

Executive Note

The Parental Involvement in Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher Appointments(Scotland) Regulations 2007 (S.S.I 2007/132)

The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 14 (5) of the **Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006 (“the Act”)**. The instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure.

Policy Objectives

Section 14 of the Act imposes obligations on education authorities with regard to their procedures in filling headteacher and deputy headteacher posts. The broad focus of the Act itself is about involving parents in their own child’s education, and in school education generally. An aspect of this is parental involvement in relation to senior appointments. The purpose of this instrument is to ensure that parents are meaningfully involved in specified key stages of the appointment process for such posts.

Consultation

The consultation process, incorporating the regulations in draft form, ran from 20 November 2006 to 26 January 2007. It was issued to almost 2800 organisations including all Local Education Authorities, all schools, School Boards and other interested parties and received 120 responses. Four themes emerged from the consultation:

- Training for parental representatives involved in the process
- Implications for the process arising from the earlier involvement of parents (Regulation 4)
- Redeployment cases (Regulations 5(3)) and 6(1))
- Composition of appointment panel (Regulation 6 (3))

Section 14 (4) of the Act obliges authorities to make provision for training for parental representatives. Further reference to training for all personnel involved in the appointments process will be made in supplementary guidance to accompany the Regulations.

Regulation 4 requires education authorities to consult with the Parent Council, as the representative body in each school of parents of pupils at that school, at an early stage in the appointment process. They are obliged thereafter to take account of the views expressed by the Parent Council.

The position in relation to posts which are dealt with by means of redeployment is covered in Regulations 5(3) and 6(1).

Regulation 6(3) makes provision in relation to the minimum level of parental representation on panels. The provision reflects also the Executive’s position that further detail in relation to the composition of such panels should not be prescribed.

Financial Effects

The instrument has no financial effects on the Scottish Executive, local government or on business.

Scottish Executive Education Department
28th February 2007