



EUROPEAN AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Dr Alasdair Allan MSP
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26 June 2015

Dear Alasdair,

1+2 languages policy

I am writing to you following your regular biannual report to the Committee of 16 June on the Scottish Government's 1+2 languages policy.

The Committee considered your report at its meeting on 25 June. The Committee would like to thank you for this report, and notes some positive progress in several areas including the increase in Language Assistants.

The Committee would like to request some further clarification and information on some parts of the report. The Committee would like to know specifically what percentage and number of schools in Scotland are participating in the policy, and also what the increase in languages has been since the policy begun?

The Committee would also like to receive detail of the progress of secondary schools in the policy, particularly as it learned in its inquiry in 2013 of the importance of children being able to continue learning the same languages in both primary and secondary schools to ensure progression throughout their schooling.

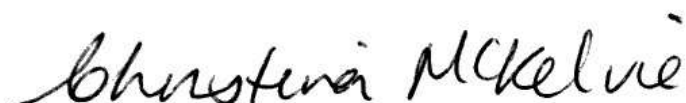
The Committee also welcomed your comments that policy has gathered pace in local authorities, and that local authorities have developed their strategies for full implementation. The Committee would like to request more detail on these comments to understand better how local authorities have progressed. The Committee also wished to ask you for the expected date for the

authorities' strategic update that you mention as this would give the Committee a clearer picture of progress.

Finally the Committee was pleased to hear of the Parliamentary Reception on 24 September 2015 that you mentioned in your opening letter to the report. The Committee believes that this reception is important for creating awareness and knowledge of the policy amongst all MSPs and the relevant parliamentary cross party groups of the progress of the policy.

My thanks again for your report, and I would be grateful if you could respond to the Committee's queries by 21 August.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Christina McKelvie'. The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name 'Christina' written in a larger, more prominent hand than the surname 'McKelvie'.

Christina McKelvie
Convener
European and External Relations Committee