

④ + info - group - individual
+ name of group 712

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

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

Sent: 07 June 2005 15:51

To: Parental Involvement Bill

Subject: 712

Response from the Parentzone - Parental Involvement questionnaire

Name: JAMES DEVLIN

Responding as: On behalf of a group or organisation

Individual: Yes

Confidentially: Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address

Behalf of groups: Yes

Sharing responses / future engagement: Yes

Question 1: NO. I DO NOT AGREE THAT THE ABOLISHMENT OF THE 1988 BILL IS REQUIRED TO FULFIL THIS DUTY. I AM CURRENTLY UNDER THE DURESDICTION OF ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL WHO GIVE THIS DUTY THEIR FULL ATTENTION.

Question 2: NO. AS I HAVE STATED IN QUESTION 1 ALL OF OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS HAVE BOTH SCHOOL BOARD AND P.T.A REPRESENTATION.

Question 3: I AGREE THAT ALL COUNCILS SHOULD KEEP THE PARENT BODY UP TO SPEED ON THEIR OBJECTIVES AND RESULTS, BUT THIS MUST BE DONE AS A VALUE FOR MONEY SERVICE AND AS THIS MAY LEAD TO EXTRA WORK INVOLVED THUS IT WILL ALSO LEAD TO INCREASE STAFF WHICH MAY LEAD TO SCHOOLS HAVING TO PAY FROM THEIR BUDGETS.

Question 4: NO. AS THIS MAY LEAD TO CERTAIN PARENTS JOINING FOR THEIR OWN AGENDAS.

THE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS AT THE MOMENT ARE THEIR FOR THE BENIFIT FOR ALL PUPILS AND STAFF.HAVING CONTACTED BY LETTER EVERY PARENT ON THE SCHOOLS REGISTER ON BEHALF OF THE SCHOOL BOARD ASKING THEM ABOUT THEIR OPINION OF THE CURRENT PROPOSALS IT WAS A UNANAMOUS "NO" FROM THE PARENT BODY AND THEY WISHED THE CURRENT SYSTEM REMAIN IN PLACE. WHICH THE BOARD HAD AGREED TO BACK WHICH EVER WAY THE PARENTS VOTED.

Question 5: ELECTIONS CAN BE SEEN AS A HURDLE TO CERTAIN PARENTS AND THIS MAY BE OFF PUTTING. SO I AM IN FAVOUR OF THE ABOLISHMENT OF THE ELECTION SECTION OF THE 1988 BILL, BUT NOT THE ABOLISHMENT OF THE BILL AS A WHOLE.

Question 6: NO. I WOULD SAY THAT IN MY EXPERIENCE MY EDUCATION AUTHORITY ACTS VERY WELL IN THEIR SUPPORT TO BOTH SCHOOL BOARDS AND PTAs.

Question 7: NO. I HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT 11% OF SCOTTISH SCHOOLS DO NOT HAVE A SCHOOL BOARD AND THIS MAY BE THE REASON THAT THE EXECUTIVE IS RAISING THIS MATTER. WOULD IT NOT BE EASIER TO APPROACH THE UNREPRESENTED SCHOOLS TO ENQUIRE AS TO WHERE THEIR PROBLEMS LIE AND IF IT ONLY COMES DOWN TO PARENT APETHY THEN I

WOULD AGREE TO ONE SCHOOL BOARD LOOKING AFTER MORE THAN ONE SCHOOL, AS THE SCHOOL BOARD THAT I REPRESENT AT THE MOMENT HAS BOTH A PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL UNDER IT'S WING.

Question 8: NO. I BELIEVE THE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITIES HAVE SPENT A LOT OF TIME AND EFFORT IN SETTING UP THE CURRENT SYSTEM AND SEE NO NEED TO CHANGE THIS.

Question 9: NO. THIS COULD LEAD TO ANARCHY AS I HAVE STATED EARLIER IT GIVES THE OPPORTUNITY TO A SMALL MINORITY OF PARENTS WHO MAY HAVE THEIR OWN PRIVATE AGENDA. THIS COULD ALSO BE SAME SCENARIO WITH THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY.

Question 10: NO. AS I DO NOT AGREE WITH THE PARENT BILL BUT I DO AGREE THAT PARENTS SHOULD ALWAYS BE IN THE MAJORITY CONCERNING THEIR CHILDRENS EDUCATION.

Question 11: YES I BELIEVE THAT THE NEW PROPOSED BILL SHOULD BE SHELVED AND FORGOTTEN ABOUT, AS THE CURRENT SYSTEM LOOKS AFTER CHILDREN IN A MORE THAN ADEQUATE WAY.

Question 12: I AGREE THAT PARENT FORUM SHOULD NOT BE SUBJECTED TO THESE CHECK AS I BELIEVE THE PARENT FORUM SHOULD NOT EVEN EXIST!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Question 13: IF YOU ARE TOTALLY SERIOUS ABOUT THIS IDEA THEN IT COULD LEAD TO CERTAIN SUBJECTS BECOMING VERY PERSONAL AS THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CURRENT SCHOOL BOARD BILL SAYS THAT THE BOARD CANNOT DISCUSS INDIVIDUAL PUPILS OR STAFF, AS THEIRS IS A PUBLIC MEETING, BUT IF THE NEW FORUM MEETINGS ARE TO BECOME PRIVATE THEN I DREAD TO THINK WHAT OR WHO MAY BE DISCUSSED AND THIS MAY LEAD TO INTERNAL DISSAGREEMENTS WITHIN FORUM MEMBERS

Question 14: I WOULD PROMOTE THE MANDATORY ABOLISHMENT OF THE PARENT FORUMS AND THE RETURN TO THE CURRENT STATUS QUO.

Question 15: I TOTALLY AGREE WITH AN OPEN- ENDED PROVISION FOR PARENTS TO ENQUIRE OF ANY POINTS OF INTEREST OR CONCERN WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT AFFECT THEM DIRECTLY BUT IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT UNDER THE CURRENT STRUCTURE ANY PARENT MAY RAISE THEIR CONCERNS VIA A SCHOOL BOARD MEETING AS ALL PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

Question 16: IF INSURANCE IS REQUIRED FOR A PARENTAL FORUM, IT MUST BEG THE QUESTION WHY? OR IS IT THE SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE AGREES WITH ME IN MAKING THE PARENT FORUM MEETINGS PRIVATE CERTAIN POINTS MAY BECOME MORE THAN HEATED WITHIN THE FORUM MEMBERS.I WOULD ALSO SAY THAT IT IS NOT THE PARENTS RESPONSIBILITY TO DEAL WITH THIRD PARTIES WITHOUT A HEAD TEACHER BEING PRESENT.

Question 17: THE AFORE MENTIONED OBLIGATIONS ARE ALREADY IN PLACE UNDER THE CURRENT LEGISLATION.THE ONLY DIFFERENCE I CAN SEE IS THAT THE EXECUTIVE WISHES TO ABOLISH THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS THAT BOARDS CAN DEMAND OF THEIR LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY OR THE SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE AS A WHOLE.

Question 18: THIS IS ANOTHER GREY AREA IN YOUR PROPOSALS. IT STATES THAT EDUCATION AUTHORITIES MUST PROVIDE ADEQUATE FINANCIAL SUPPORT BUT AMOUNTS TO ADEQUATE? THE COST OF A FIRST CLASS STAMP OR A TELEPHONE CALL? THEIR IS ALSO NO MENTION OF FUNDS TO SUPPLY A FORUM CLERK OR IS IT THE CASE THAT NO MINUTES WILL BE TAKEN AT THE FORUM MEETINGS? THIS WOULD ALSO LEAD FURTHER TO ANARCHY.

Question 19: I WAS UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT THIS PROPOSAL WAS ALREADY IN PLACE AND THAT ANY PARENT HAD THE RIGHT TO APPROACH INDIVIDUAL TEACHERS AS LONG AS THEY FOLLOWED THE PROPER PROCEDURES FOR EXAMPLE FOLLOWING THE CHAIN OF COMMAND?

Question 20: NO. I WOULD LIKE TO QUESTION WHAT IS A MODERN SYSTEM OF APPOINTING HEADS OR DEPUTY HEADS? AS I WAS UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE MOST SUITED AND QUALIFIED CANDIDATE WOULD BE OFFERED THE VACANCY AND THAT THIS WOULD BE APPLICABLE UNDER WHAT EVER SYSTEM IS IN PLACE OR IS THAT THE EXECUTIVE IS UNHAPPY THAT THE CURRENT BOARDS HAS SO MUCH REPRESENTATION AT THE INTERVIEW STAGE?

Question 21: ONCE AGAIN I MUST SAY THAT I BELIEVE THE CURRENT SITUATION IS MORE THAN ADEQUATE IN THIS MATTER AND ACTUALLY GIVES MORE THAN JUST A PRINCIPLE OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT.

Question 22: AS THIS PROPOSAL IS ALREADY IN PLACE WITHIN MY LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY I SEE NO REASON TO CHANGE WHAT IS ALREADY THERE. I WOULD ALSO LIKE IT NOTED THAT THIS IS NOT THE CASE OF TURKEYS NOT VOTING FOR CHRISTMAS BUT IF THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HAD NOT BEEN SO ONE SIDED THEN MAYBE THE SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVES COULD HAVE A MORE POSITIVE INPUT AND AS I AM SURE ALL WOULD AGREE THAT CERTAIN MINOR CHANGES OR "TWEAKING" OF THE CURRENT BILL IS REQUIRED BUT NOT THE ABOLITION OF THE BILL ALTOGETHER.

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712

Piaskowski K (Karen)

From: Rahmani J (Jordanna)
Sent: 16 June 2005 13:03
To: Piaskowski K (Karen)
Subject: RE: unclear response- 712

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

From: JIM DEVLIN
Sent: 16 June 2005 11:35
To: Rahmani J (Jordanna)
Subject: RE: unclear response- 712

This email has been received from an external party and
has been swept for the presence of computer viruses.

I am responding as an individual as my school board has already responded as a group and i also do not mind for my name or email address to be attached to my response.
thank you.
jim

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

From: Jordanna.Rahmani@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
[mailto:Jordanna.Rahmani@scotland.gsi.gov.uk]
Sent: 16 June 2005 11:19
To:
Subject: FW: unclear response- 712

This email and any files transmitted with it are intended solely for the use of the
individual or entity to whom they are addressed.

Dear James

From your response sheet it is unclear whether you are replying as an individual or on behalf of a group or organisation. I would be grateful if you clarify this point please and if you are responding on behalf of a group or organisation can you let me know the name so it can be recorded.

Thanks

Karen Piaskowski
Parental Involvement Bill Team

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