

**DAG REPORT ON NATIONAL GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION (NGA)
AUTUMN CONFERENCE AND OTHER NGA MATTERS**

Don Paterson and David Tall represented Devon Governors at the NGA's Autumn Conference at Birmingham on Saturday 22 September.

There were some 50 delegates who came from Calderdale; Hackney; Lincolnshire; City of Leicester; City of Nottingham; Croydon; Buckingham; Liverpool; Manchester; Birmingham; Derbyshire; Cheshire; IoW; Herefordshire; North Somerset; Gloucestershire; Tameside; Newham; Norwich; Harrow; Torbay; Plymouth; Wirral; Oxford; Derbyshire and Wigan.

In addition there were 18 representatives from the NGA Board.

There were two speakers, Jim Gamble and Phil Revell.

There was also a short presentation by the Food Standards Agency and the NGA on their joint launch of the new model Food Policy. (See below).

An hour was also set aside for 3 groups to address 3 issues – Assessment; Child Protection and Governor representation on LAs' groups / bodies / committees.

Jim Gamble is the Association of Chief Police Officers' lead for online child abuse and for child trafficking, and has, since November 2005, been the CEO of the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP), and the Centre formally started work in April 2006. He gave a very informative, often disturbing, frequently challenging presentation. He clearly understands and respects the need for Governor input in this vital matter. CEOP is particularly animated by its determination to challenge certain online providers and indeed some, currently, legal websites. He is seeking NGA support for this drive and we anticipate that the NGA will issue bullet points for GBs to consider should they wish to corporately or individually support CEOP.

The CEOP website is at www.ceop.gov.uk and we would commend a visit to this website, follow up the links for **advice for parents and carers** and invite everybody to visit the ThinkUKnow website accessed through CEOP. We cannot stress too much how important the "Report Abuse" button, found throughout the website, is.

CEOP can offer invaluable training in schools and you can find this facility through the **More about what we do** link, follow the **get advice** link at the top of the page and go to the **teacher** button.

Phil Revell mapped out his vision for the future of the NGA. He has certain plans which have to be ratified by the NGA Board. He anticipates these will have been endorsed by the time of the SW Regional Conference on 20 October at which he will speak. We expect to be one of the first Regions / Associations to learn first hand of these plans.

I repeat a recent e-mail from the NGA – "With apologies for the delay in notifying members of the venue for this event - The SW Regional Meeting for Autumn 2007

will take place at Knowles Hill School, Old Exeter Road, Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 2NF on Saturday 20th October 2007.

The meeting will start with refreshments from 9.30 and finish at 12 Noon.

The full Agenda for the meeting will follow. One main item for the Agenda will be the election of a Regional Director for the South West Region. Nomination forms (and supporting documents) were issued to Chairs with the AGM mailing which was sent out on 17 August. Nomination forms must be with the NGA office by 5th October. If you would like further copies of the nomination papers please do get in touch.

If you would like to book a place at the meeting please ring the NGA Office on 0121-643-5787 or email governorhq@nga.org.uk. We hope to see you at the meeting.

Finally, many thanks to Don Paterson of Devon Association for extending the hospitality of Knowles Hill School to the NGA.”

Meanwhile DAG has obtained a number of copies of the 2007 NGA Model Food Policy, and these will be available on a first come first served basis for those attending the Conference.

Meanwhile many of you will be aware that the NGA website www.nga.org, is currently being refurbished and will be relaunched on 8 October.

I am happy to expand this report for any Governor with questions. Please contact me at dmmrtall@mvdartmoor.freeserve.co.uk as required

Yours

David Tall
EO to DAG
23 September 2007