

REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 23 JANUARY 2012

REPORT ON: CONSULTATION OUTCOME ON PROPOSALS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 33 PERIOD MODEL IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 20-2012

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to inform the Committee of the outcome of the consultation on the implementation of a 33 period model in secondary schools.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Committee is asked to note:

- the contents of the report; and
- the outcome of the consultation.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 None.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 In September 2011, the Education Committee gave approval for consultation on the implementation of a 33 period model in all Dundee secondary schools with the instruction that the Director of Education reported back on the outcome in January 2012. The consultation exercise took place in November and December 2011. The consultation involved meetings with staff, pupils, parents and carers and the use of a questionnaire for those who attending the meetings. The parental meetings were advertised at school level and in the press. Parents of primary aged pupils were also invited to attend. Meetings to discuss the logistics of the 33 period model were held with representatives from Tayside Contracts, Dundee College and local transport providers as well as Trade Union representatives.

5.0 CONSULTATION RESULTS

5.1 The outcome of the consultation process is that the 33 period model will not be introduced. The feedback from staff, pupils, parents and carers was mixed but there was not a sufficient consensus to enable the proposals to proceed. In addition, although the majority of parents and carers who completed the questionnaire were in favour of the proposal, this was not the case on a school by school basis.

- 5.2 In broad terms, the majority of questionnaire returns from parents (Appendix 1) were in favour of the proposal but the overall completion rate was very low. On a school by school basis, the parents and carers who completed a questionnaire from 5 schools were in favour of the proposal while those in 4 schools were against. The parental comments on the proposals were mixed and are listed in Appendix 1.
- 5.3 At school level, the staff response to the consultation process was not in favour of the proposal. The majority of staff (52%) who completed the questionnaire (Appendix 2) did not agree with the proposal and there were only 3 secondary schools where the majority of staff were in favour of the proposal. The staff comments on proposals were mixed and are listed in Appendix 2.
- 5.4 Each secondary school consulted pupils on the proposed changes and the overall consensus was that pupils were in favour of retaining the current timetable arrangements. In the main, most pupils who were consulted expressed satisfaction with the existing arrangements at school level and did not feel that change was necessary.
- 5.5 It is clear from the consultation process that there is no clear consensus for the introduction of the 33 period model in secondary schools (Appendix 3) therefore the proposal will not be taken forward. Schools will continue to implement the Curriculum for Excellence based on their current model of delivery by providing a broad general education for S1 to S3 pupils followed by the introduction of the Senior Phase from S4 to S6 where learners will continue to focus on academic and vocational studies as well as the development of skills for learning, life and work.

6.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of sustainability, strategic environmental assessment, anti-poverty, equality impact assessment and risk management. There are no major issues.

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, the Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and the Director of Finance have been consulted in the compilation of this report.

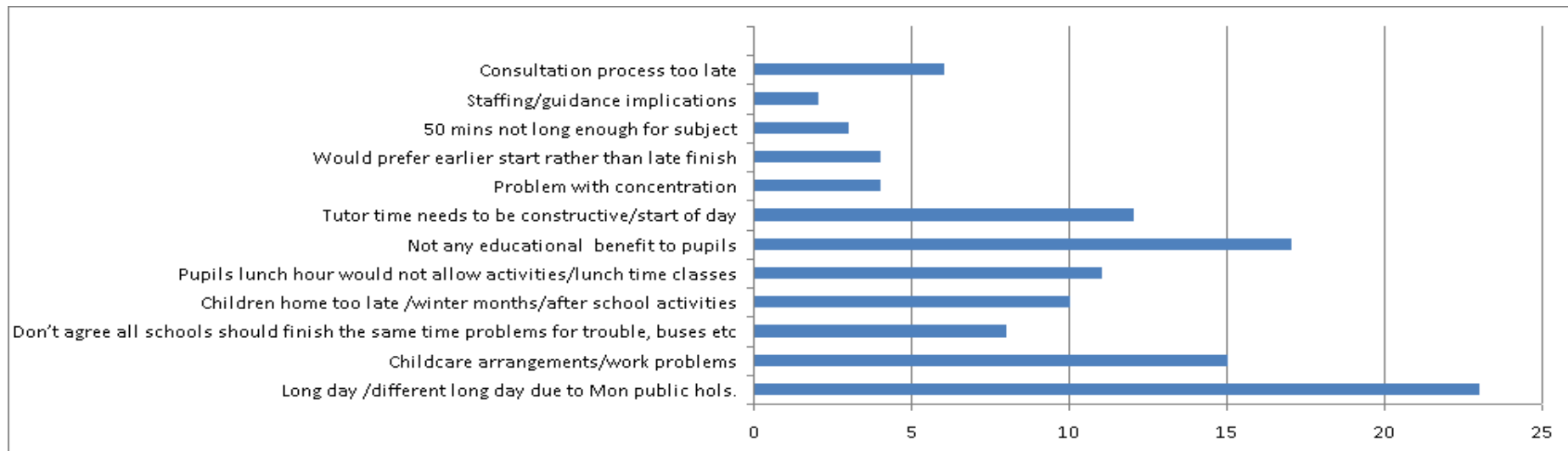
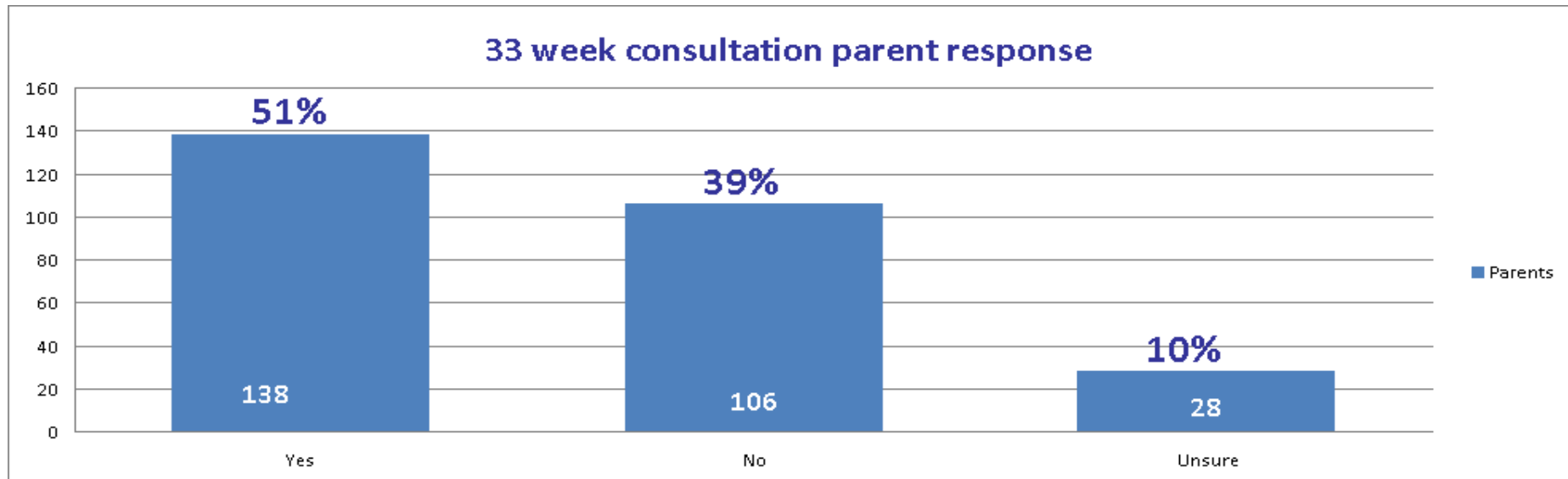
8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

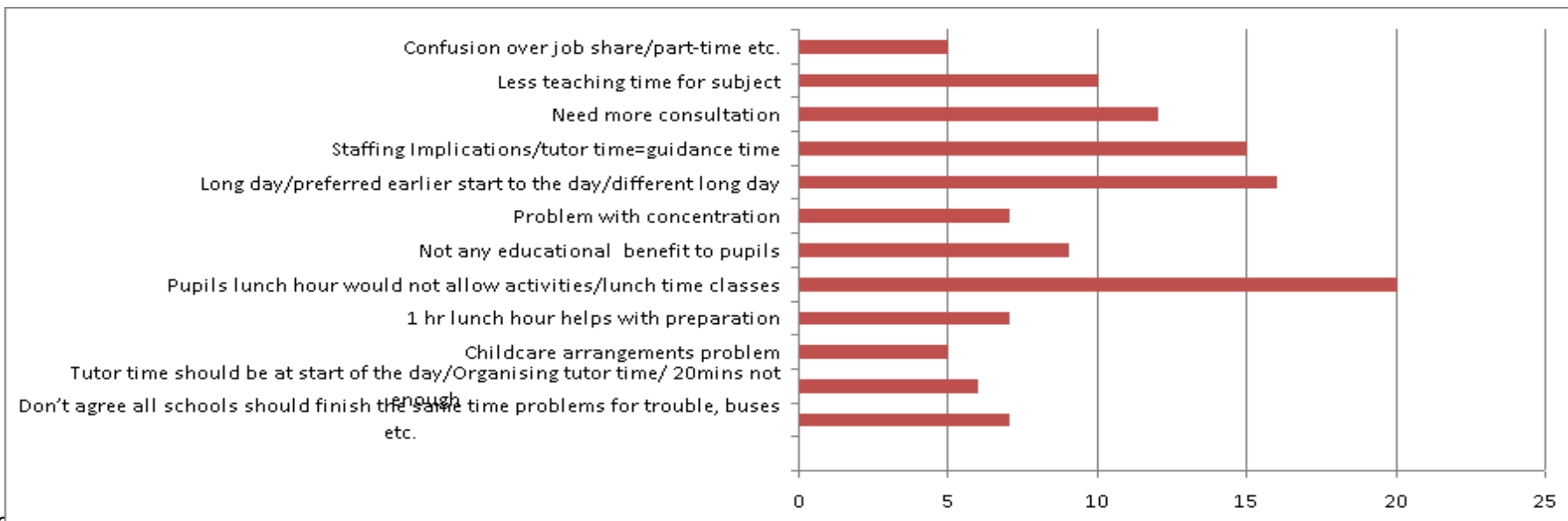
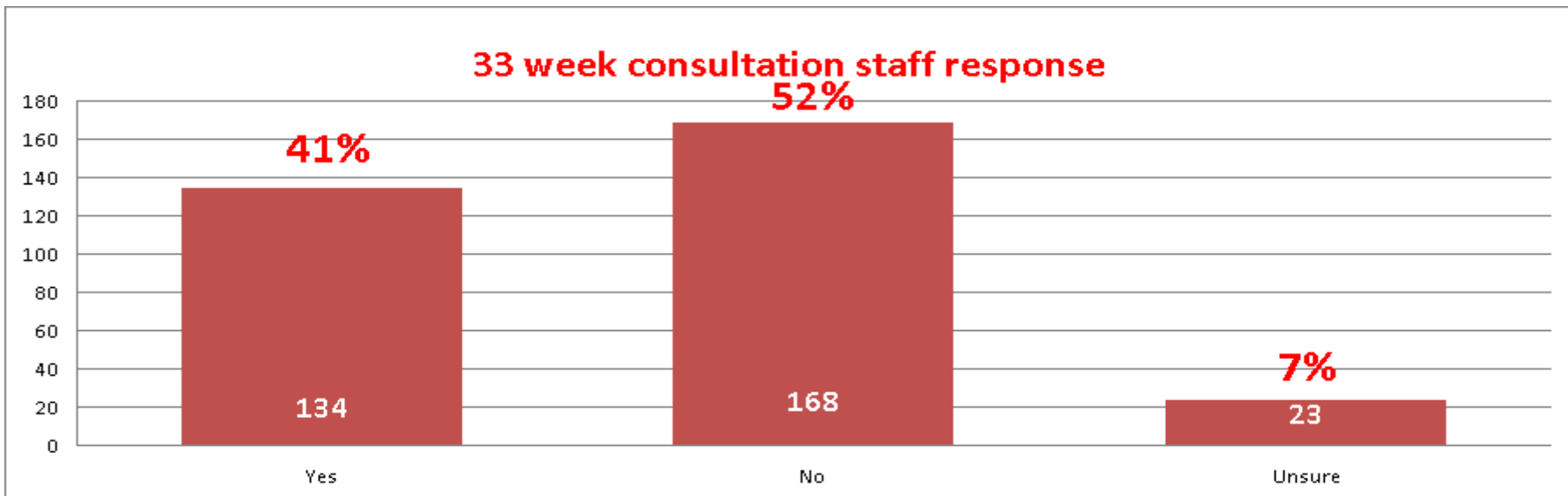
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PC/MM

January 2012



Appendix 2



Appendix 3

