

**Scottish Negotiating Committee for Teachers**

**Monday 12 March 2012**

The Scottish Negotiating Committee for Teachers met on 12 March 2012 in the COSLA Offices, Verity House, 19 Haymarket Yards, Edinburgh.

Present

Employers' Side:	Councillor Isabel Hutton (Joint Chair) Councillor Bobby McGill Councillor Doug Snell Councillor Martin Kitt-Hayes
Scottish Government:	Ian Mitchell (Joint Chair) David Roy Rachel Sunderland
Teachers' Side:	Dougie Mackie (EIS, Joint Chair) Pat Flanagan (EIS) Mairi Raeburn (EIS) Margaret Anderson (EIS) Tom Tracey (EIS) Helen Conner (EIS) Aileen Barrie (EIS) Robin Irvine (EIS) Margaret Smith (SSTA) Alan Robertson (VOICE) Jane Peckham (NASUWT)
In attendance:	Tom Young (Joint Secretary, COSLA)  Ellen Doherty (COSLA Adviser) Kristine Johnson (COSLA Adviser) Angela Wilson (COSLA Adviser) Stephanie Walsh (Joint Secretary, Scottish Government) Fiona MacDonald (Scottish Government Secretariat) Drew Morrice (Teachers' Side Joint Secretary) David McGinty (Teachers' Side Secretariat)

Apologies had been received from Councillor Michael Cook (COSLA), Councillor Elizabeth Riches (COSLA), Councillor John Hampton and Councillor Gerry Dorrian and Mirren Kelly (COSLA Secretariat).

- (1) Minute of the SNCT held on 23 November 2011

The Minute of the SNCT meeting of 23 November 2011 was approved subject to the addition of adding the apologies of Councillor Martin Kitt-Hayes to the sederunt.

(2) Report of the Conditions of Service Working Group noted after amendment

The report of the Conditions of Service Working Group monitoring implementation of the 2011 pay and conditions agreement was submitted for information. After discussion and subject to two amendments in paragraph four substituting the word "mothers" with parents and "strategy" with statutory, the committee agreed to note the report.

(3) LNCT Review Group Report and Survey Report dealt with

The committee agreed to take agenda items 3 and 4 together due to their common and related content.

The report of the LNCT Review Group advised the committee:-

- (a) That the focus of its recent work had been to design, distribute and analyse the returns of a questionnaire, issued to all 32 LNCT's seeking information on the local implementation and effect of the 2011 teachers' agreement. Discussions focussed primarily on the impact on availability of supply teachers as a consequence of a new rate of pay for the first five days of working. All sides agreed that whilst the information gathered was helpful, no accurate inference could be deduced from it as to whether changes to the pay rate had caused problems in the availability of supply teachers and that further, more specific details would be required.
- (b) That arrangements were being put in place to gather this further information
- (c) Of proposals associated with the upkeep and maintenance of the SNCT website
- (d) Of the content of the questionnaire used in the exercise; and
- (e) Details of an initial analysis of the survey returns. After discussion the committee agreed to note the various aspects of the report.

(4) Joint Chairs' McCormac Sub-Groups – Progress Reports Noted

The chairs of the three McCormac sub-groups introduced reports previously distributed or tabled at the meeting, on

- (a) Duties
- (b) Working hours/working week and

(c) Chartered Teachers

After consideration, the committee agreed to note the reports.

(5) Various SNCT Circulars dealt with

The committee considered the undernoted SNCT Circulars and after consideration agreed that they be dealt with as follows:

(i) SNCT 12/31 – Distant Islands Allowances – homologated

(ii) SNCT 12/32 – Revised Grievance Procedures – Approved

(iii) SNCT 12/33 – Revised Disciplinary Procedures – Remitted with powers to the Joint Chairs

(6) Valedictory – Mr Ronnie Smith General Secretary (EIS)

The Joint Chairs of the SNCT took the opportunity to mark the imminent retiral of Mr Ronnie Smith, General Secretary of the EIS, to thank him for the major contribution he has made to the work of the SNCT and its predecessor body the Scottish Joint Negotiating Committee and to wish him very best wishes for the future. The committee members showed their own appreciation with a round of applause in recognition of a career dedicated to the improvement of education in Scotland.

(7) AOB and Date of next meeting

The Committee agreed that it would next meet on 31 May 2012. There being no further items of business Cllr Hutton closed the meeting.

ENDS