MINUTE of MEETING of the EDUCATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL of WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE on 20 NOVEMBER 2012.

Present – Councillors David Dodds (Chair), Tony Boyle (substituting for Lawrence Fitzpatrick), Stuart Borrowman, Carl John (substituting for Jim Walker) and John McGinty; Appointed Representatives Lynne McEwen and Lynn Taylor (substituting for Eric Lumsden).

Apologies – Councillors Lawrence Fitzpatrick, Andrew Miller and Jim Walker; Appointed Representatives Elsie Aitken, John Hendrie, Eric Lumsden, Myra MacPherson and Graham Stormont.

Opening comments

The Chair welcomed Lynn Taylor to the meeting in her remit as Parent Council representative, substituting for Eric Lumsden.

1. MINUTE

The Panel confirmed the Minute of the meeting held on 30 October 2012 as being a correct record. The Minute was thereafter signed by the Chair.

2. SUPPORT FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Quality Assurance) providing information relating to the two-year funding received from sportscotland to support the delivery of two hours/two periods of quality physical education per week for all pupils in primary schools and S1-S4 in secondary schools.

The Active Schools Manager advised that in March 2012 the Scottish Government and COSLA announced a commitment to deliver at least two hours per week of physical education in primary schools and two periods in S1 to S4 by 2014 for all pupils in Scotland. An investment of up to £5.8m, over two financial years had been made available by Scottish Government to support local authorities achieve the targets by the end of academic year 2013/2014.

The report provided details of the progress made within schools in West Lothian from 2009 to 2011 towards meeting the two hours of PE in primary and two periods of PE in secondary schools. It was also recorded that in March 2012 76% of primary schools and 91% of secondary schools reported that they met the set PE targets.

To further support schools in meeting the PE target, West Lothian Council received £102,500 over two years to ensure 100% of its schools met the PE target by June 2014. The PE Support funding enabled West Lothian Council to provide PE secondment opportunity to an experienced physical education teacher, Karen McCubbin, who took up the post of PE Support

Officer on 18 September 2012. The key target areas were detailed in the report and West Lothian PE Support Plan was attached as an appendix to the report. The PE Support Officer would provide updates on progress at future PDSP meetings.

During the course of the discussion the Panel asked if there were any school cluster groups in West Lothian meeting PE targets and whether an update on the percentage of pupils involved in the delivery of the PE target could be made available. It was also noted in the PE Support Programme that 50 out of 66 primary schools in West Lothian were currently reporting two hours delivery of the PE target. The Panel asked for details of the primary schools not meeting this target. The Active Schools Manager agreed to provide Members with this information.

In conclusion, it was reported that fifty primary schools and ten secondary schools were meeting the national PE target.

Decision

1. To agree to provide Members with an update on the information requested; and

2. To note the contents of the report.