



**Minutes of the Scottish Play Policy Forum,
held at Capability Scotland, Ellersly Road, Edinburgh
Wednesday 5 May 2010**

1. Welcome - Marguerite welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Eric Mitchell for hosting today

2. Apologies – Marguerite read out a list of apologies. Apologies were noted from the following: Colin Rennie- Fields in Trust, Alastair Seaman- Grounds for Learning, Ronnie Hill- Care Commission, Nina Roberts- SSSC, Irene Audain- Scottish Out of School Care Network, Sue Sutton- ISPAL, Debbie Willett- SkillsActive, Sue Gutteridge, Kevin Lafferty- Forestry Commission, Ishbel Proctor- Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Julie Proctor- Greenspace Scotland, Frances Barbour- Stevenson College Edinburgh, Claire Simpson- Parenting Across Scotland, Lesley Fox- National Association of Toy and Leisure Libraries,

Introductions were made around the table.

In attendance: Ryan Reed- LTS, Eric Mitchell- Capability Scotland, Thekla Garland- Scottish Government, Lea Mann- Scottish Government, Neil Logan- National Playbus Association, Linda Lauchlan- LTS, Irene Hogg- IPA Scotland, Margaret Westwood- Nancy Ovens Trust, Stephanie Bruce- Care and Learning Alliance, Gwen Garner- Scottish Pre-school Play Association, Marion McLeod- Children in Scotland, Patricia Doyle- Shelter, Jane Crawford- Scottish Childminding Association, Amanda Godsell- Play Scotland (Minutes), Marguerite Hunter Blair- Play Scotland- (Chair)

3. Minutes from last meeting

Marguerite went through the minutes for accuracy and matters arising
P3- inaccuracy- Action for Sick Children Scotland- not hospital- it was about parenting, health and young parents
Minutes proposed by Gwen Garner seconded by Irene Hogg

4. Update from CPPF

MHB gave the update- Elections this week- LGA chairs CPPF England- DCSF
Process of recruiting a new chair
Wide representation
MHB update SPPF to CPPF
England, NI and Wales - They are looking to set up PPF in each country- following good practice.

Further update is given in attached notes

4.Presentation by Ryan Reed- LTS

Marguerite introduced Ryan Reed- Development Officer for Outdoor Learning at Learning and Teaching Scotland.

- OLSAG set up in 2008
- Membership- wide
- C for E Outdoor Learning Framework document –carries C for E livery and is integral part of other docs that have been produced.
- 12,000 copies have gone out to every early years setting and primary school- 5 per setting
- Can be viewed and downloaded on line.
- Strong backing from ministers- OLSAG set up by a number of ministers- there is broad cross party support for outdoor learning agenda
- Seen as outdoor education- this is much broader than this.
- Key messages: Big picture- frequent and progressive outdoor learning
- Including the play sector and community learning and development
- Real opportunity for partners to be involved in this
- Introduction
- Experiences- engaging with the outdoors with a purpose.
- Risk Management- small part of bigger project- progressive approach to this- Play Scotland, Playlink and Bernard Spiegel and Adventure Activity Associates
- The one page of risk management is backed up with 100 page guidance
- HASEE docs – from Scottish Government
- Doc places teachers and practitioners in a much stronger position.
- Rely more on practice- not just on paperwork- needs to be a realistic and sustainable approach.
- Bernard Spiegel quote in the document - good one sums up

- Partnership working- SNH and Forestry involved in web development
- More agencies to get involved over time- with partnership working
- Greater degree of joint planning- follow up activities to add something to the broader curriculum
- What does this mean in practice?—BIG QUESTION
- From a variety of perspectives – a move towards an understanding of this being a 3-18 curriculum- highlighting and recording this.

Key points-

- A move towards the curriculum
- A joined up approach- entire learning experience- planning section relates to this
- A broadening of perspectives
- The development of practice and confidence
- For teachers- a broadening of perspectives- hope that this document can allow them to lead to them taking the initiative rather than specialist outdoor staff all the time.
- Implementing the doc
- Work streams

Spread across the country- a number of national partner orgs will deliver workshops at these events- 40 LA staff to 20 partner orgs.

- Creation of on line resource- web is live- this will grow over time
- Series of recommendations came out of OLSAG- one that ministers would establish a small group of 8- HMIE, CoSLA – to establish a national network for outdoor learning- Quality improvement officer level from all 32 LAs and range of partner orgs – group would meet bi-annually- reporting back to the forum – feedback and next steps
- Continuing to look at the work around h and s- tricky to implement
Something that would need to be developed with them
- Corporate H and s could be discussed at corporate level with a degree of variation on circumstances within the LA

Look at where heads of establishments can make decisions re h and s- is an issue

- 620 locations across Scotland - on web- nature reserves and local parks
- Expanding geographical rings- work within schools and grounds, residential and trips, h and section

Question- MHB- - resources- who supporting this and LTS in this work?

Ryan- grounds for learning good org getting teachers specifically

Will this be embedded in teacher training?- it is hoped so- OLSAG said it should be included in initial teacher training.

Question-Gwen asked about early years- Claire Warden, Mindstretchers- Linda LTS said she had been involved- also expertise of Juliet Robertson – this is on the web.

Question-Marion- CIS- how will this be followed- up- Inspection processes-

- SP presentation of outdoor learning- good outcomes- children who didn't engage good experiences- running out of funds- question- good having guidance- someone going into the schools- practically- if the mechanisms are reducing for this then how effective will this actually be?
- Ryan- self evaluation toolkit- HMIE were involved in the development of the OL framework – need to look at where practice doesn't exist
- Ryan – key messages coming through= when step outside classroom- continue recording outside-
- Shelter- John Muir working with them to get award for outdoor learning

Comment-Margaret Westwood- Play specifically not in the document-

Ryan stated that it is mentioned the Introduction - Linda said more in building the curriculum too

Comment-Amanda Godsell- mentioned Tim Gills new document produced at the end of April 2010 for the English Outdoor Council- Nothing Ventured- circulated for interest. This can be downloaded from the website.

Comment- Stephanie mentioned in Highland- Insurance problem- debate around what is supervision?

Not allowing children to be watched from inside if there are not enough staff to cover inside and out- this means children are not being allowed outside some days

Ryan- need to take a common sense approach - Ryan- it is about corporate risk responsibility

Insurance- might be a topic for SPPF to discuss with Insurers

Marguerite thanked Ryan for his presentation

5. Scottish Government update - Thekla Garland/Lea Mann

No update on Play talk read

Evaluation- hit target audience

Linda said Scott from advisory group came along- posters and adverts will run again

Fathers, parents will be the target group

Use website

Gwen stated that the campaign had been successful to measure change of attitudes

Marion raised a point about the data-evaluation on EYF

Importance of PTR at GUS seminar- missing out the window of opportunity

GUS –reinforcing the things we need to be doing- not acting on them and the measures are not in place

It was suggested that an Invitation to group Marion sits on be given to Anncri Roberts to come along and present their work- Jim Stephen – Head of Positive futures at Scottish Government- Eliz Campbell- has Anncri in her team and Thekla heads up the other team- play in Indicators- measure how the EYF delivering what it should

Nationally aggregated data across Scotland- no longer happens between 8 weeks and five years

6. Updates from SPPF Membership

Irene IPA- Togo and Thailand Trips

Consultation on Childrens parliament for later meeting

Eric- EYF- Capability Scotland- 6 month piece of work- Sam engaging with orgs to create a strategy. Useful for SOA ref to play from LAs

Scotland's disabled children campaign - 4 groups- childcare group Irene Audain on this.

Playday- local service level- involving parents

Taken learning over the years- Inclusive play packs- into LAs

Training session has been developed- got someone developed the pack further.

Engaging with LA 's- Edinburgh and East Lothian- interested will be delivering to them

Creating a new service for 10-16 yr olds- respite service for parents- opportunities to play-

Margaret Westwood- IPA internationally- series of consultations worldwide on the child's right to play-in cities such as Tokyo, Johannesburg and Bangkok

Nancy Ovens Trust- Outdoor award- 11 September - in Stirling- Invitations gone out to all Local Authority Chief Executives- Adam Ingram will attend

Playday- Edinburgh city council will run city centre event

Trish- John Muir award- participation group

Animation DVD- attended by 23 c and yp and families and Tam Baillie attended

Professional forums- show DVD-

Playday- nothing planned- may sign up for local event

Neil-Article 12 and travelling community- producing a guide
Social facebook very good- a lot of info- Neil recommend- good contacts in America
New name for National Playbus- Working on Wheels-
Eric asked about safety for using social media with children
Neils twitter name- National Playbus

Jane Crawford- SCMA- go play bid- initially were not successful, now revised bid and is being reassessed

Gwen Garner- relaunched their website , conference- 11 November- Getting it right for early years.

Consultations- vulnerable groups

Playday-advertising our seminar

SPPA- business restructuring- some redundancies- Gwen will continue to be editor- but unsure who will represent at SPPF

If anyone want SPPA bulletin- give name to Gwen

Linda-Early Years magazine- if anyone has anything for the next edition- let Linda know

Still working with pre birth to 3 resource- emphasising outdoors

Still promoting on line resource-

In response to Marion`s questions- re supporting- there is lots on active learning section of LTS website.

Stephanie- CALA – launch for Highland`s children 3- written around Children`s wellbeing indicators- looking for key messages to take on board in their own development plans

Playday- passed on info-to OSC in Highland

7. Launch of Ten Top tips for Play

Everyone was asked to take copies away with them today- More available from Play Scotland. Marguerite stated that the leaflet had been the idea of Parenting Across Scotland. The booklets have circulated to all Health Visitors in Scotland and there are plans to have them sent around early years settings. The leaflet was warmly welcomed by the Forum as a useful resource for parents and carers.

Action- Amanda to investigate the possibility of having the leaflet as a pdf.

8. MHB- update- Marguerite gave a full and comprehensive update on the work of Play Scotland- see attached powerpoint

- How successful the play sector has been- elections in Scotland next year
- We have policy framework- so what do we want next?
- Relevance of play in everything- now policy wise
- Meeting with other teams- at SG- look at the work they are doing with CCPs- vol sector needs to be part of this discussion
- Update on IPA work in Scotland and abroad
- Play and risk debate final event will be in Sept 2010
- Highlight National outcomes doc in manifesto next year

- Template and toolkit for play- between Aug 2010 to Aug2011- record the benefits of play provision- we are doing an exec summary of this
- Establishing a reference group across Scotland
- Engaging local authorities- pilot this as we go along
- Developing indicators- need to agree with LA and the play sector – what these will be UK Perspective- CPPF, PSF, PETC and PETC UK - Four nations play- will send around as a newsletter

9. Summary of meeting outcomes and points to take to CPPF

- Sharing minutes from SPPF and CPPF- marguerite asked the group to endorse this-ok
- Ask SF to put minutes on the web of SPPF- Action AG
- Look at format of the room for future meetings
- Next meeting- 6 October 2010-11.30-3pm- *venue to be confirmed*
Speakers will be Irene Hogg- Update on the work of IPA Scotland and Patricia Doyle from Shelter- Presentation of Shelter DVD-“What is a Home”. Forum Members can see look at this in advance by going to You Tube and typing in Shelter Scotland
- After today`s meeting it was also suggested that Insurers could be invited along to the next meeting – to discuss the whole area of Risk Benefit Assessment