

-----Original Message-----

From: Mailer-Daemon@scotland.gov.uk [mailto:Mailer-Daemon@scotland.gov.uk]

Sent: 25 April 2005 14:30

To: Parental Involvement Bill

Subject: Parentzone Making the Difference Questionnaire

Response from the Parentzone - Parental Involvement questionnaire

Name: Karol Kalna

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Responding as: An individual

Individual: Yes

Confidentiality: Yes, make my response, name and address all available

Behalf of groups: Yes

Sharing responses / future engagement: Yes

Question 1: No, education authority is NOT an elected body and therefore must not prepare any rules, for example, a 'Strategy for Parental Involvement' (SPI), defining parental involvement.

Question 2: No, see the previous answer.

Question 3: No, I do NOT agree that incorporating these Strategies in existing Annual Statements of Education Improvement Objectives and School Development Plans, etc. This should be done in other way which would ensure major participation of parent in School Boards. Meanwhile, the best way so far is keep the original approach.

Question 4: No, I do not agree that the current system of parental representation i.e. School Boards should be replaced by parent forum.

Of course, that the School Board or Parent Forum or whatever name you will use should be flexible enough to meet local school situation.

Question 5: Completely no. This would give an education authority a power which they should not have because "the education authority is not an elected body" (see the answer to question No. 1).

Question 6: Yes, but not the parent forum as it is defined in this draft.

Question 7: No, the size of the parent body can be flexible but the role must be well defined. The proposal contains possibilities which lead to a dictatorship.

Question 8: Yes, I have not problem with this point because I consider this not important.

Question 9: No, The forum constitution can be determined locally but the content has to have certain general democratic principles.

Question 10: Parents should be always in majority but co-opted members are acceptable.

Question 11: Not really.

Question 12: Yes, I agree.

Question 13: Neither. The headteacher or any non-member has to have right to attend in all cases except when the parent forum decide to ban such non-members from the particular meeting.

Question 14: No. But what are you talking about in this question?

Question 15: Yes, I agree.

Question 16: No, the parent forum cannot be in any case the 'AGENTS' of the education authority, they are independent of anyone. The education authority and the parent forum deal with third parties independently and are not agents to each other as well as not to anyone else.

Question 17: Which obligations? If the previous than NOT.

Question 18: No, I do not agree.

Question 19: Yes, I agree.

Question 20: Yes, I think this is exactly the matter which has to be decided by education authority.

Question 21: Since I agree I will not respond.

Question 22: Yes, of course, this is trivial.

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