



**Scottish
Parent Teacher
Council**

**53 George Street
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January 2010

Survey on Funding

Recently we have become aware that Parent Councils (PCs) and PTAs are raising considerable sums of money for “essential” school equipment. It was not surprising, therefore, that school funding came up as a major topic of concern for parents at our conference in November. We undertook to run a survey of our members to establish what is happening across Scotland.

At almost the same time the Scottish Parliament’s Education Committee voted to hold an inquiry into school funding. This will involve local authorities and Audit Scotland and is due to have its first hearing on February 5th 2010. We will feed the results of our survey into this bigger inquiry so we ask you to be as accurate as possible and return the completed form to us as soon as possible – no pressure then! Many thanks for your help.

***IMPORTANT NOTE:** All the information provided will be treated in strict confidence and we only ask for name of school and postcode so that we can identify whether schools in different authorities face the same or different problems.

Your Organisation

1) *School Name & Post Code:* _____.

2) *We’d like to know a little of what you do so please indicate which of the following your Parent Council or PTA does.* (Please circle **all** that apply)

- | | |
|--|--|
| A. Fundraise | E. Run after-school care clubs |
| B. Organise social events | F. Report & discuss parents concerns with the headteacher/staff |
| C. Organise meetings on educational topics | G. Other - please specify |
| D. Run activity clubs e.g. sports/chess clubs | |

Fundraising

3) *How much money would your Parent Council/PTA expect to raise in a year?*

Please be as accurate as possible and give your answer to the nearest £100*. £_____

4) How do you raise funds? (Please circle **all** that apply)

- A. School fundraiser e.g. fetes/coffee mornings
- B. Sponsored events e.g. bounce, run etc.
- C. Pure fundraisers e.g. a major raffle/200 club/product catalogues
- D. Sale of pupil products e.g. Christmas cards/calendars etc.
- E. School uniform sales
- F. Car boot/jumble sales
- G. Productions e.g. plays/fashion shows
- H. Social events e.g. quiz night/race night/dances etc.
- I. Other - please specify

4) What do you normally spend such money on? (Please circle **all** that apply)

- A. Sports equipment
- B. Activities in school e.g. Hopscotch theatre and/or Outings
- C. Outdoor play equipment
- D. School library books
- E. School books/non-IT equipment/materials e.g. for Art
- F. Computers/electronic goods e.g. smart boards, TVs, keyboards
- G. Discos for the pupils
- I. Other – please specify

5) Who makes decisions on spending money?

- A. The PTA or fundraising group that raised the money
- B. The Parent Council
- C. The headteacher/school (i.e. money is simply handed over to the school)
- D. By general discussion between the school and PC/PTA
- E. Other – please specify

6) Over the last year, have there been cuts in your school's budget?

Yes / No / Don't Know

If "yes" please can you indicate:-

- A. the amount of the cut and £ _____
- B. what percentage is this of your school's budget. _____%

Please complete and **return by 15th February 2010** to
SPTC, FREEPOST STA32, EDINBURGH EH2 2BR (no stamp required)

