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ITEM 9.1

REPORT TO CCWP September 2015

1. Member Support: We now have six Regional Advisors (Clare Wheeler from Edinburgh and Gwen Wells from Stirling have joined the team) and are now using EventBrite for information session bookings. We are also trialling on-line surgeries on specific topics, eg social media, as well as on-line workshops with our first online training session on Monday 5 October on PVG (see the SPTC website for more details). We currently have two sessions organised in Edinburgh, both on Parent Council Essentials at Flora Stevenson Primary on Monday 28 September and Carrick Knowe Primary on Wednesday 28 October. Both sessions starting at 7pm – book online or contact the SPTC office.
3. Parents Voice: We opened a survey on IT in schools in early September and plan another shortly on the draft National Improvement Framework.
4. Partnership Schools: Castleview Primary and Forrester's High are the first Edinburgh schools to participate in Partnership Schools. The two schools have submitted their draft Annual Plans and, once these have been finalised they will be shared with the rest of the school community for approval. We have also been in discussion with a high school which is interested in becoming part of the project and are looking for a further three schools to start next session (2016-17).
5. Staff: The post of Finance and Administration Officer is now being advertised on a 3 dpw basis. Interest is invited!
6. Insurance: There have been some changes to the terms and cover of the membership-linked insurance held by Edinburgh PCs:
 - **All-Risks**: the insurance limit (included as standard) has increased from £7,500 to £10,000
 - **Fidelity Guarantee**: the maximum period for discovery of loss is now 18 months. This means any loss which dates back more than 18 months will not be covered. In addition, the excess for losses discovered after 12 months is increased to £1000. These changes come about after significant claims on this part of the insurance, in some cases covering many years. This means committees will have to make sure they are careful and thorough in the way their finances are managed. Please visit the website for information on financial matters, or ask us for advice.
 - **Parent-led clubs and groups**: all out-of-school activity groups organised by Edinburgh PCs (for example after school clubs, homework clubs) are covered on a blanket basis subject to the group following all relevant child protection legislation and guidance. One-to-one tuition or care is excluded from this cover.
7. AGM/Annual Lecture: The nomination process for directors has started ahead of the AGM in March. The AGM will be scheduled alongside a lecture on the topic of Developing the Young

Workforce and alternative routes through education, training and work. The likely venue is Edinburgh. Lindsay Law is currently on the Board of SPTC.

8. Scottish Government:

- SPTC will be encouraging parents to find out about the National Improvement Framework, running surveys and feeding into the consultation.
- SPTC was asked to comment on the **Developing the Young Workforce (DYW): guidance for school/employer partnerships**.
- We have been asked to be part of a virtual reference group on revisions to **Included Engaged and Involved** guidance.

9. National Government: We were approached by the Scotland office for a meeting around the proposed changes to legislation around industrial action for public servants (specifically teachers). They were looking for a perspective from parents regarding the proposals. A PV survey was launched on the topic and a response made.

10. Education Scotland: There has been a lot of activity with ES over recent months:

- Learning Festival, 23/24 September: We will be part of a stand alongside NPFS, Education Scotland, Scottish Government and the SPION group during the two days, with a small number of guest organisations being given time on the stand. We are also running a workshop on Partnership Schools with a small team from Ireland.
- HGIOS: The latest iteration of HGIOS will be launched at the learning festival. This places a much greater emphasis on involvement of parents and family learning than previously.
- Initial Teacher Education workshop: we attended a half day workshop with various parent organisations, ES and two of the universities to discuss how they address parental involvement within their programmes and how we can work together
- CfE Briefing: we were asked to comment on a draft Guidance Note on Parental Involvement.
- We were asked to comment on a draft questionnaire for parents on their use of ParentZone and are part of a strategic reference group around the further development of the site.

Eileen Prior

21 September 2015