

Equalities Forum

16 January 2014 Woodfarm HS

Minute

1. Welcome and Introductions

M Sneddon, QIO, welcomed those present and introduced the Forum giving some background information about the Forum and its purpose for those who had not been in attendance before.

2. Racist Incidents Monitoring Update

M Sneddon presented the figures on racist incidents being reported to the education department from all schools and sectors for session 2012-13. She also explained the reporting process including timescales, pro forma which schools use and how the information gathered is used.

Numbers of incidents remain consistently low though this does not mean that the department is complacent. Discussions do take place with schools where there is an unusually high return or a consistently nil return.

MS will be meeting with schools equalities coordinators before the Spring break and the focus will be dealing with racist incidents and the recently revised guidelines around the protected characteristics from the Equalities and Human Rights Commission.

3. 2014 Commonwealth Games Legacy

M Sneddon stated that all 32 local authorities were required by Scottish Government to have a Games Legacy plan in place. There are 4 legacy themes (active, connected, sustainable and flourishing). MS went on to outline some of the draft plans being considered in relation to the connected theme, which link to equalities. The plan is still in draft form and when finalised and approved, will be available in the public domain.

4. Equalities Showcase Event

MS explained that the department is keen to consider an annual showcase of best practice in the area of equalities, across schools and centres. The first one is planned for May 2014. Some discussion took place about the possible focus/nature of this event including themes and activities. Further information will be made available in due course.

The meeting concluded with no AOCB items.

M Sneddon
20 January 2014

