

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 **Tuesday 16th October 2007**, with the President, Ms Holly Conlon, in the chair.

1. **Sederunt:** G.Burns, H.Conlon, J.Devine, R.Dickson, W.Henderson, A.MacKenzie, D.Munro, S.Peddie, J.Ramsay, S.Simpson, D.Stewart
G.Campbell, Local Officer

2. **Apologies:** T.Duncan, A.McAuley, M.Mackintosh, J.Millar, D.McFarlane

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** held on 28th August 2007 were approved.

4. **Matters Arising:**

4)5b) Managing Incidents of Violence & Aggression. D.Stewart still to have meeting.

5. **Reports:**

(a) **Managing Teacher Competence Group** (31st August) D.Stewart reporting:

Margaret Anderson chair. Relying on GTC code of competence. Expect a draft document in next few months.

(b) **Primary Staffing Group** (3rd September & 15th October) D.Stewart reporting:

P&K officers had not yet visited comparator authorities.

The issue of shared headships in small schools arose. EIS suggested contacting other local authorities which have shared headships. There will be a need for consultation with members who might be affected by any proposals.

(c) **Secondary Management Restructuring** (4th September) D.Stewart reporting:

Trying to get parity of provision of teachers with guidance skills throughout P&K.

P.McAvoy redrafting proposals.

(d) **JNCT Sub-group** (13th September) D.Stewart reporting:

Considered remit of group. Will continue to look at collegiality and workload in schools.

Members of JNCT still do not have copies of JNCT agreements.

Job-sizing: PT's Music. The line management of Instructors has been changed.

Mobile technology policy – D.Stewart to attend meeting of Service Managers.

Review of implementation of 21st Century Agreement (McCrone). C.Webb wishes to conduct a review over the next 12-18 months.

Managing Incidents of Violence & Aggression. Ongoing concern at low numbers of exclusions relative to physical assaults.

(e) School Estate Management Group (20th September) D.Stewart reporting:

Questionnaires on suitability of buildings should be completed earlier in the year and involve Pupil Councils.

Concern at new building developments when local schools have no places. Would like to charge builders to fund school improvements.

(f) JNCT (24th September) D.Stewart reporting:

Teachers' Panel confirmed representation by member of PAT at JNCT replacing NASUWT.

Violence & Aggression. C.Webb wants earlier intervention with pupils. Concern at lack of provision in Secondary sector.

III. Financial close near (now achieved).

Employee Health & Attendance Procedure. Has been approved by P&K Council without going through the JNCT. Need for sensitive handling of this by Head Teachers. D.Stewart to have discussions over “trigger figures” of absence to start the procedure.

Concern at provision for non-English speaking pupils in schools.

Timetable of meetings: JNCT to meet in future on Tuesdays.

(g) Secondary Staffing Group (26th September) D.Munro reporting:

P&K still operates on Tayside staffing formula. No comparator authority data available to discuss other than Angus. The EIS will resist any reductions from the Tayside standard. Need to relate class sizes to staffing standards within the context of raising achievement.

(h) EIS National Council (28th September) D.Stewart reporting:

Problems with Probationers gaining permanent posts in some parts of Scotland.

Many EIS members prepared to be flexible with class sizes in S1&2 English and Maths.

Concern at increasing workloads prior to HMI inspections and increasing dissatisfaction at these visits.

(i) **Treasurer's Report** W.Henderson reporting:

The Executive congratulated Rod Dickson on being awarded honorary life membership of the EIS.

The accounts are with the Auditors.

P&K Local Association is slightly above average in terms of funds relative to outgoings.

The Executive agreed to raising the value of a cheque the Treasurer can write with a single signature to £300.

Concern at implications for the EIS if local office bearers do not declare honoraria for tax.

6. **National President's Visit** (23rd October): arrangements

To meet with H.Conlon at local office, then to Hill Primary, Blairgowrie HS – meet with J.Devine and new head Gordon Miller. RDM, Scone then John Fyffe at Pullar House. Lovat hotel for High Tea.

7. **EIS AGM 2008**

Secretary has booked 8 rooms in Queens Hotel, Dundee.

8. **Correspondence**

a1) Secretary now has functional laptop with access to EIS.

b4) Early retirement requests unlikely to be granted.

b8) New Occupational Health provider – Capita Health. Nurse stationed at Blackfriars.

b10) Monthly meetings to occur between secretary and J.Fyffe, Depute Director E&CS.

9. **Date of Next Meeting:** Executive Meeting **Wednesday 14th November** **Algo Business Centre** 7pm

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