



Department of  
**Education**

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**Oideachais**

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Dear Peter

## **RAISE PAPER - PARENT COUNCILS**

Thank you for your letter of 24 January.

The Department understands that School Boards in Scotland were formerly composed of a Head Teacher, one staff member, a local councillor and parents until The Scottish Schools Parental Involvement Act 2006 replaced them with Parent Councils. Parent Councils consist of parents, teachers and co-opted members only. The responsibilities of these Parents Councils are limited because the relevant education authority retains control over most aspects of school management including financial management. It would not therefore be feasible to replace school Boards of Governors in the north of Ireland with Parent Councils of a similar type and form without major changes in the current system of administration.

Yours sincerely

*Veronica*

**VERONICA BINTLEY**  
**Departmental Assembly Liaison Officer**