

The Educational Institute of Scotland Perth and Kinross Local Association

Minute of a meeting of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the Local Association held in the Queens Hotel, Perth, at 7 pm, on **Wednesday, 23rd March 2005**, with the President,

Mrs Patricia Duncan, in the chair.

1. **Sederunt:** G.Burns, V.Campbell, R.Dickson, T.Duncan, W.Henderson, A.McAuley, C.Mackie, D.Munro, S.Peddie, J.Ramsay, I.Scott, D.Stewart.

2. **Apologies:** H.Conlon, A.MacKenzie, D.McFarlane. **G.Campbell, EIS Officer.**

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 24th February 2005 were approved.**

4. **Matters Arising:**

Management Restructuring. New DHT posts within P&K have been filled, other than two at Breadalbane Academy, one at Blairgowrie HS and one at Crieff HS. Existing DHT's not appointed to new posts will have meetings with I.Mason.

The Director wishes to proceed with restructuring of Principal Teacher posts and wishes to reconvene the sub-committee. This will be the major item of discussion at the next Executive.

Long Service Awards ceremonies have taken place.

Donations – the Treasurer is currently processing these.

5(b) Public meetings post inspection – first one has been held at Balbeggie PS.

Concerns at use of statistics by P&K Council to monitor performance.

5(c) Monitoring Learning & Teaching – discussions with L.Mason, who is to draft an amended policy for further consideration.

9a2) W.Henderson to write to A.Taylor at P&K re. Health & Safety for Excursions.

9b4) Cost of Business Managers comes out of schools' DSM budgets so may have some effect – need to monitor for staffing repercussions.

5. **Reports:**

(a) **EIS Council** (11th March) D.Stewart reporting:

Much argument against government proposals to raise normal retirement age to 65. Indicative

ballot on industrial action was underway.

Chartered Teacher programme – over 500 entered through EIS/University of Paisley.

The nomination of C.Mackie has been accepted for F.E.I.S.

(b) **JNC (21st March) A.McAuley reporting:**

5-14 reporting – revised format out. Primary Heads do not need to sign report.

Imminent HMI inspection of P&K will be concentrated mainly in Pullar House.

Discipline – points raised included: Support for staff, need for central provision. Professional Associations have been invited to raise any concerns.

ILL project – consultations with schools have been completed.

Reduction in class contact time in Primary Schools – problems with availability of supply staff.

Class sizes in Primary Schools – draft report. Class size maximum of 25 for composite classes may be exceeded on a “short term basis”. This needs clarified.

Framework for Intervention – Integrated Teams established in all Secondary Schools.

Workload: Need for JNC to monitor in relation to working week and preparation for class contact time reduction in 2006.

Teacher stress – need for a coordinated approach – has been an HSE audit.

Papers are still being presented to JNC on the day – these need to be circulated in advance.

(c) **School Estate Strategy Board (23rd March) Meeting cancelled.**

(d) **Standards and Scrutiny Committee (9th March) C.Mackie reporting:**

Various HMI reports and follow-ups passed on to L.L.C.

(e) **Local Association Training day (10th March) C.Mackie reporting:**

Meeting was well attended and comments after were mainly positive. However, it was felt that too long was spent on Grievance and Discipline issues.

(f) **Treasurer’s Report and Presentation of Accounts. W.Henderson reporting:**

Audited Accounts were presented and were noted. The Accounts will be sent out to all schools.

Current statement shows balance of approx. £40,000 with some items of expenditure still outstanding.

6. Role of Learning Representative T.Duncan reporting:

T.Duncan now has one day per week for Learning Representative duties. She is having meetings with Chartered Teacher Programme providers. To meet with J.Cessford of P&K to discuss respective roles. Need to produce a leaflet to publicise the assistance the EIS Learning Rep. can offer.

7. Health & Safety Issues within Perth & Kinross. C.Mackie reporting:

Teacher stress. A strategic approach needed. EIS to press via JNC and H&S committees.

New Service Manager (Staffing) will need to be involved.

Use of Occupational Health Advisors has generally been beneficial to members.

8. Correspondence

a11) Pensions Action. Indicative ballot 82% in favour, but Trade Unions now feel that the Government is backing down from its proposals. Industrial action already suggested is now unlikely to proceed.

b2) P&K draft Occupational H&S policy considered.

c9) Query – Service Managers are effectively line managers for Head Teachers.

c15) CALM training – physical restraint techniques. This should be voluntary.

c19) Probationers should not be pressurised into taking classes on a full time basis. It must be voluntary and subject to conditions.

9. Date of Next Meeting:

Executive Meeting **Wednesday 20th April 2005** Queens Hotel 7pm

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9.10pm, with thanks to the chair.

