

Scotland Policy Conferences Keynote Seminar

Next steps for Scottish schools: funding, governance and priorities for the workforce

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 22nd June 2017

Venue: Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Nicolson Street, Edinburgh EH8 9DW



SCOTLAND POLICY
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Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
James Dornan MSP, Convener, Education and Skills Committee
- 9.05 - 9.55 **Assessing the current governance structures and options for the future: developing Regional Improvement Collaboratives and school clusters**
What should be the priorities for the educational community in preparing for the development of Regional Improvement Collaboratives? How will such collaboratives need to develop to play a meaningful role in improving partnership working, sharing of best practice and ensuring streamlined support? Following the regionalisation of colleges in 2014, what lessons can be learnt by schools regarding the regionalisation process and implementation? What are the next steps for developing school clusters and supporting collaborative working - across early years, primary and secondary education and the wider educational community - throughout Scotland?
Russell Gunson, Director, IPPR Scotland
Keir Bloomer, Independent Education Consultant
Andrew Witty, Director of Sector Policy, Colleges Scotland
Seamus Searson, General Secretary, Scottish Secondary Teachers' Association
Professor Walter Humes, Honorary Professor, University of Stirling
- 9.55 - 10.20 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 - 10.25 **Chair's closing remarks**
James Dornan MSP, Convener, Education and Skills Committee
- 10.25 - 11.05 Coffee
- 11.05 - 11.10 **Chair's opening remarks**
Elizabeth Smith MSP, Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
- 11.10 - 12.00 **Devolving power in Scottish education: practicalities and implementation**
In addition to current devolved school management arrangements, what are the practical implications of devolving further responsibilities - such as choosing staff, a greater role in curriculum design and raising attainment - to headteachers? Given current concerns from teachers regarding devolution of additional responsibilities, particularly in regard to workload and the potential impact on standards of teaching, what further steps should be taken to support them in adapting to future changes? What assessment can be made of the Pupil Equity Fund thus far, in relation to allocation and its potential contribution to tackling the attainment gap?
Jean Carwood-Edwards, Chief Executive, Early Years Scotland
Douglas Chambers, Principal Teacher, Oakgrove Primary School, Glasgow
Steve Ross, Headteacher, Craigroyston Community High School, Edinburgh
Jane Wilson, Director, Scottish Parent Teacher Council and Teacher, Gleniffer High School, Renfrewshire
Questions and comments from the floor
Developing the workforce - leadership, standards and professional learning
With plans to make the qualification for headteachers mandatory, and with new powers over attainment, curriculum and staffing being given to them, what steps can be taken to ensure it does not negatively impact on headteacher recruitment, given current challenges with posts remaining vacant throughout Scotland? What are the priorities for initial teacher education, in light of future changes to the governance system and what needs to be done to support the wider teaching profession and ensure their ongoing development? What steps could be taken to support improved working between schools and universities?
- 12.00 - 12.10 **Linda Brownlow**, Deputy Head, School of Education and PGDE Professional Specialisation Module Leader, University of Strathclyde
- 12.10 - 12.20 **Ken Muir**, Chief Executive and Registrar, General Teaching Council for Scotland
- 12.20 - 12.30 **Larry Flanagan**, General Secretary, Educational Institute of Scotland
- 12.30 - 12.55 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Scotland Policy Conferences closing remarks**
Elizabeth Smith MSP, Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
Stephanie Barr, Forum Lead, Scotland Policy Conferences