**Communications and Consultations Report to TACTYC AGM, October 2015**

**TACTYC emails:** [**tactyc.org@gmail.com**](mailto:tactyc.org@gmail.com)

**Members group emails**

Sending regular email updates to all TACTYC members for whom we have email addresses is becoming an increasing important way for us to communicate with members. Maintaining an accurate contact list has continued to prove challenging, although with the support of our membership administrator we now have email contacts for 590 members. Under a new protocol we will contact members by mail where we do not have current email addresses, inviting them to provide an up-to-date email contact. Members emails are sent in the week following each Executive Committee meeting, summarising main points of action and including other news and documents which will be of interest to members. Additional emails sent on an occasional basis allow us to consult with members and communicate developments between Executive Committee meetings.

**Local authority circulation list**

A group email list of colleagues supporting early years in local authorities has been developed, including individuals who have opted in to occasional updates about TACTYC’s work. The email updates are generally sent in parallel with TACTYC members emails.

**Emails to Executive Committee** Queries or contacts from members and the public which are sent to the TACTYC email address are accessed by the Communications and Consultations Coordinator, and forwarded to the appropriate member of the Executive for response. Although few in number, these emails are always very welcome as they provide feedback on current activities and keep us in touch with members’ concerns and work.

**Consultations, lobbying and calls for evidence**

TACTYC is both proactive in lobbying through press releases and open letters, and reactive in responding to calls for evidence and consultations. Draft responses and letters are circulated to the TACTYC Executive, and the C & C Coordinator then incorporates the range of contributions in compiling the final response. Where time allows, members are asked for their contributions at draft stage, through a members email and on the website.

Responses this year include:

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| **Consultations and evidence** | Body | submitted |
| Better Inspection for All | Ofsted | Dec 2014 |
| Prevent Duty Guidance | HM Government | Jan 15 |
| Call for evidence on school entry | Education Select Committee | Feb 2015 |
| A world-class teaching profession | DfE | Feb 2015 |
| Call for evidence on Children’s Centres | Education Select Committee | March 2015 |
| Teachers' Professional Development Expert Group call for evidence | DfE | October 2015 |

We have also been active in campaigning to halt baseline assessment in reception classes, producing both independently and in conjunction with Better Without Baseline colleagues: leaflets, press releases, open letter to ministers, FAQ for Netmums, guidance on the available schemes, commentary on the EExBA scheme, letters to professional press. We have also produced letters to ministers and MPs covering a wider range of issues of concern to TACTYC.