

Chair's Report 6th June 2024

First thanks to the exec of the hard work and commitment and welcome to the new and returning members who are already making their mark.

Thanks to Neil for the excellent work he has done it taking forwards, getting the new members on the Exec and keeping the momentum going with our engagement switch Education Scotland and the Scottish Government.

We are in challenging times, if you are in the same place as our authority we are facing more cuts and increased pressure on our budgets. I personally lean on SAPOE and the experience here to keep me going.

Since the last meeting we have moved forwards with the GOT work and we are negotiating with the Scottish Government about the next funding and how we should improve and ensure it is a live resource. They are receptive and we are hopeful.

I met with Natalie Don at Outwards Bound Scotland for a very productive meeting and raised GOT with her and the Residetails work which Neil will be able to tell you more about.

We were saddened by the apparent finishing of the John Muir Award, as an Exec we are looking at possible ways forwards. Thanks Viks for leading on this.

We have continued to engage with the Scottish Government on the Learning for Sustainability Leadership Group

We have been looking at the value of the licence inspections, to help them to have the maximum value to us and you will have seen the questionnaire, we will keep you posted as this progresses.

You will have seen we have advertised for a Lead Officer and the closing date is Sunday, please can you continue to put it out on social media to spread it as far as possible.

Finally SAPOE is here to help its members and I would encourage you to bring any issues to the Panel and if you find you are in need of help please ask because certainly for me the world of budget cuts can be a lonely place.

Tim