

## School Library Service

One of the cuts agreed by Highland Council on 14<sup>th</sup> February included the School Library Service: Principal Schools Librarian, Resource Assistant and the Resource Centre.

This is what will be lost if the SLS goes:

- Practical help and support for schools without their own librarian who want to set up / develop their libraries
- Resources to enrich topic work in primary schools
- Teachers' CPD collection
- The sourcing and loan of materials to support Advanced Higher
- Support for literacy development through the Reading Webs
- Highland Children's Book Awards
- Specialist professional advice for School Librarians
- CPD for School Librarians
- Help with policy making and development planning

Questions arising from this:

- Who will help primary schools to set up, organise and develop their libraries?
- Who will take the lead in planning new school libraries (PPP etc)?
- How will the teachers' CPD collection be managed? How will it be maintained without a budget?
- How will primary schools access materials to enrich topic work? How will the stock be maintained without a budget?
- How will tutors (Support for Learning, The Bridge, home educators, ESOL) access the materials they need? Budget?
- How will loans of artefacts boxes be managed? How will the collection be maintained and developed?
- Who will deal with inter-library loans? Where will the budget be found?
- Who will manage the Highland Children's Book Awards? Where will the budget be found?
- Who will provide line management for the maintenance and development of on-line resources through HVLC / Highland Schools Virtual Library?
- Who will provide leadership for the development of the reading webs and curriculum support areas of HVLC / Highland Schools Virtual Library?
- Who will train new, inexperienced school librarians?
- Who will mentor them for Chartership?
- Who will help school librarians prepare for HMle inspection?
- Who will organise and provide CPD for school librarians?
- Who will help school librarians with development planning?
- Who will mediate between school librarians / school managers when problems arise?

Who will attend Heads of Service meetings, and feed back information – i.e. who will represent Highland school libraries at national level?

Please discuss, with your colleagues and parents, the impact this will have in your school and ask your local councillors to re-consider