

The Future of Chartered Teachers

The McCormac Review of Teacher Employment has set out the following recommendations:

Recommendation 19: *“The Chartered Teacher Scheme should be discontinued.”*

The proposal to introduce Chartered Teacher status was set out in the Tripartite Agreement, **A Teaching Profession for the 21st Century**. However, the scheme was developed by General Teaching Council Scotland and the granting of Chartered Teacher status lies with GTCS.

The SNCT determines the pay of Chartered Teachers and those on route to becoming Chartered Teachers.

As you are aware the SNCT agreed, as part of the Pay and Conditions Agreement 2011, to freeze entry to the Chartered Teacher Scheme.

While the future of Chartered Teacher status is not primarily a matter for SNCT that body will have to consider pay implications if Chartered Teacher status is withdrawn.

McCormac can settle nothing. His recommendations will be determined by others. It will be for GTCS and Scottish Government to determine the issue of Chartered Teacher status. Thereafter, the SNCT will have to deal with pay issues.

The nearest parallel for the EIS was in 2001 when the posts of Assistant Principal Teacher and Senior Teacher were abolished. It was decided that post holders could move to PT posts or would be assimilated in salary terms. Assimilation of salary is not a salary conservation. Those who were assimilated following the 2001 Agreement continue to be paid at their scale point and to receive annual pay awards.

The EIS response to McCormac on CTs was set out by General Secretary Ronnie Smith:

“The proposal to kill off the Chartered Teacher Scheme is anti-professional and punches a hole in the agreed career structure for teachers. It undermines a key objective to encourage teachers to move towards becoming a profession educated to Master’s level.”

In our submission to McCormac we said:

“The Chartered Teacher Programme does much to enhance all aspects of teaching and learning and should be valued and retained”.

We stand by that. The EIS shall seek to defend the CT status and the salaries of those who are Chartered Teachers or on route to CT status.