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How does your local authority support its parent councils?

For example, do you provide support by providing any of the following:

- a direct grant or allocated budget
- a grant via the school
- training
- insurance
- access to advice and support
- employing and/or paying for a clerk

City of Edinburgh Council provides an allocated budget (which can be used to pay for a clerk), training, insurance, access to advice and support, and events with central officers.

Is there a local authority Area Forum (or similar) for Parent Council Chairs (or Parent Council members) where they can discuss issues of common interest?

If yes:

- What is it called?

Locality Meetings and Consultative Committee with Parents (CCWP)

- Who sets the agenda for the Area Forum?

Officers and Parent Reps

- Who runs and chairs the meeting of the Area Forum?

The Convenor for Education (CCWP)

- Does the Area Forum have legal status ie as a local authority sub-committee?

No, however there are 2 parents on our Education Committee

If yes, please explain

- What other ways does your local authority have for gathering the views of Parent Councils?

Parental Engagement and Representation

Does your local authority have a parental involvement officer?

Yes

If yes, what percentage of their role is dedicated to parental involvement in their job specification?

We have different officers who undertake this work as part of their remit.

Does your local authority have a parent/carer representative (or more than one) on the Education/Children and Families (or equivalent) Committee?

Yes

If yes:

- how is the parent representative chosen? For example, are they elected?

Yes, they are elected by other parents, if more than one parent puts their name forwards.

- does the parent representative have voting rights?

No

- is the parent representative able to gather parent/carers views and if so how do they do this?

Yes, they have contact with other Parent Council chairs

- how is the parent representative supported in their role by your local authority?

Training, invited to agenda planning meetings, regular contact with officers.

Is there a pupil representative on the Education or Children and Families Committee?

No

Is there a parent representative on the education appeals committee? (for school placing requests etc)

Yes

As a local authority, how else do you support parental engagement? E.g. up-to-date website content; dedicated parental engagement email address; using social media; staff training etc.

School based events, council website, contact from central officers, parents are on many of our working groups etc, dedicated parental engagement email address; using social media; staff training, meetings for Parent Council Members-agenda decided by members, buddying support for new chairs.