

Schools' Workforce Joint Consultative Panel

A meeting of the Schools' Workforce Joint Consultative Panel was held on Tuesday, 6 October 2009

Present: Cllr Aidan Cockerill (vice Cllr Ken Lupton), Cllr Alex Cunningham, Cllr Mick Eddy, Sue Foreman (NASUWT), Hans Ruysenaars (ATL), Bob Lupton (NASUWT), David Campbell (NUT), Stephen Payne (Voice)

Officers: E Jewitt (CESC) P. Hiser (R) and M. Henderson (LD)

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Cllr Mrs Lynne Apedaile, Cllr Ken Lupton, Cllr Steve Nelson, Cllr Roy Rix, Cllr Andrew Sherris, Patricia Gibb and Linda Russell-Bond

SWJC 1/09 **Appointment of Chairman**

AGREED that Sue Foreman be appointed Chairman for the Municipal Year 09/10

SWJC 2/09 **Appointment of Vice Chairman**

AGREED that this appointment be deferred to the next meeting.

SWJC 3/09 **Minutes of the Teachers' Local Joint Consultative Panel**

Members considered the minutes of the Teachers Joint Consultative Committee held on 2 February 2009.

During consideration of the minutes Members discussed the merits of an Academy replacing Thornaby Community School and the decision was queried particularly in view of the excellent work that had recently taken place at that school. It was explained that the Council believed that an Academy was the only option. The partnership the Council had entered into would create a stable environment. It was hoped that the Academy would continue the recent good work. Union representatives indicated that they would resist any further significant changes. Staff had very real concerns about what future plans any new Principal may have. It was noted that things could change however, it was apparent that sponsors were very eager to engage and the Council had a very good relationship with them.

The Panel discussed the Staffing Protocol and agreed that it would provide some reassurance to staff, though there could be no guarantees at Academies. It was explained that a draft protocol was available and ready for consultation. All schools would be encouraged to adopt the protocol and HR would monitor vacancies with the approval of the Governing Body. Specific reference was made to Blakeston and Norton Schools where, it was suggested, the protocol would be particularly helpful. The Panel agreed that with regard to these two schools it was important that there was a strategy to bring the two staff teams together e.g organise joint events etc. This would assist with transition and officers indicated that they would ensure this was happening.

The Panel briefly discussed Grangefield (remodelling) and the co-location proposals, with Westlands, identified within the Outline Business Case. It was noted that access issues had been raised and were currently being considered.

The Chair asked to be advised of the date on which the advert, for the post of Principal, at the North Stockton Academy, would be placed.

AGREED that:

1. the minutes of the Teachers Joint Consultative Panel be approved.
2. consultation on the Staff Protocol be initiated immediately with comments back to Paul Hiser within 28 days.
3. efforts be made to ensure staff from Blakeston and Norton Schools are brought together at joint events.

4. the date it was intended to place the advert for the post of Principal at the North Stockton Academy be circulated to the Panel.

SWJC 4/09 Terms of Reference

The Panel's Terms of Reference were provided to members.

AGREED that the Terms of Reference be noted

SWJC 5/09 Work Programme

The Panel agreed a work programme:-

Date of Meeting	Issue
26 th January 2009	Building Schools for the Future Staffing Issues Primary Capital Funding Roman Catholic Primary School Provision – Billingham Post 16 arrangements Work Programme
23 rd March 2009	Building Schools for the Future Staffing Issues Work Programme
13 th July 2009	Building Schools for the Future Staffing Issues Government Policy Work Programme

The Panel asked that an up to date position regarding the Primary Capital Fund for Roman Catholic Schools be circulated.

The work programme item would be included on each agenda.

AGREED that the work programme issues be approved and the Primary Capital Fund update be circulated.