

## COALA MEETING

VENUE: University of Strathclyde

DATE/TIME: 25 January 2013

### NOTE OF MEETING

Present: See attached list

ITEM	ACTION
<b>1. Chair's Opening Remarks</b>	
<b>2. Apologies</b>	
<b>3. Minute of Previous Meeting (26<sup>th</sup> October 2012)</b> Minutes were approved and seconded by Mary Larkin and John Bissett	
<b>4. Matters Arising</b> Fiona Pate advised that interviews for the post of Modern Languages Development Officer at Education Scotland would be held next week. The chair commended the new SCILT website and encouraged its promotion across schools etc. The chair wished to minute that a representative group of QIOs would meet with Sarah and Mandy to discuss the future format / frequency of meetings etc in relation to COALA.	<b>SB, JM to arrange</b>
<b>5. Farewell to COALA members</b> The chair paid tribute to two colleagues who were retiring thanking, first of all, Ian Hirschfeld, COALA rep from Fife Council, for his valued contribution both to COALA and to modern languages over many years. The chair then spoke very warmly of John Bissett, Scottish Government representative on COALA, for his tireless work and loyal support for modern languages and for COALA over the years, to which John made a speech of thanks.	
<b>6. Government Update – John Bisset</b> John advised that Sue Langlands would be heading up the SG Languages section. Overall, the feedback from the November conference, A 1+ 2 Approach, had been very positive. They are looking at ideas that emerged from this feedback, such as possible regional events to support 1+2 implementation. The enquiry launched by the European Committee has had a positive influence on the languages agenda. A strategic implementation group is to be set up which will have a number of different work strands, such as the CPD challenges that the 1+2 Approach will necessitate. Funding streams to local authorities will be matched to the local authorities' planned strategies to take 1+2 forward. Milestones will need to be achievable / realistic eg When can the P1 learning of a foreign language start? Briefings to Cabinet Secretary, Education Directors, Education Scotland, SCILT, Cultural Organisations, GTCS, other stakeholders would be next priority. Concerns were raised that the above briefings would need to be as soon as possible in order that awareness was greatly raised. Local authority's 1+2	<b>LAs to begin work on local strategies</b>  <b>Scottish</b>

<p>Approach had to be an integral part of a local authority's whole curriculum strategy and work force planning and must not exist in isolation.</p>	<p><b>Government to write to Directors of Education</b></p>
<p><b>7. 1+2 Agenda</b> Sarah provided a summary of the progress of the 10 projects. All pilot schools were excited about their involvement. Fiona made specific reference to Shetland Islands Council where they were looking forward to checking on the impact.</p>	
<p><b>8. Edinburgh City – The Story so far...</b> Ann Robinson gave a very informative presentation on the reflections and ideas that were emerging from the Edinburgh City strategy group. This group had a width of membership, including primary and secondary head teachers, EALS representative, curriculum leaders, head of international education etc. Communications will be crucial / getting head teachers on board / pre-empting EALs issues etc. A phased approach to implementation has been suggested where manageability is key. Getting it right at P5 stage in the first instance, might be a more manageable approach. Building capacity in schools regarding P1 implementation through CPD, building confidence, enhancing existing MLPS programmes, capturing practice across the city, offering flexibility and encouragement would all be crucial to future planning. The pilot projects will help to shape planning.</p>	
<p><b>9. Cultural organisations – supporting 1+2 agenda</b> Lilo gave details of three proposals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multilingualism through screening of films related to study options</li> <li>• Concerts</li> <li>• Germany in the nursery</li> </ul> <p>Lilo also gave updates on German initiatives and forthcoming events (Goethe website)</p> <p>Joaquín gave details of the first three points on his action plan which had now been achieved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twilight sessions for Spanish teachers</li> <li>• Immersion days for Higher level students</li> <li>• Delivering the curriculum through Spanish (CLIL)</li> </ul> <p>Joaquín then gave updates on the Instituto Cervantes, Spanish courses for primary teachers, the DELE exams etc</p> <p>Marie-Christine of L'Institut Français gave details of the CPD events to date, with specific reference to the attendance of local authorities with whom they have had no previous links. These have included workshops for secondary teachers, and immersion days for Higher and Advanced Higher students. Forthcoming events include on line competitions, more resources for teachers and the opening up of Rencontres théâtrales to P1-P6 children. Marie Christine emphasised that we must join forces and competences.</p> <p>Rosanne Hirst of British Council gave details of the new on line application form for foreign languages assistants. The success of the project initiatives by FLAs would be repeated and showcased on 30 April 2013. Rosanne also reminded members of deadlines for Comenius assistants – 31/01/13 and the mid February</p>	

<p>deadline date for International School Award submissions.</p> <p>Marta from European Parliament updated members on the success of the Calendar Competition the winning tender by SEET for the Euroquiz.</p> <p>Richard Tallaron commended the great response to the July 2013 immersion courses from LFEE.</p>	
<p><b>10. SCILT Update</b></p> <p>Sarah gave details of the outreach / CPD menus / calendar of activities to date. There was a need to promote more primary school teacher CPD involvement. Forthcoming events include a three day course for final year BEd students in March and a Spelling Bee in June to be held at Scottish Parliament, Confucius Classroom launch in April and national conference in September. There had been a huge amount of work regarding supporting schools and Confucius Hub activities. The CISS website is now up and running and is commendable. More details would be issued regarding the visit to China at Easter for senior managers in schools and the summer immersion course for S5 pupils. An audit tool on 1+2 Approach had been welcomed by local authorities. Sarah will speak to the European and External Affairs Committee in March and will advise the GTCS regarding the recommendation of either entry or exit qualification in a foreign language for primary teachers.</p> <p>The team are proud to have produced the pop up stands, folders, leaflets etc all in support of the on going promotion of the languages agenda.</p>	<p><b>SB</b></p>
<p><b>11. AOCB</b></p> <p>Mark Pentleton gave an update on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radio Lingua, a free resource which was now across A-Z in 27 languages / Coffee Break German and Hi Fi French are to be launched soon</li> <li>• SEET film competition, ‘Our Europe’ involving submission by pupils of story boards, culminating in the final in Brussels. Deadline is 01/03/13</li> <li>• Sarah reminded members of closing date for SCILT Development Officer post 28 / 01 /13</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Date/Time of Next Meeting: 7<sup>th</sup> June 2013 at Goethe-Institut (tbc)</b></p>	