

## SAPOE Chair's Report

Tim Pickering

March 2024



Many thanks to Natalie and Neil who have been working away so diligently behind the scenes, keeping the wheels on the wagon, and the rest of the Exec for doing great work.

The Strategy was finished, and you should have all received a hard copy; it is downloadable from the web site. Thanks to everyone for your contributions as it gives us a map for the future. As a continuation of this, we are going to be discussing the executive structure later.

Bill ran an EVC training course and has continued to do a great job developing the resources and course with the rest of the Training Team.

GOT continues to develop and the team are asking if members can give examples of Top Tips and Case studies, more in a bit.

We have been attending the Scottish Government Outdoor Learning Group.

Andrew has continued with the data gathering activity with Scottish Government. Andrew will give more details.

SAPOE is planning to host the outdoor Learning Self Evaluation Tool developed by Carolyn from East Ayrshire. The Exec felt this was a valuable piece of work and is working with Willie to make sure it isn't lost.

I am hopefully meeting with Natalie Don, Minister for Children, Young People and Keeping the Promise, at Outward Bound Loch Eil next week, along with Nick March from AHOEC and Martin Davidson from OB.

- Our focus is to develop her understanding of Outdoor Learning, including the role residential play in the 3-18 journey.
- We also want to understand her views on OL.
- We are hoping to re-engage with Scottish Government to create a high level 'Quality' framework - what does a good quality residential experience look like?

The LfS training work we started with SG has been put on hold for various reasons. Hopefully it will restart with the next budget round.

Tim Pickering