

Minute of Meeting Renfrewshire Council Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 14 November 2017	14:00	Corporate Meeting Room 2, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

Representing Renfrewshire Council Management

S Quinn, Assistant Director - Schools, G McKinlay, Head of Schools, J Trainer, Head of Early Years & Inclusion, M Convery, Head Teacher (St James' Primary School), L McAllister, Education Manager (Curriculum and Early Years) and A Hall, Education Manager (Development) (all Children's Services); and L Mullin, Principal HR & OD Advisor (Finance & Resources).

Representing Renfrewshire Council Teaching Staff

K Fella, R Hannah, M Russell, JP Tonner, J Welsh and H Whittle (all EIS); and S Dargie (SSTA).

In Attendance

S Fanning, Principal OD and HR Adviser and D Low, Senior Committee Services Officer (both Finance & Resources).

Apologies

Provost Cameron and Councillor Paterson; M Dewar, Head Teacher (Park Mains High School) (Children's Services); A Howie (EIS); M Greenlees (SSTA); and S McCrossan (Adviser to Teachers' Side).

Appointment of Chairperson for Meeting

In accordance with the terms of the local recognition and procedure agreement, which stated that the Chair of the Committee should alternate between the two sides comprising the Renfrewshire Council Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff, it was agreed that John Welsh would chair this meeting of the Renfrewshire Council Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff.

DECIDED: That John Welsh chair this meeting of the Renfrewshire Council Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff.

1 Minute of Previous Meeting

There was submitted the Minute of meeting held on 5 September 2017.

DECIDED: That the Minute be approved.

2 Absence Statistics - 2017/18 Quarter 1 and Quarter 2

There was submitted a report by the Joint Secretary (Management Side) relative to the Council's absence statistics for the period 1 April to 30 June 2017 and 1 July to 30 September 2017 (Quarters 1 and 2). The report provided information in relation to absence targets and how services and categories of staff had performed against them. An analysis of the reasons for absence for the period was included in the report. Information was also provided on supporting attendance activity levels by service and costs of sick pay and the overall number of days lost for Quarters 1 and 2. The absence statistics would in future be reported to appropriate meetings of the JNC on a quarterly basis.

DECIDED: That the report be noted.

3 School Holiday Arrangements School Session 2018/19

There was submitted a report by the Joint Secretary (Management Side) relative to the proposed local school holiday arrangements for the school session commencing in August 2018.

The report intimated that in line with the normal consultation arrangements, three potential options had been circulated to staff, parent councils, pupil councils, teaching and other trade unions for consideration. These proposals were detailed in appendices to the report. The school holiday proposal preferred by the majority of those who had submitted responses to the consultation was detailed in appendix 3 to the report with appendices 1 and 2 showing the holiday patterns less favoured and appendix 4 providing an analysis of the responses.

DECIDED: That the school holiday arrangements for academic year 2018/19 as detailed in Appendix 3 to the report be noted.

4 Standardised Testing

There was submitted a report by the Joint Secretary (Teachers' Side) relative to the Scottish Government launch of the Scottish National Standardised Assessments for use with P1, P4, P7 and S3 for this session and beyond.

The report referred to a previous report submitted to the meeting of the JNC held on 5 September 2017 which reiterated the EIS position that all assessments should support learning, should be timed appropriately and should not be conducted with whole cohorts at once. Reassurance was sought that the model of standardised testing being adopted within Renfrewshire schools had regard to EIS policy, the position on the status of the previous model of testing in Renfrewshire and SNCT guidance on teacher workload.

The Assistant Director – Schools advised that each school would determine how to implement the standardised testing in terms of the school's support for learning. He outlined the costs of supporting standardised testing would be met and intimated that any data collected would not be used to judge a school's performance but instead to support improvement.

DECIDED: That the position be noted.

5 ICT Strategy

There was submitted a report by the Joint Secretary (Teachers' Side) relative to the application of the Council's ICT Acceptable Use Policy in schools. It was agreed that a meeting would be arranged between the Management and Teachers' side in relation to this matter.

DECIDED: That it be agreed that a meeting be arranged between the Management and Teachers' sides in relation to this matter.

6 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Renfrewshire Council Joint Negotiating Committee for Teaching Staff would be held on 6 February 2018 at 2.00 p.m.