

The Highland Council

Minutes of the Nineteenth Annual General Meeting of the **Local Negotiating Committee for Teachers** held remotely on Wednesday 9 December 2020 at 3.00 pm.

Present:

Representing the Management Side:

Mrs M Cockburn
Mr J Finlayson
Mr T Heggie
Mr G MacKenzie

Representing the Teachers' Side:

Ms C Fraser (SSTA)
Mr L Mackenzie (EIS)
Mr S Tillman (EIS)
Ms C Whiteford (EIS)

Also present as observers:

Ms K Laird (AHDS)
Ms G Warburton (EIS)

In attendance:

Mr A Bell, Joint Secretary, Teachers' Side
Ms N Grant, Joint Secretary, Management Side/Executive Chief Officer Education and Learning
Ms A MacPherson, Workforce Planning and Staffing Manager
Ms R Bell, Policy Officer
Miss M Murray, Committee Administrator

Business

1. Appointment of Chair

The Committee **AGREED** that the Chair of the Management Side, Mr J Finlayson, be appointed Chair, and the Convenor of the Teachers' Side, Ms C McCombie, be appointed Vice Chair of the Local Negotiating Committee for Teachers for the coming year.

Mr J Finlayson then took the Chair.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of, from the Management Side, Mr A Christie, Ms E Knox, Mr S Mackie, Mr A Mackinnon, Mr M Reiss and Mr A Sinclair, and from the Teachers' Side, Ms C McCombie, Ms A MacDonald and Mr S Macfarlane.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes of Meeting held on 13 November 2019

The Committee **APPROVED** the Minutes of the Eighteenth Annual General Meeting of the Local Negotiating Committee for Teachers held on 13 November 2019.

5. Approval of Membership

There had been circulated Report No LNCT(AGM)01/20 dated 12 November 2020 by the Committee Administrator setting out the membership of the Local Negotiating Committee for Teachers for the coming year.

The Committee **APPROVED** the membership of the Local Negotiating Committee for Teachers as follows:-

Representing the Management Side - four from the following:

Mr John Finlayson (Chair of the Education Committee)
Mr Tom Heggie (Vice Chair of the Education Committee)
Mr Alister Mackinnon (Chair of the Corporate Resources Committee)
Mr Matthew Reiss (Vice Chair of the Corporate Resources Committee)
Mr Alasdair Christie
Ms Muriel Cockburn
Ms Emma Knox
Mr Graham MacKenzie
Mr Struan Mackie
Mr Andrew Sinclair

Representing the Joint Union Side - four from the following:

Association of Headteachers and Deputies in Scotland

Mrs Kerrie Laird

Educational Institute of Scotland

Ms Caroline McCombie (Convenor)
Mr Lewis MacKenzie (Vice Convenor)
Mr Neil Grant
Ms Jacqueline Hume
Mr Sandy Macfarlane
Mr Steven Tillman
Ms Gabi Warburton
Mrs Clare Whiteford

Scottish Secondary Teachers' Association

Mrs Catriona Fraser
Mr Andrew Sutcliffe

6. Dates of Future Meetings

The Committee **AGREED** that meetings of the Local Negotiating Committee for Teachers be held on the following dates in 2021:-

Wednesday 16 June at 3.00 pm

Tuesday 9 November at 3.00 pm

At the conclusion of formal business, the Joint Secretary, Teachers' Side, commented that he had not yet received a response to his letter to senior Members and officials regarding a potential move to remote learning for the last week of term, the first three days back or a combination of both.

The Joint Secretary, Management Side, confirmed that a response had been drafted and it was anticipated it would be with the Joint Secretary, Teachers' Side, by close of business the following day.

The Joint Secretary, Teachers' Side, went on to query what mechanisms were in place, assuming remote learning was not implemented for the final week of term, in the event of a positive Covid test in a school on the Monday or Tuesday, and an assurance was sought that no member of teaching staff would be asked to do anything in that regard from 23 December onwards.

The Joint Secretary, Management Side, confirmed that this would also form part of the aforementioned response.

The Chair added, for information, that he had attended a meeting of Head Teachers the previous day at which some of those present had indicated they would want to be involved. However, other Members had found the opposite to be the case, and it was acknowledged that there were opinions on both sides.

The meeting concluded at 3.07 pm.