

Agenda

Consultative Committee with Parents

6.00pm Monday 6 March 2017

European Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

Contacts

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1 Order of Business

- 1.1 Including any notices of motion and any other items of business submitted as urgent for consideration at the meeting.

2 Declaration of interests

- 2.1 In terms of Section 5.4 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, Councillors are required to declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.

3 Note of Previous Meeting

- 3.1 Consultative Committee with Parents of 8 December 2016 (circulated)

4 Interim Executive Director's Update

- 4.1 Circulated

5 Education, Children and Families Committee Reports

- 5.1 The agenda, minutes and reports for the Education, Children and Families Committee of 7 March 2017 will be available by the afternoon of 1 March 2017. The papers for this Committee and all the main Council committees can be viewed online by going to www.edinburgh.gov.uk/meetings

6 Locality Representatives – Key Issues

The Convener will invite parents to raise any issues in relation to the Neighbourhood Groups.

- 6.1 South West Locality Group
- 6.2 North West Locality Group
- 6.3 South East Locality Group
- 6.4 North East Locality Group
- 6.5 Citywide Special Schools Group

7 Report from National Parent Forum Representative

- 7.1 Report by Alison Bowyer, National Parent Forum Scotland (to follow)

8 Report from Scottish Parent Teacher Council Representative

- 8.1 Report by Eileen Prior, Scottish Parent Teacher Council (circulated)

9 Date of Next Meeting

Laurence Rockey

Head of Strategy and Insight

Membership

Members appointed by the Education, Children and Families Committee

Councillors Day (Convener), Aldridge, Corbett, Fullerton, Lunn, Redpath and Rust; Allan Crosbie, teacher representative from the Education, Children and Families Committee

Parent and outside agency representatives

Two parent representatives from each of the Neighbourhood Groups
One parent representative from the citywide Special Schools Group
One parent representative from the Additional Support for Learning (ASL) Forum
One head teacher from each sector on a rota basis
One representative from the National Parent Forum
One representative from the Scottish Parent Teacher Council

Lead officers

Alistair Gaw, Interim Executive Director of Communities and Families
Andy Gray, Head of Schools and Lifelong Learning, Communities and Families
Billy MacIntyre, Head of Operational Support, Communities and Families
Maria Plant, Inclusion Coordinator, Communities and Families

Information about the Consultative Committee with Parents (CCwP)

The CCwP is a Forum for discussion and consultation with parents on citywide and national issues.

A parent representative from the CCwP is appointed to the Council's Education, Children and Families Committee with full voting rights.

Further information on the CCwP may be obtained from the link below:

[Parental Engagement Report](#)

Further information

If you have any questions about the agenda or meeting arrangements, please contact Ross Murray, Committee Services, Strategy and Insight, City of Edinburgh Council, Business Centre 2:1, Waverley Court, East Market Street, Edinburgh, Tel 0131 469 3870, email ross.murray@edinburgh.gov.uk .

The agenda, minutes and public reports for this meeting and all the main Council committees can be viewed online by going to www.edinburgh.gov.uk/meetings .

Item 3.1 - Note of meeting

Consultative Committee with Parents

6:30pm Thursday 8 December 2016, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

Present:

Elected Members

Councillors Day (Convener) and Fullerton.

Education, Children and Families Committee Added Members

Alex Ramage, Parent Representative

Neighbourhood Groups - Parent Representatives

Alison Bowyer, North West Locality and National Parent Forum Scotland

Stephen Harrold, South East Locality

Eileen Prior, Scottish Parent Teacher Council

Billy Samuel, North West Locality

David Sterratt, North East Locality

Andrew Lamont, North West Locality

Gareth Oakley, South West Locality

Officers in Attendance

Alistair Gaw, Acting Executive Director of Communities and Families

Andy Gray, Head of Schools & Lifelong Learning, Communities and Families

Crawford McGhie, Asset Planning Manager, Communities and Families

Ross Murray, Acting Committee Clerk, Strategy and Insight

Alasdair Oliphant, DA to Convener of Education, Children and Families Committee

Maria Plant, Schools and Lifelong Learning Service Manager, Communities and Families.

Apologies

Councillor Corbett, Allan Crosbie, Councillor Lunn, Lynne Murray, Councillor Redpath, Councillor Rust and Jacqueline Whymark.

1. Councillor Cammy Day

Prior to the start of business, Alistair Gaw informed those present that Councillor Cammy Day had replaced Councillor Paul Godzik as Convener of the Education, Children and Families Committee and welcomed him to his first meeting of the Consultative Committee with Parents.

2. Note of Previous Meeting

Decision

The Note of Meeting of the Consultative Committee with Parents of 6 October 2016 was approved as a correct record.

3. Acting Executive Director's Update

An update covering the period since the previous meeting of the Consultative Committee with Parents was submitted. Additional detail was provided on playground improvement projects and rising school rolls.

Decision

To note the Acting Executive Director's report.

(Reference – report by the Acting Director of Communities and Families, submitted)

4. Locality Update regarding Scottish Government Governance Review

Maria Plant, Schools and Lifelong Learning Service Manager advised that discussions had been ongoing at locality group meetings regarding the 17 point response required as part of the Scottish Government Governance Review. It was advised that a significant number of parent councils had yet to provide feedback

Decision

- 1) To note that Alison Bowyer would collate responses through the National Parent Forum Scotland if required.
- 2) That the review of the council's parental engagement strategy would be an agenda item for the next round of locality group meetings.
- 3) To invite local Councillors to attend the next round of locality meetings.

5. Update on Council Structure and Schools

Alistair Gaw advised that a decision had been made to appoint a permanent Director for the Communities and Families Directorate. The recruitment process would be concluded in March 2017. There were no further significant changes to structures currently being proposed.

Decision

That the matter of the PPP1 School Investigation be added to the agenda for a future Consultative Committee with Parents. A specialist would be invited to present.

6. Committee Reports – Education, Children and Families Committee – 13 December 2016

The agenda for the Education, Children and Families Committee had been tabled. A link to reports had been circulated to CCwP members.

Decision

- 1) To note the information provided on the reports being presented to the Education, Children and Families Committee on 13 December 2016.
- 2) To note that Alexander Ramage (parentrep.edin@gmail.com) would relay any contributions from CCwP members to the Committee if required.

(Reference – [Education, Children and Families Committee – 13 December 2016](#))

7. Neighbourhood Issues

The Convener invited parents to raise any issues discussed at the most recent meetings of the Parent Locality Groups.

North West Locality

The issue of out of school hours access to all-weather pitches had been raised at locality meetings, specifically who was responsible for maintenance and if there was guidance available for schools. The issues of term dates, the local development plan and school meals had also been discussed.

It was advised that guidance was available and this would be circulated to schools with all-weather pitches.

South East Locality

The group had raised a number of concerns regarding the matter of school librarians and the impact that the reduction in resource would have.

It was advised information on this would be made public the following day and that all 23 schools would have access to a librarian.

Citywide Special Schools Group

It was advised that the group had discussed play schemes, the British Sign Language (Scotland) Bill, the lack of space and staff at St Crispins and the safeguarding of children who had been assaulted by other pupils.

Martin Vallely had attended the meeting and provided answers to a number of the questions at the time, however, a project board had been established regarding the safeguarding of pupils who had been assaulted and this would begin work in early 2017.

Decision

To note the issues raised in the verbal updates by the parent council locality group meetings.

8. Update from National Parent Forum Scotland

An update from the National Parent Forum Scotland (NPFS) was submitted.

Decision

To note the update.

9. Update from Scottish Parent Teacher Council

An update on the work of the Scottish Parent Teacher Council was submitted.

Decision

To note the update.

10. Any Other Business

Parent Councils – Councillor Involvement

Concern was expressed that Councillor attendance at parent council meetings was not sufficient. It was asked how this could be improved.

Decision

- 1) Councillor Day to write to all Councillors requesting they attend parent council meetings where available.
- 2) Maria Plant to provide Councillor email addresses when writing out to Parent Council Chair's regarding localities in January 2017.

11. Date of Next Meetings

Decision

To note that the next meeting of the Consultative Committee would take place on Thursday 2 March 2017 at 6.00pm in the City Chambers, Edinburgh.

Item 4.1 - Acting Executive Director of Communities and Families Update

Update for Parent Council Neighbourhood Groups – February 2017

Introduction

Welcome back! I hope you all enjoyed some well deserved rest over the festive period and were able to spend some quality time with family and friends. It really surprised me what a fast year 2016 turned out to be and I'm sure this had much to do with the pace of life in our schools and change within the Council as we transform our services.

We faced an unprecedented challenge last year when 17 of our schools closed and it is great credit to parents, children and young people and our staff that I can reflect back and say we had a successful year. I remain very proud of the efforts shown by everyone to overcome these difficulties. The Independent Inquiry Report by John Cole on the school closures is due to be presented to Full Council on 9 February.

While we hope we do not encounter anything remotely similar in 2017, this year will bring new demands as budgets remain tight and we continue with our dialogue with the Scottish Government about how schools will be run in the future.

This year will also see a new Council administration with the Local Government Elections taking place on Thursday 4 May. So this will be my last update report within the term of the current Council.

Permanent recruitment to the post of Executive Director of Communities and Families is now underway and further details will follow as soon as an appointment is made.

Pupil Equity Fund

The Pupil Equity Fund will be distributed to schools from the 2017/18 financial year. It is a new £120 million scheme which will allow extra funding to be allocated directly to schools and targeted at closing the poverty related attainment gap. The Scottish Government has committed this funding over the next five years as part of the overall £750m Attainment Scotland Fund. It must be used to support children and young people affected by poverty to achieve their full potential.

Publicly funded primary, secondary and special schools will receive £1,200 for each pupil in Primary 1 to S3, or equivalent, who is eligible and registered for free school meals, as estimated by using data from the Healthy Living Survey. Funding for 2017/18 will be paid by the Scottish Government to Local Authorities by means of specific grant. The Grant will clearly indicate the amounts that should be allocated to each individual school, along with the terms and conditions for its use. It is expected the overall allocation for Edinburgh will be around £7.3m.

Head teachers will receive confirmation of allocation and national operational guidance to support the use of this funding by the end of January. A range of support will also be in place to assist with the use of this funding. This includes a new framework of practice examples published on Education Scotland's National Improvement Hub; work with the Education Endowment Foundation and a series of regional events to provide:

- direct access to research and advice and guidance on practice;
- an opportunity to hear from colleagues from across Scotland on their work to close the equity gap; and
- a chance for some early work on school planning for this funding.

A Governance Review of Scottish Education

Thanks to those who contributed to the Scottish Government's consultation on the Governance Review which closed on 6 January. The review was seeking your views on how education – from early years to secondary schools – is run to ensure it delivers excellence and equity for all children and young people.

Timescales for implementing the proposals from the Governance Review are not yet confirmed. The Scottish Government has already stated it will seek to make progress without legislative change where possible. A new Education Bill is due to be introduced in the second year of this Parliament and initial consultation on this is due to be held before the summer break. . Further updates will be made available as details emerge and we will keep this under review at future meetings with the Consultative Committee with Parents.

Early Years Provision

Edinburgh Early Years has been selected by the Scottish Government as one of the first three locations to trial an increase in the flexibility, quality and quantity of provision available, moving towards 1140 hours.

Edinburgh's proposal is to extend two nursery settings of Early Learning and Childcare provision within the city, with the establishment of a nature kindergarten. Children from Craigentenny and Ferryhill nursery classes will receive half of their entitlement within their nursery setting and half in a nature kindergarten setting, receiving Early Learning and Childcare from 8.30-3.30 daily from January to June 2017. A class from Craigentenny nursery attended the launch with Mark McDonald, Minister for Childcare and Early Years on 15 November 2016. For more information, [click here](#)

Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) Levels 2015/16

The data on achievement of Curriculum for Excellence levels in schools was published by the Scottish Government on 13 December 2016. If you would like to access this information, [click here](#)

I also plan to have an initial Attainment Report presented to the Education, Children and Families Committee on 7 March. This will be available for prior discussion at the meeting of the Consultative Committee with Parents on 2 March.

Primary School Open Days

Feedback from the Primary School Open Days has now been collated and evaluated and was overwhelmingly positive. It is clear parents and carers really value the opportunity to visit and learn about their local schools. My thanks go to the staff, pupils and parents for making this such a success.

Secondary Schools Pilot in Partnership with the VIKS Foundation

Vision in Kids (VIKS Foundation) is a Scottish charity set up by medics to encourage young people to consider careers in the health service. The charity is very keen to work directly with young people in our schools and a pilot programme has been set up to involve four secondary schools - Wester Hailes Education Centre, Leith Academy, Broughton High and St Augustine's.

The following initiatives are now planned:

1. The VIKS Award

Each pilot school will nominate one pupil (S1-S3) who has excellent attainment or achievements, but who has had to overcome adversity/difficulties to do so. The award will constitute a shield, which will be engraved with the pupil's name and will be kept in the school. Names of future winners will be added to the shield each year. The pupil winning the award will also receive a Certificate of Achievement from the VIKS Foundation and a prize of £25. This will be either a token or voucher – schools will decide with pupil input.

2. Group Work Place Visit for S1-S3 pupils to the Western General Hospital

Pupils will visit the training ward which is used for training doctors and nurses at the Western General Hospital. They will meet a range of professionals in health care roles and carry out some practical exercises on dummies. This will be targeted to those pupils who express an interest in finding out more about careers in the health service.

3. Nursing - One Day Visit Offer

Discussions are taking place with the VIKS Foundation about how this can be arranged. It will be aimed at those in the pilot schools who would like to find out more about nursing as a future career.

4. Bespoke Work Placements for Senior Pupils

VIKS are very keen to support pupils from more disadvantaged backgrounds to consider a career in the health service – i.e. doctor, nurse, physio, radiographer etc. They are keen to assist with placements and help to access to mentoring if possible.

Forrester High School

On Thursday 12 January, Tam Baillie, Children and Young People's Rights Commissioner visited Forrester High School to present them with their Rights Respecting School Level 1 Award. Tam also saw the recent campaign video created by staff and pupils about the need to do more for lone child refugees. This video was created as part of UNICEF's Outright campaign, and will be featured in UNICEF publicity about the campaign. After the assembly, Tam had the chance to speak to some staff about the journey to fully embed children's rights across the curriculum as the school strives towards the RRSA Level 2.

Proposals to close Panmure St Ann's School

There is a public consultation running from 10 January to 27 February 2017 on the proposed closure of Panmure St Ann's Special School. The Council is consulting on proposals to close the school at the end of June 2017.

You can visit www.edinburgh.gov.uk/panmureconsultation for details of the proposals and to download related documents.

A public meeting will be held at Waverley Court (Room C.47), 4 East Market Street, Edinburgh EH8 8BG on Monday 6 February from 6.00-8.00pm.

New Primary School for South-East Edinburgh

The period of consultation for a new primary school in South-East Edinburgh started on Monday 16 January. The statutory consultation is taking place due to the significant new housing development proposed within the area because of the Local Development Plan (LDP). This is the first consultation for a new school as a result of the LDP as school roll projections show that pupils from the new housing will lead to accommodation pressures by 2020.

A site within the 'Broomhills' housing development site to the south of Frogston Road East and between Burdiehouse Road and Broomhills Road has been identified for the new school. The consultation paper outlines the proposed catchment area for the new school, which if implemented, will lead to changes to the current catchment areas of: Gracemount Primary School, Gilmerton Primary School, Liberton Primary School, Gracemount High School and Liberton High School.

As part of the consultation, there will be two public meetings. The first is at Gilmerton Primary School on 31 January from 6.30pm - 8.30pm followed by Gracemount Primary School on 9 February from 6.30pm - 8.30pm.

Prestonfield Primary

Prestonfield Primary School has secured a third partnership for paired reading with 18 volunteers from the People's Postcode Lottery mentoring P4 and P5 pupils on a weekly basis. This is in addition to the highly effective partnerships already established for paired reading with volunteers from Scottish Widows and CMS who support learners in P6 and P7.

Relaxed Panto

I was delighted to join all special schools at a Relaxed Panto at the Kings Theatre on the 12 January. This was the third year of the event and it was great to see the enjoyment the children gain from the experience. The production has been modified so that pupils with sensory needs, or those that like to move around, can do so. Grateful thanks go to Radio Forth's Cash for Kids and all those who helped make it such a special day.

Debating Championship

Well done to Craigmount High School's debating team who recently participated in the Scottish round of the Oxford Schools competition in Dundee. Despite solid performances from all six Craigmount debaters, it was the home team, Dundee High who progressed to the finals. Craigmount finished as highest ranked state school in Scotland and had the youngest participant with an S3 pupil.

Ministerial Visit

Roseanna Cunningham, Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform, visited Currie Community High School on Thursday 19 January. Currie has made a positive contribution to Learning for Sustainability, STEM, Eco and Fair Trade programmes, which were highlighted to Ms Cunningham by pupils and staff during her visit. Met by senior pupils upon arrival, Ms Cunningham made her way into the Learning Resource Centre where pupils had created stalls and displays of their work. The pupils were clearly proud of their work and delighted to share their thinking.

Sky Sports Living for Sport Programme

The purpose of the Sky Sports Living for Sport programme at Wester Hailes Education Centre is to support, inspire and encourage young people with their current studies and future goals. The programme being offered, alongside the support of Sky Sports Living for Sport and Keith Cook, Olympic Gold Medal winner, will include testimonies of an individual who has overcome adversity to then succeed

within their chosen path. The day will consist of various workshops where young people will gain practical experience, developing their physical, cognitive and social skills. A main focus will be the different opportunities the Sports Industry offers and equipping our young people with a variety of skills to take forward in learning, life and work.

Alistair Gaw

Acting Executive Director of Communities and Families

February 2017

Item 8.1



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REPORT TO CCWP

February 2017

1. Partnership Schools: The SPTC team is working with the authority and with a number of schools to introduce the Partnership Schools model: St Peter's Primary, St John's Primary, Preston Street Primary, Currie Primary, Castlevue Primary.
2. CPD service: SPTC has launched a CPD service for teaching professionals, open to both individuals in open courses, and to local authorities as part of leadership development and CPD programmes. Our focus is on developing understanding of the evidence around parental engagement and building confidence and awareness to support an evidence-based approach to parental engagement.
3. AGM/Annual Lecture: Dr Janet Goodall will present the lecture and Mark McDonald MSP, Minister for Childcare & Early Years, has agreed to officially open the event on 23 March. Members are encouraged to attend.
4. Stirling Council: We have been contracted to work with the council, parents and stakeholders to develop the authority's Parental Involvement Strategy.
5. Parents Voice: The Upstart survey results have been published and our next survey will be on transitions.
6. Member survey: Our member survey received in excess of 800 responses. The information we gathered provided a good deal of the material for our response to the Governance Review, which was submitted on the due date. The second part of the survey, which references SPTC membership, will follow shortly.
7. ParentZone: we have been closely involved with Education Scotland and other stakeholders around the ways in which information is presented to parents on ParentZone, particularly the new performance data.
8. Parental Involvement Legislation: the review of the Parental Involvement Legislation is being undertaken by National Parent Forum of Scotland. There is no known date of publication of the report, which will then be considered by the Deputy First Minister.

Eileen Prior
February 2017