# **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Wednesday 28 June 2006

Session 2



# **CONTENTS**

# Wednesday 28 June 2006

	Col.
SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION	.3405
Teachers' Superannuation (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2006 (SSI 2006/308)	.3405
Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2006 (SSI 2006/317)	.3405
St Mary's Music School (Aided Places) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2006 (SSI 2006/318)	.3405
Education (Appeal Committee Procedures) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2006 (SSI 2006/322)	.3405
Registration of Independent Schools (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (SSI 2006/324)	.3405
Pupil Motivation Inquiry	.3406

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

† 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting 2006, Session 2

## **C**ONVENER

\*Iain Smith (North East Fife) (LD)

#### **DEPUTY CONVENER**

Lord James Douglas-Hamilton (Lothians) (Con)

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Ms Wendy Alexander (Paisley North) (Lab)

\*Ms Rosemary Byrne (South of Scotland) (SSP)

\*Fiona Hyslop (Lothians) (SNP)

Mr Adam Ingram (South of Scotland) (SNP)

\*Mr Kenneth Macintosh (Eastwood) (Lab)

Mr Frank McAveety (Glasgow Shettleston) (Lab)

\*Dr Elaine Murray (Dumfries) (Lab)

## **COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTES**

Richard Baker (North East Scotland) (Lab)

Rosie Kane (Glasgow) (SSP) Mr Jamie McGrigor (Highlands and Islands) (Con)

Mr Jamie Stone (Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross) (LD)

Mr Andrew Welsh (Angus) (SNP)

## **C**LERK TO THE COMMITTEE

**Eugene Windsor** 

## **SENIOR ASSISTANT CLERK**

Mark Roberts

## **ASSISTANT CLERK**

Ian Cowan

## LOCATION

Committee Room 5

† 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting 2006, Session 2—held in private.

<sup>\*</sup>attended

# **Scottish Parliament**

## **Education Committee**

Wednesday 28 June 2006

[THE CONVENER opened the meeting at 10:00]

# **Subordinate Legislation**

Teachers' Superannuation (Scotland)
Amendment Regulations 2006
(SSI 2006/308)

Education (Assisted Places) (Scotland)
Amendment Regulations 2006
(SSI 2006/317)

St Mary's Music School (Aided Places) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2006 (SSI 2006/318)

Education (Appeal Committee Procedures) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2006 (SSI 2006/322)

Registration of Independent Schools (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (SSI 2006/324)

**The Convener (lain Smith):** Good morning, colleagues, and welcome to the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Education Committee in 2006. We have received apologies from Lord James Douglas-Hamilton and Adam Ingram and I presume that Wendy Alexander's apologies continue to apply.

Item 1 is subordinate legislation. There are five negative instruments to consider. No member indicated that they wished to ask the Scottish Executive about any issues relating to the regulations, so no Executive officials have been invited to the meeting. If members have any comments to make, they should make them now or forever hold their peace.

Mr Kenneth Macintosh (Eastwood) (Lab): The regulations are simply annual upgrades.

**The Convener:** Okay. Do members agree that there is nothing to report on the regulations?

Members indicated agreement.

# **Pupil Motivation Inquiry**

10:02

**The Convener:** Item 2 is the pupil motivation inquiry. A response from the Executive has been circulated, which members should feel free to comment on. If members have no comments to make, we will simply note it.

**Mr Macintosh:** The details of the response simply explain what the Executive is doing, but its tone is obviously very positive. It might be worth pondering during the recess what else we can do, given that the committee and the Executive clearly agree on the importance of pupil motivation and progressing matters.

**Dr Elaine Murray (Dumfries) (Lab):** Are we likely to have a debate on the matter in the chamber?

The Convener: That is unlikely because there is a great deal of pressure on the remaining slots for committee debates. We have made a bid for time to debate the early years report and it is unlikely that we will get a second slot. Perhaps we can touch on the matter in our annual update meeting with the ministers, in which we can ask them to comment on progress. I note for the record that the committee has received written comments from Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, which have been circulated. As members have no other comments to make, we will note the response.

Before we go into private session, I thank members of the committee and the clerking team in particular for all the assistance that they have given me in my first year as convener of the committee. They have made it easier for me to cope with such a big subject. The year has been very enjoyable.

That concludes the public part of our final meeting before the summer recess.

10:03

Meeting continued in private until 10:34.

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## Friday 7 July 2006

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