membership in common.

This year Shaun Burns was re-elected Chair of both the SACRE and the ASC. Jo Backus was elected as Deputy Chair of both bodies.

Despite this being a time of change and a time of austerity both nationally and locally, SACRE members continued to engage in many activities to support their work. As well as attending the full SACRE and ASC meetings this year, members engaged in work between meetings for both SACRE and the ASC. The Executive also met to plan work and meeting schedules.

1.1 Foreword by the Chair of SACRE

Welcome to the Lambeth SACRE Annual Report for 2018!

The Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) is the statutory body which each local authority has. Its responsibility is to advise, support and oversee the provision of RE and Collective Worship in its schools and colleges. It is a central committee of the Council and has official professional responsibilities given to it by the government.

Lambeth SACRE is made up of representatives of the various faiths and beliefs present in Lambeth, teachers and other representatives of educational professional associations and representatives of Lambeth Local Authority, including elected Councillors.

Together we work tirelessly to support our schools in ensuring our Lambeth students get the RE that they are entitled to, deserve and indeed need.

As you will read in this Annual Report, this year has been another busy year for Lambeth SACRE, considering local, national and international developments in RE, education generally and the wider world and how all of these impact upon RE here in Lambeth.

The main focus of our work this year has been, as the Agreed Syllabus Conference, (ASC,) the continuation of reviewing and revising the Lambeth Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, the completion of which becomes ever closer.

I would personally like to thank all the members of Lambeth SACRE and the ASC who have given of their time loyally, willingly and generously. We are a small but dedicated group of people who passionately care about RE here in Lambeth for every one of our pupils.

In particular, I must thank Denise Chaplin, our RE Consultant for Lambeth, for her professional specialist advice brought to SACRE and the ASC; Rachael Norman, our Local Authority representative, who always shows Lambeth values the place of RE in its schools; Maria Gabrielczyk, our SACRE Clerk, who meticulously and thoroughly keeps us all on track and organised; and Jo Backus, our Deputy Chair. Indeed thanks also goes to Lambeth Local Authority for its continued support for Lambeth SACRE and its work.

In these difficult and unsettling times of division in our country, RE continues to matter so much to our shared purpose and common hope. Good RE provides pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum that produces well-rounded, balanced and holistic individuals who are religiously literate. This is so important for life today and tomorrow in the world of Lambeth and further afield.

Cherish the faiths and beliefs that are Lambeth, learning together brings hope.

Shaun Burns
Chair, Lambeth SACRE.

2. Religious Education

2.1 **Locally Agreed Syllabus**

This year the Agreed Syllabus Conference continued in its work to produce a new Agreed Syllabus for Lambeth schools. Several meetings have focused on the developing of the syllabus and SACRE members have liaised via email about the detail pertaining to different units and how they support the teaching of the different beliefs and non-religious world views. Progress has been maintained and it is expected to launch the new syllabus in Autumn 2019.

2.1.1 **Monitoring**

The SACRE remains concerned about how to monitor both the quality of RE in Lambeth schools and the implementation of the Agreed Syllabus. SACRE members continue to investigate ways of monitoring RE that will be useful to teachers and to SACRE.

2.1.2 **Standards in Religious Education**

Locally devised measures of pupils' attainment: Assessment Guidance

Revision of the Assessment Advice is being considered in the Agreed Syllabus review. This work is being led by a further consultant who stepped in when Denise Chaplin had wrist surgery in the Autumn.

2.2 **Religious Studies Performance in 2017**

SACRE conducts an annual review of GCSE and A Level religious studies examination entries and outcomes.

Religious Education GCSE results 2018

GCSE results have changed from letter grades to a numerical system, making any "average point score" comparison with previous years largely invalid.

New "Progress 8" scores have been introduced for Religious Studies which is one of the approved non-EBacc (English Baccalaureate) subjects. This will be a useful measure in future years.

The number of pupils in England and Wales taking GCSE Religious Studies full course fell in 2018 for the second year in a row, down 10.4% to 241,749.

In addition, the number of pupils in England and Wales taking the short course GCSE in Religious Studies fell even more sharply, down 35.8% from 2017 to 34,087.

The decline is greater in England than in Wales. In England the number of entries for GCSE Religious Studies full course has fallen by 10.7% to 229,189. In Wales the equivalent figures were down by 4.2% to 12,560, although these came after the previous year's record high.

There were 990 entries for Full Course GCSE RS in Lambeth in 2018 compared to 1154 in 2017, 1219 in 2016, and 1214 in 2015.

There were also 157 entries for the short GCSE course.

Overall Lambeth averages for GCSE 9 to 4 results in RE have increased compared to last year and are now at 71% for A*-C grades compared to 66% in 2017. Results are below national at A*-C grades (72%).

Individual Lambeth school performance ranged from 95% to 53% 9 to 4. Girls achieved 76% compared to boys at 65%. Lambeth scores reflect the national pattern of attainment in terms of gender where girls nationally achieved 79% compared to boys at 63%.

When compared to other subjects RS continued to perform similar to overall Lambeth averages for English (68%), but now performs significantly higher than history and geography.

			Religious Studies Full	History	Geography	English
Lambeth	9 to 4	Boys	65%	54%	51%	55%
		Girls	76%	62%	52%	75%
		All	71%	58%	51%	68%
	9 to 1	Boys	99%	94%	99%	99%
		Girls	99%	97%	97%	99%
		All	99%	96%	98%	99%
National	9 to 4	Boys	63%	60%	61%	62%
		Girls	79%	67%	68%	77%
		All	72%	64%	64%	70%
	9 to 1	Boys	97%	96%	97%	98%
		Girls	99%	98%	99%	99%
		All	98%	97%	98%	99%
Difference	9 to 4	Boys	+2%	-6%	-10%	-7%
		Girls	-3%	-5%	-14%	-2%
		All	-1%	-6%	-13%	-2%
	9 to 1	Boys	+2%	-2%	+2%	+1%
		Girls	0%	-1%	-2%	0%
		All	+1%	-1%	0%	0%

School or college name	Number of students at the end of KS4	Number entered full RS 2018	% cohort entered for RS 2018	% cohort entered for RS 2017	% cohort entered for RS 2016	Entry up or down on 2017	Entry up or down on 2016	9 to 4 (A*-C) full course (Nat 72%)
Archbishop Tenison's	68	55	81%	94%	88%	-13%	-7%	75%
Bishop Thomas Grant	180	178	99%	99%	100%	0%	-1%	67%
Dunraven School	205	56	27%	34%	37%	-7%	-10%	93%
The Elmgreen School	176	19	11%	99%	92%	+11%	n/a	74%
Evelyn Grace Academy	162	33	20%	24%	36%	-4%	-16%	79%
La Retraite	148	148	100%	99%	99%	+1%	+1%	80%
Lambeth Academy	143	21	15%	15%	27%	0%	-12%	76%
Lilian Baylis	111	48	43%	59%	61%	-16%	-18%	81%
London Nautical School	106	43	41%	0%	7%	+41%	+34%	53%
Norwood School	118	21	18%	15%	24%	+3%	-6%	67%
Oasis Academy South Bank	120	20	17%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	95%
Platanos College	157	155	99%	92%	92%	+7%	+7%	57%
Saint Gabriel's College	79	76	96%	90%	93%	+6%	+3%	61%
St Martin in the Fields	116	117	99%	99%	99%	0%	0%	77%

Grade	Number Full Course	Percentage Full Course	Number Short Course	Percentage Short Course
Grade 9	36	4%	0	0%
8	84	8%	0	0%
7	105	11%	7	4%
6	171	17%	9	6%
5	165	17%	16	10%
4	145	15%	33	21%
3	104	11%	48	31%
2	77	8%	26	17%
1	40	4%	12	8%

RE post 16

The National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE) report the following on the national picture:

At a time when Religious Education is more important than ever, with the need for community integration in our diverse society, it is concerning to see a significant drop in the number of young people taking Religious Studies at A level in England and Wales. The drop in RS entries by 22.8% is disappointing given the subject's popularity has grown in recent years. Despite this reduction in entries for RS, there are still 65% more entries than in 2003 (11,132 entries were recorded in 2003).

- 18,422 RS A level entries were recorded, a decrease of 22.8% on 2017.
- The decrease in RS A level entries is an extreme example of a broader pattern of decreasing entries for humanities and social science subjects (English language down 14.8% across the UK, Geography down 11.3%, History down 2.7%) while entries for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths (STEM) subjects have increased (Chemistry up 3.4% across the UK, Physics up 3.4%, Biology up 3.1%, and Maths up 2.5%).
- Overall the number of A-level entries across England and Wales has dropped by 1.8% on 2017. This is related to the smaller cohort of students taking A levels this year with a decrease in the number of 18-year-olds in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland of 3.5% on 2017, and also due to fewer pupils taking four A-levels.
- There were 6,024 entries for RS at AS level, a decrease of 63% on 2017; this reflects the decline across all subjects where the number of AS entries fell by 55% across England and Wales (as AS level grades no longer count towards A levels under the linear scheme).
- 22.4% of entries for RS A level were awarded an A or an A* with 4.6% of RS entries awarded the top A* grade.

The Lambeth results are as follows:

In 2016, 86 Lambeth students across 8 institutions took AS level, with 97% achieving A-E grades and 42% achieving A-B grades. The national figures were 93% A-E and 45% A-B.

In 2017, 30 students across 4 institutions took AS level, with 90% achieving A-E grades and 33% achieving A-B grades. The national figures were 93% A-E and 47% A-B

In 2018, 22 students across 5 institutions took AS level, with 100% achieving A-E grades and 45% achieving A-B grades. The national figures were 88% A-E and 36% A-B

In 2016, 39 students across 7 schools were entered for A level RE, with 92% achieving A-E grades, 44% achieving A-B grades and 18% achieving A*/A grades. The national figures were 99% A*-E, 54% A*-B and 24% A*-A.

In 2017, 63 students across 8 schools were entered for A level RE, with 99% achieving A-E grades, 40% achieving A-B grades and 14% achieving A*/A grades. The national figures were 98% A*-E, 55% A*-B and 24% A*-A.

In 2018, 40 students across 7 schools were entered for A level RE, with 95% achieving A-E grades, 45% achieving A-B grades and 15% achieving A*/A grades. The national figures were 98% A*-E, 52% A*-B and 23% A*-A.

2.3 Teaching

2.3.1 Methods of teaching - training

The Agreed Syllabus launch in 2019 will be followed by training to introduce and support the syllabus implementation.

2.3.2 Methods of teaching - The choice of teaching materials

During the year schools were sent information about national resources e.g. for Holocaust Memorial Day.

2.4 Other Information

2.4.1 Complaints about RE

No formal complaints about RE in Lambeth schools have been presented to the SACRE this year.

2.4.2 Membership

Despite some vacancies being filled during the year, SACRE holds some vacancies. Members have been supporting the Clerk to pursue appropriate sponsoring bodies to fill vacancies. The Clerk has been contacting members whose attendance has been limited to explore ways forward.

3. Collective Worship

3.1 Advice

No Advice on Collective Worship has been issued this year.

3.2 Determinations

No schools applied for a Determination this year

3.3 Monitoring Collective Worship & Spiritual Development

Part of SACRE's role is to monitor the quality of Collective Worship in Lambeth schools.

The SACRE have also taken an interest in the British Values agenda and its link with SMSC.

3.4 Other information

3.4.1 Complaints

There have been no complaints about collective worship in Lambeth schools this year.

4. Links with other agencies

4.1 National

Information from a number of contacts and bodies enables the SACRE to keep abreast of national initiatives and to be involved in developments.

4.1.1 The Association of RE Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants (AREIAC)

The Consultant RE Adviser supporting the SACRE, the Chair of the SACRE and one of the other members of SACRE who is an independent RE Consultant, are members of AREIAC, an organisation for specialist educationalists, all qualified teachers, providing advice, challenge, leadership, training and support for multi-faith religious education in schools and colleges.

4.1.2 The National Association of SACREs (NASACRE)

Lambeth SACRE is a member of the National Association of SACREs and its Adviser is on the Executive of that body. Briefings from NASACRE are circulated to all members who frequently discuss issues raised.

4.1.3 The Inter Faith Network

The Deputy Chair is a Trustee of the Inter Faith Network UK

4.1.4 The Religious Education Council of England and Wales

The work of the REC has been disseminated throughout the year to inform SACRE, faith communities and local schools. A SACRE member is represented on the REC.

4.1.3 The Commission on RE

SACRE kept up to date during the year with the Work of the Commission on RE.

Early in the year SACRE members received feedback from the Deputy Chair on a conference she had attended in November in Birmingham on the CoRE work. They also received feedback from an evidence session to the Commission on Religious Education held at Greycoat School in December 2017 from Jo Backus and Sandra Teacher.

In November SACRE also discussed the RE Commission's Report using the questions suggested by NASACRE. Lambeth SACRE had responded to earlier versions of the Commission's work.

4.2 Local

Several SACRE members have links with local schools, faith communities and Inter Faith groups.

5. SACRE Arrangements

5.1 Support

The SACRE is supported by a consultant RE Adviser, a Clerk and a local LA Education Officer. The London Borough of Lambeth meets salaries and administrative costs for these posts and a budget for the revision of the Agreed Syllabus.

5.2 Induction arrangements for new members

SACRE members are concerned to ensure that new members can understand SACRE's work and participate actively as soon as possible. A Training session was provided for new or inexperienced members.

6. Other areas of work

6.1 Streatham Faith Trail

SACRE members have been updated on the trail and the feedback from teachers during the year. Members have felt this clearly supports the Agreed Syllabus implementation and expressed the need to see it linked more explicitly. This will be pursued in 2019.

6.2 Code of Conduct - revision

In June it was agreed that the Code of Conduct would be attached to the revised SACRE Constitution.

A discussion arose about membership numbers and representations of faith. It was suggested to view the census data to get a rough idea of faiths and

numbers in the area to help ensure SACRE's composition mirrored the faith and belief composition within the London Borough of Lambeth.

6.3 Ramadan Advice to Schools

Updated advice was circulated to schools.

6.4 The All Party Parliamentary Group on RE

Members received reports and discussed the work of the APPG during the year.

7. Appendices

Appendix A - Membership of Lambeth SACRE. - 2018

Committee A:	
GROUP A: Faiths and other beliefs other than C of E Caribbean Hindu Pentecostal Humanist Buddhist Majority Black Churches - Roman Catholic Archdiocese Judaism Sikhism	Shanti Briody Vacant Charley Jarrett Jo Backus Vacant since July 2016 Mike Cullinane Sandra Teacher Lady Kanwaljit Kaur Singh
Committee B:	
GROUP B: Church of England Sarah Thorley Shaun Burns - Chair	
Committee C:	
GROUP C: Teachers Pat Bennett - NEU Rep Jason McInnis – Secondary Teacher Vacant - RE Primary Teacher	
Committee D:	
GROUP D: LA Cllr Marcia Cameron Rachael Norman (representing the Director of Children's services) Denise Chaplin	
Co-opted:	

Prevent Officer

Lydia Nixon

Appendix B

Distribution of this report

The report is made available electronically to:

The Department for Education

The National Association of SACREs (NASACRE)

Lambeth SACRE members

Lambeth Council, Elected Members

Director of Children's services

Teaching Unions in Lambeth

SACRE Nominating Bodies

The main Faith Groups in Lambeth

Ecumenical Borough Deans

All schools in Lambeth

Lambeth LA Website

Appendix C – Lambeth SACRE Constitution

LAMBETH STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Standing Advisory Council shall be called the Lambeth SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education). It is established under Section 3.90 – 3.97 of the Education Act 1996 as amended.

Interpretation

In this Constitution

'Local Authority' means Lambeth Council acting either independently or through the Education Lead Member and Children and Young People's Directorate.

'The council' means Lambeth's SACRE.

'Member' means a member of SACRE and includes a substitute or co-opted member.

'Elected member' means an elected member of the Lambeth Council sitting on Committee D as a SACRE member

All questions of Interpretation are governed by the "Interpretation Act" 1978 as may be subsequently amended.

Role and functions

- (i) To advise the Local Authority (Lambeth Council) on the religious education to be given in its schools in accordance with an Agreed Syllabus. In particular, the SACRE can offer advice on methods of teachings, the choice of materials and the provision of training for teachers.
- (ii) To advise the Local Authority on matters pertaining to school worship in its schools.

With regard to (i) and (ii), the Local Authority may refer matters to the SACRE, which the latter must then consider and advise on. The SACRE may also take the initiative and make recommendations to the Local Authority on these matters.

- (iii) To receive, determine and review applications from Head Teachers as to whether the requirement for collective worship that is wholly or mainly of a Christian character may not apply. This application to vary the legal requirement for collective worship may be for the whole school or for groups of pupils.
- (iv) To require the LA to set up a Statutory Agreed Syllabus Conference to review the Agreed Syllabus if, in the opinion of SACRE, this becomes necessary.
- (v) To consider and link with other appropriate partners and projects within the Local Authority and borough which will enhance the provision of RE and Collective Worship in Lambeth.
- (vi) To produce an annual report on its work which will, inter alia:
 - a) describe the work that SACRE has undertaken
 - b) specify matters in respect of which the SACRE has given advice to the Local Authority;
 - c) broadly describe the nature of the advice given and the response given by the LA;
 - d) where any such matters were not referred to the SACRE by the Local Authority, provide the SACRE's reasons for offering advice on the matter.

Copies of the report will be made available to schools and the public on the SACRE and/or other appropriate website. A copy will also be sent to the National Association of SACRES and the Department for Education.

To facilitate its work, at the discretion of and in partnership with the Local Authority, the SACRE may:

- (a) monitor the provision of Religious Education in order to inform its advice and reporting;
- (b) monitor the provision of collective worship in order to inform its advice and reporting;
- (c) be involved in Complaints Procedures;
- (d) to accept and agree to work within the requirements of the Lambeth SACRE Code of Conduct. The Lambeth SACRE Code of Conduct will be an Appendix to the Constitution.

Officers

The SACRE will have an elected Chair and an elected Vice Chair.

In the absence of the Chair or Vice-Chair at any meeting the Council can elect one of its members to act as the Chair for that meeting.

Membership

A list of those members deemed appropriate for the Lambeth SACRE under the legal framework is in the Appendix.

All members shall be delegates who are interested in and support education in general and Religious Education in particular.

Delegates as members shall remain until such time as they will have resigned or have been removed from under the rules dictated by their sponsorship group, Governing Body of that class of Members or for any reason stated therein.

Terms of Office of Members

Termination of SACRE membership by reason of non-attendance:

If a SACRE member is absent for 2 or more consecutive meetings without apology the clerk will write to the member concerned to check whether their membership has lapsed and whether they would like to nominate a substitute or to refer their membership back to their sponsoring body.

Should they be absent from the next meeting without apologies or for any reason not acceptable to the SACRE there may be deemed to be a vacated place to be filled by the sponsorship group / governing body for that class of members. The SACRE clerk will write to the lapsed member informing them of the decision and then write to the sponsoring body requesting a new member be nominated.

Vacancies

The Clerk, working on behalf of the LA and the Officers will approach sponsoring bodies for new delegates as soon as a vacancy arises.

Deputies / Substitute members

There can be a substitute member nominated by the absent member and notice of this substitution should be notified to the clerk of SACRE in advance of the meeting.

If a member so wishes, they may nominate a substitute who will receive papers and may attend in their place or with them at any meeting. Should a vote be required only one vote can be cast for their position.

Procedure for electing Chair and Vice Chair

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council shall be chosen from Members of the SACRE and shall be elected at the first meeting in each education (academic) year.

Nominees for these positions should have served on the SACRE for at least twelve months so that members would have developed a relationship with that person and have confidence to nominate or elect them to such an important position.

Co-options

Co-option – SACRE has the power to co-opt members as agreed by the majority of its members.

Quorum

A meeting will only be quorate if the following numbers of representative/s of the respective groups are present: -

Group A - minimum of 2 representatives (1 Christian and 1 non-Christian)

Group B - minimum of 1 representative

Group C - minimum of 1 representative

Group D – minimum of 1 representative

Meetings

Frequency of meetings

There will be a minimum of 4 SACRE meetings per year. There will be normally be at least 1 meeting each term.

An Extraordinary meeting may be called or convened to deal with urgent matters of national or local importance.

Notice of meetings

The dates of the main meetings will be decided at the first meeting in the education (academic) year and circulated by the clerk to all members

Sub-Committees

Occasional sub committees or working parties will be convened for specific pieces of work. These will report back to the full SACRE meeting for the duration of their work.

Agendas

Matters or items for the Agenda of any meeting shall be sent to the clerk at least 21 days in advance of the meeting. The Agenda shall be distributed to reach members at least 7 working days in advance of the next listed meeting.

Voting

All members are entitled to speak and vote on any issue as invited by the Chair but Co-opted members may speak but not vote at any meeting. SACRE will always seek to reach decisions on a consensus basis but when voting is to be exercised as only one vote is allowed from each group A, B, C or D as mentioned above.

In the event of an equality of votes on any issue the Chair may exercise a casting vote.

Minutes

Minutes will be taken by the clerk and cleared by the Officers. The draft minutes of meetings shall be circulated to members within one month of the meeting taking place where possible or at the latest with the next set of meeting papers

Availability of papers to the public

Papers for each meeting will be made available on the Lambeth Council website

..... (Chair) on behalf of Lambeth SACRE

Dated:

Appendix D – Lambeth SACRE Code of Conduct

LAMBETH SACRE

Code of conduct

All representatives should:

- Regularly attend the meetings of SACRE and take part in the deliberations and work of SACRE
- Where attendance is difficult, aim to ensure a substitute member is nominated who can attend
- Ensure apologies are submitted when attendance is not possible
- participate in and review the work of SACRE for the benefit of the whole community
- actively challenge and resist stereotyping
- assume at all times that other members of SACRE are honourable and concerned with the best interests of SACRE and its work
- state views and opinions honestly, whilst respecting and listening to each other's contributions
- respect the rights of other members to disagree with your point of view
- be in agreement about the promotion and delivery of all beliefs on behalf of SACRE
- have respect for the work of SACRE, believing that the RE and collective worship that all students are legally entitled to experience should be of the highest quality
- be nominated from a respected professional body and / or faith and belief community and have the support of their nominating body behind them

Belief group representatives should:

- ensure that they have sufficient knowledge, skills and understanding to represent authentically their belief, community or sponsoring body
- be able to explain how they intend to inform and consult with their belief community
- feel a sense of responsibility not only to the children coming from their own belief but also to all the children of Lambeth
- provide expertise, or assist in providing access to such expertise, in matters of fact, tradition, theology and practice relating to their own belief for the benefit of the whole school population
- represent to SACRE the interests and concerns of their own belief community
- endeavour to represent fairly the views and interests of the widest possible range of belief positions within their community (this is particularly relevant if they are the sole representative on SACRE for their belief.)
- recognise that stating a belief or religious tenet is not the same as advancing an argument for or against any proposal, although it may well be an overriding consideration
- inform members of their belief community of the work of SACRE

Teacher and teacher association representatives should:

- provide information and expertise in relation to teaching and the school environment
- where appropriate provide information and expertise in relation to the teaching of religious education and the delivery of collective worship in schools
- represent the interests and concerns of teachers, pupils and schools
- consult with teaching colleagues and students
- keep colleagues informed about the work of SACRE
- ensure that the welfare and education of all the children in Lambeth is the primary focus of SACRE

Council representatives should:

- represent the wider public interest
- provide information and expertise to SACRE in their capacity as an elected member of Lambeth Council
- inform SACRE of concerns or issues known to Lambeth Council relating to education and in particular the provision for SMSC (spiritual, moral, social and cultural development), teaching of religious education and the delivery of collective worship in schools
- support the work of SACRE by representing its interests in Lambeth Council
- endeavour to ensure that SACRE is adequately funded and supported
- ensure that legal requirements for the conduct of SACRE are observed in particular in relation to the suitability and qualifications required to be a member of SACRE