

EDINBURGH EIS LOCAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 12 March 2025

			ACTION
1	Sederunt	The meeting was not quorate with 39 attendees. The meeting required 45 members to be in attendance (1% of membership of 4,530).	
2	Welcome	Phill Pearce, Edinburgh LA President, welcomed members to the meeting.	
3	Guest Speaker	Allan Crosbie, EIS National President, was invited to speak on EIS actions and planning over the last year.	
4	President's Report	Phill Pearce provided an oral report.	
5	Secretary's Report	Alison Murphy, Edinburgh LA Secretary, provided an oral report. Special thanks given to EIS HQ staff, including Maxi McGeogh, Amy Moran, and Eilidh Gittus for their support. Thanks given as well to Louise Bishop who will be stepping down as treasurer after the AGM, and to Marni Kelly for her support in the LA office.	
6	Proposed Dates for 2025-2026	The dates for 2025-2026 were approved by Edinburgh LA Executive Committee.	
7	a. Local Association Annual Accounts	Louise Bishop, Edinburgh LA Treasurer circulated the accounts for 2023 - 2024. Proposed: Louise Bishop Seconded: Allan Crosbie Accounts for 2023-2024 were approved. Carried Nem. Con.	
	b. Local Association Subscription for 2025-2026	Louise Bishop, Treasurer, proposed that the Edinburgh Local Association Subscription for 2025 -2026 remain at Band 5. Proposed: Louise Bishop Seconded: Allan Crosbie Carried Nem. Con.	
	c. Honoraria for 2025-2026	Proposed Honoraria for 2025-2026 Officer Bearers The Edinburgh LA Office Bearers left the meeting while the following was proposed, and voted on, for honoraria payments in 2025-2026:	

		<p>Secretary £3,906.23 Treasurer £1,172.00 Assistant Secretary £879.00 President £879.00 Vice-President £879.00</p> <p>Further, this AGM proposes that all honoraria rise in line with agreed teacher pay awards.</p> <p>Proposed: Nikhat Yusaf Seconded: Martyn Cheung</p> <p>Carried Nem. Con.</p>	
7	Confirmation of AGM Delegates and Executive Members	<p>Office Bearers, Executive Members and AGM Delegates for 2025/2026</p> <p>LA Office Bearers (from March 2025) Allan Crosbie – Treasurer Tom Britton - Assistant Secretary Alison Murphy - Secretary Phill Pearce - President Claire Robertson – Vice President</p> <p>National Office Bearers from Edinburgh LA (from June 2025) Allan Crosbie – Ex-President</p> <p>National Council 2025-26 (from June 2025) Primary/Nursery Adela Mansur Phill Pearce Claire Robertson Thomas Britton Nikhat Yusaf</p> <p>Secondary/Special Helen Haines Craig Duffy Jehan Al-Azzawi Alison Murphy Louise Bishop</p> <p>Edinburgh LA Executive 2025-26 (from March 2025) Adela Mansur Ailidh Bell Claire Chalmers Clare Kelly Craig Duffy Elizabeth Bernstein Craig Macdonald Gerard Wilkie Graham Malcolm Helen Haines Jane Whitehead</p>	

		<p>Jehan Al-Azzawi Donny Gluckstein Kirsty Haldane Laura Hunter Linda Grieve Louise Bishop Martyn Cheung Nikhat Yusaf Penny Gower Sonia Kordiak Tom Colquhoun</p> <p>Delegates to National AGM 2025 (5-7th June in Aviemore)</p> <p>Ailidh Bell Claire Chalmers Clare Kelly Craig Duffy Craig Macdonald Graham Malcolm Martyn Cheung Nikhat Yusaf Tom Colquhoun</p> <p><i>There are spaces for LA Executive Committee and AGM delegates if anyone would like to join.</i></p>	
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8	a. Proposed Motions for EIS National AGM	<p>1. That this AGM resolves to ensure that all merchandise produced for the EIS meet the highest standards for sustainability and commits to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Investigate the entire chain of production of current suppliers for sustainability standards and compliance to the best practice of labour law standards; ii. Where suppliers fail to meet standards, commit to source alternatives with the aim to source as locally as possible; iii. Investigate the possibility of developing branded merchandise that can be used over multiple campaigns. <p>Proposed: Martyn Cheung, Stenhouse PS</p>	
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Seconded: Craig Duffy, Portobello HS

Carried Nem. Com.

2. That this AGM resolves to commission an external consultant to audit the EIS's current approaches to member engagement and to suggest any ways to increase member engagement nationally.

Proposed: Alison Murphy, LA Secretary

Seconded: Claire Robertson, LA Vice President

For: 19, Against: 2, Abstain: 4
Result: Carried

3. That this AGM instructs council to investigate and report on ways of updating, broadening and refreshing the EIS's communication strategy.

Proposed: Alison Murphy, LA Secretary

Seconded: Martyn Cheung, Stenhouse PS

Carried Nem. Con.

4. That this AGM resolves that the EIS develop a resource to inform members of their rights to permanency. This AGM further resolves to provide advice and support to local associations where members are experiencing difficulties in exercising these rights.

Proposed: Craig Duffy, Portobello HS

Seconded: Thomas Britton, LA Asst Secretary

Carried Nem. Con.

5. That this AGM resolves to investigate and report on transition arrangements for children with ASN who move schools and/or local authorities outwith the usual transition periods of P1 and S1.

Proposed: Claire Robertson, LA Vice President

Seconded: Craig Duffy, Portobello HS

Carried Nem. Con.

6. That this AGM resolves to commission independent research into the causes of violent and aggressive behaviour perpetrated by children and young people aged 3-18 in schools and in early years settings in Scotland and to consider whether, and if so how, to use the findings as part of the Stand Up for Quality Education Campaign.

Proposed: Thomas Britton, LA Asst Secretary

Seconded: Craig Duffy, Portobello HS

Carried Nem. Con.

7. That this AGM:
- i. Notes current EIS policy to campaign for general improvements to Maternity, Paternity and Family Leave provisions within the SNCT handbook;
 - ii. Resolves to instruct Salaries Committee to investigate and report on other such provisions across the public and private sectors, with a view to recommending specific improvements to the SNCT provisions for which to campaign;
 - iii. Resolves to devise and initiate a campaign for those specific improvements as soon as possible after the report is produced.

Proposed: Claire Robertson, LA Vice President

Seconded: Martyn Cheung, Stenhouse PS

Carried Nem. Con.

8. That this AGM resolves to organise a series of regional, in-person hustings events across

Scotland, and a national online hustings event, focusing on Education, in the three weeks leading up to 7 May 2026.

Proposed: Allan Crosbie, National EIS President

Seconded: Alison Murphy, LA Secretary

Carried Nem. Con.

9. That this AGM resolves to investigate and report on how the EIS learning resource on Israel-Palestine could be updated.

Proposed: Martyn Cheung, Stenhouse PS

Seconded: Alison Murphy, LA Secretary

Carried Nem. Con.

10. That this AGM instructs Council to engage with SNCT to investigate the feasibility of developing a standard template for Disability Passports that could be used across local authorities.

Proposed: Alison Murphy, LA Secretary

Seconded: Claire Robertson, LA Vice President

Carried Nem. Con.

11. That this AGM resolves that the EIS cease using X (formally known as Twitter) for social media communication.

Proposed: Craig Duffy, Portobello HS

Seconded: Phill Pearce, LA President

For: 17, Against: 3, Abstain: 5

Carried

12. That this AGM resolves to:

- i. Oppose in principle the presence of representatives of arms companies in

Scottish schools and Further and Higher Education establishments at events such as Science Fairs or Careers Fairs;

- ii. Adopt a working definition of 'arms companies' as those listed on the website of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) as 'the top 100 arms-producing and military services companies in the world';
- iii. Produce a guidance document offering EIS Local and Self-Governing Associations and their members practical steps they can take to voice opposition to the presence of such companies' representatives in their establishments;
- iv. Send a link to the SIPRI list every year to all EIS members as it is updated, along with the guidance document and a reiteration of the EIS policy position.

Proposed: Allan Crosbie, National EIS President

Seconded: Craig Duffy, Portobello HS

For: 17, Against: 2, Abstain: 6

Carried

13. That this AGM resolves to adopt a set of fundamental principles on digital technology, including AI, building on the principles set out in the advice developed by the OECD and Education International, "Opportunities, guidelines and guardrails for effective and equitable use of AI in education".

Furthermore, this AGM resolves to campaign for the Scottish Government to convene a cross-sector commission of key education

stakeholders, including the EIS and other relevant trade unions, to develop a shared value position on the future of AI in education and a set of guiding principles for the use of AI in education.

Proposed: Allan Crosbie, National EIS President

Seconded: Nikhat Yusaf, ASL Service

Carried Nem. Con.

14. That this AGM notes that the next Scottish Parliamentary election is due to take place on 7 May 2026 and that there will be a suspension of most Scottish Government business, including SNCT negotiations, starting approximately 5 weeks before that date. This AGM therefore resolves to:

- i. Plan a campaign of industrial action, up to and including strike action, to take place in the event that no pay offer for 2026-27, deemed reasonable by the SNCT Teachers' Panel, is made before the end of January 2026;
- ii. Plan the timeline for considering and submitting the EIS proposal for the Teachers' Panel pay claim for 2026-27 accordingly;
- iii. Ballot EIS members on the industrial action as soon as possible after any declaration of dispute made by the Teachers' Panel in early February 2026 or thereafter.

Proposed: Allan Crosbie, National EIS President

Seconded: Martyn Cheung, Stenhouse PS

Carried Nem. Con.

15. That this AGM resolves to ensure to representative of Reform UK is given a place on the platform or panel at any EIS-organised event.

Proposed: Allan Crosbie, National EIS President

Seconded: Claire Robertson, LA Vice President

For: 16, Against: 2, Abstain: 7

Carried

16. That this AGM resolves to organise a Professional Learning event on Education for Peace on two occasions in session 2025/26 at least six months apart to introduce members to the theory and practice of Education for Peace, and to the resources and organisations which can support them to put the EIS Education for Peace Policy into action.

Proposed: Martyn Cheung, Stenhouse PS

Seconded: Jehan Al-Azzawi, Liberton HS

Carried Nem. Con.

17. That this AGM resolves to call on the Scottish Government and Education Scotland to replace the term 'Political Literacy' with 'Education for Democracy and Peace' as a Core Competency within Curriculum for Excellence.

Proposed: Allan Crosbie, National EIS President

Seconded: Jehan Al-Azzawi, Liberton HS

For: 17, Against: 1, Abstain: 7

Carried

		<p>18.This AGM resolves to find out and report on the number of temporary teaching posts as a percentage of teacher numbers across all authorities in Scotland over the last 5 years, broken down, where possible, to maternity, paternity, long term absence and covering another vacancy.</p> <p>Proposed: Helen Haines, Kaimes School Seconded: Craig Duffy, Portobello HS</p> <p>Carried Nem. Con.</p> <p>19.That this EIS Annual Conference notes consultation on stage 1 of the Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill. The purpose of this Bill states that it is to 'enable competent adults who are terminally ill to be provided at their request with assistance to end their life'. This Annual Conference considers this Bill to have relevance to the welfare of Scottish teachers, pupils, lecturers, and their families. This Conference supports the right of those who are terminally ill to control how they die, while also supporting increased funding to the NHS and social care so that medical, social and palliative provision improve'.</p> <p>Proposed: Penny Gower, Life Member Seconded: Don Gluckstein, Life Member</p> <p>For: 7, Against: 12, Abstain: 6</p> <p>Motion Not Carried</p>	
	<p>b. Proposed Edinburgh Local Association Motions</p>	<p><i>*These Local Association motions were not able to be discussed during the Annual General Meeting due to time limitations and were tabled at the next meeting of the Executive Committee on 26 March 2025. The results of these motions have been added in after the fact.</i></p>	

1. That this AGM notes that Edinburgh already grants facility time to Health and Safety reps as outlined in as provided for by the Health and Safety Executive and outlined in the publications "Safety Representatives and Safety Committees Regulations 1977 (as amended) and Health and Safety (Consultation with Employees) Regulations 1996 (as amended). Approved Codes of Practice and guidance". However, this AGM also notes the difficulty in implementing this in schools and, therefore, resolves to campaign for ringfenced weekly time following the same model.

Proposed: Claire Robertson, LA Vice President
Seconded: Tom Britton, LA Asst Secretary

Carried Nem. Con.

2. That this AGM resolves to seek to negotiate an LNCT agreement with Edinburgh Council to allocate 1 hour of protected time per week to any named Student Teacher Mentors for the duration of them undertaking this role.

Proposed: Louise Bishop, LA Treasurer
Seconded: Craig Duffy, Portobello HS

Carried Nem. Con.

3. That this AGM resolves that EIS Edinburgh cease using X (formally known as Twitter) for social media communication.

Proposed: Craig Duffy, Portobello High School
Seconded: Graham Malcolm, Stenhouse PS

Carried Nem. Con.

		<p>4. That this AGM resolves to find out and report on the number of temporary teaching posts as a percentage of teacher numbers in Edinburgh over the last 5 years, broken down, where possible, to maternity, paternity, long term absence and covering another vacancy.</p> <p>Proposed: Helen Haines, Kaimes School Seconded: Alison Murphy, LA Secretary</p> <p>Carried Nem. Con.</p> <p>5. That this AGM resolves to establish a Local Edinburgh Education for Peace Network to continue the work set out in the recently relaunched EIS Education for Peace policy, and with a view to considering the proposal of a motion to establish a National Education for Peace network in twelve months' time.</p> <p>Proposed: Claire Chalmers, Drummond HS Seconded: Jehan Al-Azzawi, Liberton HS</p> <p>Carried Nem. Con.</p>	
11	AOCB	None	