

Report of the SNCT Support Group 10 September 2019

A meeting of the SNCT Support Group took place on 10 September 2019. The SNCT Support Group meets as required between meetings of the SNCT. The meeting was chaired by Des Morris, Joint Chair, SNCT Teachers' Side. The main actions items are noted below for the full SNCT.

1. Supply Teachers Portal – Update

The Group was provided with an update on the work of this project. COSLA representatives indicated that they would request further information from individual Councils and would report back at the next meeting of the Group.

2. SNCT Code of Practice on Headteacher Responsibility in Recruitment and Selection of Staff

Further work was undertaken on this with the aim of presenting the final version to the SNCT on 26 September 2019.

3. SNCT Pay Agreement 2018 to 2021 – Update

SNCT Circular 19/70, which implements the terms of the 2018 to 2021 pay offer, also covers a range of other factors to address teacher workload and to aid recruitment and retention in the teaching profession.

- 3.1 Job-Sizing Review. The Group discussed the establishment of a technical working group under the leadership of Drew Morrice, Kenneth McNamara and a representative from Scottish Government to explore current issues and to conduct some preparatory work pending the full job-sizing review. This proposed technical working group would report back, in the first instance, to the SNCT Support Group. Membership of the group will be drawn from all three sides.
- 3.2 Workload Review. The Group agreed to take part in joint activity with the aim of reducing teacher workload. It was recommended that the Joint Secretaries highlight the existing workload statements already contained within the SNCT Handbook. The Scottish Government also indicated that it would bring a paper to the SNCT outlining proposals for the development of a package of support for teachers in relation to managing health and wellbeing.
- 3.3 Additional In-Service Days. The Group agreed to remit this matter for discussion at a meeting of the Joint Chairs of the SNCT.

3.4 Independent Research and Analysis of the Pay of Scotland's Teachers. The Group agreed with the proposal that independent research should be commissioned by the SNCT. It further recommended that the SNCT give powers to the Joint Chairs to progress this matter.

4. Review of Secondary School Subjects

4.1 Following discussion, the Group agreed to consider the list of practical class subjects outlined in Appendix 2.9 of the SNCT Handbook at the next meeting of the SNCT Support Group.

5. Other matters

5.1 All other matters discussed at the SNCT Support Group appear as agenda items for the full SNCT of 26 September 2019.

Yours sincerely

Tom Young (Employers' Side)
Louise Wilson (Teachers' Panel)
Stephanie Walsh (Scottish Government)

Joint Secretaries