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Dear Sue

### **Scots Languages Bill: Scots Government Repone tae the Stage 1 Report**

Ah'm scribevin tae thank the Education, Bairns and Young Fowk Committee for its Stage Ane Report on the Scots Languages Bill, furthset on 24 July, and for the Committee's fousome and positive thochts.

Ah wad like tae tak tent o and thank thae members wha were pairt o the foremaist review o the Bill, for their time and thochtiness, and ah luik forrit tae wirkin wi the new committee members as the Bill gangs forrit.

The Committee has makkit important pynts that the Scots Government has tentily gien thoct tae, and oor repone tae the Report is noo eikit on.

Ah wad be gled tae spik faurer wi ye about ony o the pynts referred tae in the Report and in oor repone and tae gie mair detail if it wad be haundy.

Aefauldly

**KATE FORBES**

Scots Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms o the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)

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<b>SCOTS LEID BILL – SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT’S RESPONSE TO THE EDUCATION CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE COMMITTEE : STAGE 1 REPORT</b>		
<b>AIMS O THE BILL</b>		
<b>42, 43, 44,</b>	<p>The Committee recognises the support pit forwart in evident fur the cheif ettlins o the Bill.</p> <p>The Committee maks note, houaniver, that stakehauders is leukin fur mair tangible support, particular in relation tae communitie development, nor the structures bein establisht by the Bill wull gabound. The Committee grees wi witnesses that, athoot that support, the ettlins o the Bill wullnae be maed oot.</p> <p>The Committee believes that there is signeeficant issues that need tae be addressit fur tae support Gaelic, whilk is in a state o unchance. The Committee believes that mair needs tae be daen tae support speakers clamant, fur tae mak shair that the leid thrams as a communitie leid.</p>	<p>The Scots Government agrees wi the norrie that community upbiggin is necessar. The noo there are a when o Gaelic community upbiggin meisures in place and the Bill provisions, sic as strategy, staundarts and areas o muckle linguistic mense, will augment and mak mair strang these meisures.</p> <p>The Scots Government taks tent o the Committee’s concern about the shoogly state o the Gaelic leid in Scotland and wad add that this isnae a pynt o recent kennin. For thon reason, the Scots Government ettle is tae big on the meisures that are in place and, wi this Bill, pit new structures in place tae immediately ettle at the needs o spickers in hame, schuil, community and the warkplace.</p>

<p><b>45, 46</b></p>	<p>The Committee maks note the issues brocht up in submeesions sic as hoosin, transport and the Economie as weel as the evident frae the Scottish Government that these infrastructural issues wull faitur in the National Strategie, staunerts and airts o lingueestic signeeficance. The Committee acknowledges forby the commeetment frae the Depute Furst Meenister tae forder cast ower these issues.</p> <p>The Committee asks the Scottish Government fur forder information around hoo it wull yaise the pouers athin the Bill fur tae support communities wi these issues.</p>	<p>The Scots Government will be eident tae luik intae how faur infrastructural issues can be includit in staundarts and strategy and, acause o this, how faur infrastructural issues nicht kythe in Gaelic leid plans and in Gaelic leids plans as they wirk in areas o muckle linguistic mense.</p> <p>The Scots Government kens weel that aw provisions o the Bill maun be within the legislative competence o the Pairliament, and provision in areas sic as hoosin, that nicht hing tae airticles o the ECHR, wad need tae be set oot on thon basis. Forby, Scots Government in reddin up legislation need tae tak accoont o existin legal and policy frameworks in sic areas, includin current wark ongawin tae tak tent o the national hoosin crisis.</p> <p>Infrastructural issues hae been tae the fore forby in the recommendations in the Short Life Wirkin Group on Economic and Social Opportunities for Gaelic. Scots Government hauds forrit wi giein thocht tae these recommendations and a repone tae the Short Life Wirkin Group report will be pit oot in coorse.</p> <p>This is a muckle speirin and while it nicht hing tae provisions o the Bill there are meisures and projects that are awready in place at local authority, public body and community level. The Scots Government wad be gled tae offer anither paper tae the Committee kythin ongawin practices in sic areas.</p>
<p><b>OFFEECIAL STATUS FUR GAELIC AND SCOTS</b></p>		

<p><b>71</b></p>	<p>The Committee acknowledges the evident frae some organisations that the umbrellae term 'Scots' michtnae be helpfu fur the achievement o the Bill's ettlings. While recognisin that the Scottish Government micht gie mair claritie athin the strategie and staunerts tae follae, the Committee believes that gin the ettlings o offeecial status is tae gie recogneetion tae Scots in aw its forms, there maun be mair expleecit reference tae yon forms. The Committee therefore recommends that the Bill sets this oot mair cleir.</p>	<p>In thon, the Scots Government taks its lead frae the spikker community that kens and uises Scots as the ower-aw and umbrella term within whit aw forms and regional varieties are kent and respectit. Gin specific byleids or varieties o Scots are referred tae and includit, it micht cause mischancy problems as regards tae ony dialects no specifically referred tae. The draftin the noo was settled on efter some thocht on sindry aspects, includin the ettle tae reflect the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 definition o Gaelic. Mair detail aboot or examples o the variety o Scots could be pit forrit in supportin policy documents or statements at pairliament that gang wi the Bill and wad be referred tae for expoondin and context.</p>
<p><b>GAELIC LEID</b></p>		
<p><b>Airts o Lingueestic Signeeficance</b></p>		
<p><b>119-121</b></p>	<p>The Committee recognises that some o the activities whilk wuid tak place in an airt o lingueestic signeeficance are awreidie in place. It isnae cleir tae the Committee that legislation is in fact needit tae deelever an airt o lingueestic signeeficance in practice.</p> <p>The Committee taks tent that some stakehauders are uncleir whit an airt o lingueestic signeeficance means and whit it wull luik like.</p> <p>The Committee acknowledges the probation frae Comhairle nan Eilean Siar and ithers, includin the Deputy furst Minister, explainin whit an airt o lingueestic signeeficance wuid luik like in the</p>	<p>The Scots Government thocht is that legislation on areas o muckle linguistic mense is necessar for a nummer o reasons. This legislation, includin staundarts, strategy, and Gaelic plans will shape a framewark o principles, ettlles and expectations. Faimilies and communities will ken whit they can expect. Bodies and authorities will ken whit they are expectit tae deliver. This will pit meisurs in place tae uphaud the Gaelic spikker community and mak mair strang current meisures.</p> <p>Mony Gaelic stakehauders are gey clear aboot the level o provision they wad like tae see in their communities, and the provisions o this Bill, wi clear expectations in strategy and staundarts, will luik tae reflect thae wishes and ettlles. The</p>

	<p>Wastren Isles. As a result, the Committee is cleir on the veesion furan airt o lingueestic signeeficance there.</p>	<p>Scots Government will consult wi the community on staundarts, and this will gie clarity whaur necessar.</p> <p>These arenae steps wi nae precedent. Gaelic plans and guidance are set oot and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar has important Gaelic provision set oot. Bòrd na Gàidhlig is jist noo upbiggin twa pilot community plans in Uist and Lewis. The Bill provisions will pit meisures in place tae augment provision the noo in line wi the wishes o Gaelic spikkers.</p>
<p><b>122-125</b></p>	<p>It is stow unclair tae the Committee, houaniver, whit an airt o lingueestic signeeficance wuid luik and feel like athin local authorities whaur there is fewer Gaelic speakers proportionate, and hoo national and local basit public buirds wull wirk thegither fur tae deelever ootcomes fur the leid and the duties that an airt o lingueestic signeeficance wull impose.</p> <p>The Committee therefore asks the Scottish Government fur mair detail as tae hoo the Scottish Government enveesions these meisures wull wirk in practice and hoo local authorities and public buirds wull wirk thegither fur tae deelever opportunities fur Gaelic speakers and lairners.</p> <p>The Committee taks tent that the Bill disnae gie tuils, mechaeesms or fundin fur local authorities ance an airt o lingueestic signeeficance haes been designatit.</p> <p>Local authorities are dealin praisent wi financial challenges and competin priorities. The Committee</p>	<p>Areas wi fewer Gaelic spikkers per heid could aye speir tae be areas o muckle linguistic mense and could come tae Scots Government for consideration. In sic a situation, consideration wad be gien, and consultation necessar on whit staundarts wad be in uise in sic an area. It is Scots Government ettle that staundarts will be draftit tae mak siccar that the requirements are fittin tae sindry areas as appropriate tae the circumstances, includin population and location.</p> <p>The Scots Government has eikit on in the annex some examples o areas whaur staundarts could be upbiggit and examples o these. These are anely for the ettle o kythin the noo and shouldnae be thocht o as draft staundarts. The reddin up o actual staundarts and exact draftin wad anely be settled efter consultation wi stakehauders durin the implementin o the bill.</p> <p>Local authority Gaelic provision wis set oot afore and isnae anely the product o Scots Pairliament legislation. A when o authorities hae guid provision in place and are wirkin wi speaker communities, are makkin their ain fundin decisions,</p>

	<p>therefore quaistens why a local authority wuid wish tae designate an airt o lingueestic signeefficance gin this creates addeetional duties athoot commensurate addeetional fundin.</p>	<p>and are gleg tae win forrit. The Scots Government will haud forrit wi daein whit it can tae uphaud authority ongauns.</p>
<p><b>136-137</b></p>	<p><b>Process o designation</b>                  The Committee grees wi stakehauders anent the importance o communitie engagement and support whin designatin an airt o lingueestic signeefficance. Therefore, a usefu amendment tae the Bill micht be a proveesion fur the local communitie tae tak pairt in the decession tae designate its airt as ane o lingueestic signeefficance.</p> <p>The Committee believes that it is important fur local communities tae hae a vyce in this process. The Committee therefore caws upon the Scottish Government tae conseeder hoo the Bill coud be amendit fur tae provide fur communitie input, includin conseederin meisures fur tae alloo communities tae propose an airt o lingueestic signeefficance as weel as local authorities.</p>	<p>The Scots Government kens weel the strenth o feelin on this pynt and has spikken on this maitter wi baith authority representatives and community groups. The Scots Government wad be gleg tae gie thocht tae amendment options as regards tae this that wad include a mair strang degree o community engagement.</p>
<p><b>143</b></p>	<p><b>Proveesion fur Scots airts o lingueestic signeefficance</b>                  The Committee taks tent the Depute Furst Meenister's commeetment tae conseeder the omeession o airts o lingueestic signeefficance proveesion fur Scots leid airts and luiks forrit tae receivin the results o her conseederation.</p>	<p>In this Bill, the Scots Government is pittin forrit, for the first time, important meisures for Scots. The settin oot o an area as an area o muckle linguistic mense will needs steps tae be taen by bodies and authorities tae uphaud this. For aw that Scots is kent as an important community leid, the Scots Government is o the view that there isnae, the noo, a fittin Scots infrastructure o projects or services set forrit tae uphaud sic a designation. This could be thocht ower in time for future primary legislation.</p>

<b>National Strategie</b>		
<b>159-164</b>	<p>The Committee taks tent o the support frae stakehauders fur Scottish Meenisters tae tak ownership o the National Gaelic Strategie.</p> <p>The Committee believes that this wull alloo fur mair coherence o policie athort mony policie airts includin hoosin, transport and the Economie.</p> <p>The Committee taks tent o the wirries frae some stakehauders that the consultation needit on the dreft strategie coud be leemitit. The Committee believes that it is important that the strategie reflects the needs and priorities o communities. Sicweys, the Committee asks the Scottish Government tae set oot hoo it wull mak shair that key stakehauders and communities are consultit on the dreft strategie.</p> <p>The Committee taks tent o the suggestion by the Law Societie o Scotland that the ootcomes o the vaurious consultations conductit while preparin strategies, stounerts and guideship, shuid be publeeshed.</p> <p>The Committee recognises the cries frae some stakehauders fur Scots Meenisters tae expedite the draftin o a National Gaelic Strategie, instead o waitin ere the proposed date o 2028. The Committee recognizes forder the urgencie o the praisent situation. Sicweys, the Committee recommends that</p>	<p>The Scots Government is gled o the support frae stakehauders for ownership o the Strategy bidin wi Scots Ministers, and the Scots Government wad be gled tae mak siccar o full public consultation on the strategy: this wis aye the ettle ahint the current requirement for consultation in the Bill.</p> <p>It has been staundart practice recently for key Scots Government policy documents on Gaelic tae be set furth for public consultation, this tae gang alang wi public meetins wi a wheen o community and interest groups and ministerial meetins. Follaein consultation, an independent analysis wad be set oot for Scots Ministers. The results o consultation and the analysis wad be furthset.</p> <p>The wiridin in the Bill is alwready eneuch tae allou for full public consultation, and the Scots Government will gie thocht tae whit can be done tae augment the provision so that thon is clear on the face o the Bill.</p> <p>The Scots Government is gled o this comment and will mak siccar that early thocht will be gien tae the future content o the next Gaelic strategy. The Gaelic strategy will big upon and tak its lead frae the current National Plan for Gaelic. The Scots Government taks tent that there are a wheen o important meisures in the National Gaelic Language Plan 2023 – 2028 that will inpit tae the forderin an uphauidin o the Gaelic language. Scots Government will luik tae mak guid and early forderin wi the new Strategy.</p>

	<p>the Scottish Government conseeders acceleratin its wirk on the strategie.</p> <p>The Committee acknowledges the evident unnerscorin the challenges facin Gaelic. The Committee is o the view that the praisent National Plaun isnae adequate tae deal wi them and that the nixt national strategic document fur Gaelic maun be strenthened. Whither, at the end o the Bill process, the national strategic document fur Gaelic is the responsibilitie o Scots Meenisters, or steys wi Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the Committee recommends that wirk tae develop and strenthen policie disnae wait fur the ootcome o the Bill.</p>	
<p><b>170-172</b></p>	<p><b>Accresst reach</b></p> <p>The Committee recognises that the nummer o public authorities whilk wuid need tae tak tent o the National Strategie in cairryin oot their functions – whither they hae a Gaelic Leid Plaun or no - wuid access as a result o saiction 5 o the Bill.</p> <p>Houaniver, it isnae cleir tae the Committee hoo mony mair public buirds wull be affectit or whit the associatit costs tae thon public buirds micht be as a result. Sicweys, the Committee asks the Scottish Government tae gie details o the public buirds that hae duties unner the existin arreengements and thon that wull hae duties pit upon them as a result o the strategie and ither aspects o the Bill, as weel as an indicative cost tae thon public buirds.</p>	<p>Relatit public authorities will be needit tae hae regaird tae the strategy and gie thocht tae how the Gaelic Strategy is relatit tae and effects the exercise o their wirkins. Advice frae Bòrd na Gàidhlig tae uphaud relatit public authorities sae faur as this gangs can be gien, and Bòrd na Gàidhlig dinnae chairge for sic help.</p> <p>The intendit uise o staundarts pouers in the foremaist period o implementation o the Bill will be tae shift content and requirements that hae kythed in Statutory guidance and Gaelic leid plans intae regulations that will need tae be kept tae. Syne the principal priorities o the strategy and expectations in the staundarts will apply tae public authorities wi Gaelic leid plans.</p>



	<p>The Committee taks tent that the new strategie mich haud signeeficant chynge sic as proveesion fur establishin alanestaunnin Gaelic schuils or simplifeein the process fur requeestin GME. Gien the potential impact o sic chynge upon local authorities, includin on their resoources, the Committee asks the Scottish Government tae conseeder settin oot thon measures on the face o the Bill and the likelie costs that local authorities wuid tak on as a result.</p>	<p>Scots Government kens o these pynts and forby o the strenth o feelin that gangs wi staun-alane Gaelic schuils. Scots Government will gie thocht tae thon and gin sic measures statit should feature on the face o the Bill.</p>
<p><b>176-177</b></p>	<p><b>Meisurin success</b>  Gien that tailort approaches wull be needit in different airts, the Committee unnerstauns the need fur nuance in the settin o ambeetions athin the strategie.</p> <p>Houaniver, the Committee uphauds that it is important tae set cleir ambeetions and tairgets fur whit is gonnae be maed oot. Sicweys, the Committee recommends that a statutorie dutie tae upbig and set oot short- and lang-term ootcomes is includit athin the strategie proveesions, alang wi measures whilk wull be taen tae facilitate the winnin o thon tairgets and ambeetions.</p>	<p>The Scots Government is gled o this comment and taks tent that policy and programmes for Gaelic hae aye ettled tae match circumstances, and that sindry measures wad be necessar for sindry situations. The Scots Government wad expect that this will aye be the case and will be reflectit in baith the Gaelic strategy and in the staundarts.</p> <p>The Scots Government is gled o this comment and will mak siccar that the strategy sets oot fittin ettles. It isnae, houaniver, thocht necessar for a statutory requirement tae be includit tae require ettles tae be set, or for them tae appear on the face o the bill, takkin tent that ettles or ambitions micht be numerical or micht be the ettle o upbiggin a certain project or uphaudin an initiative. The Scots Government kens that it will be important forby tae luik tae public authorities tae set their ain ettles and ambitions for Gaelic.</p>
<p><b>Staanarts, guideship and directions</b></p>		
<p><b>198-199</b></p>	<p>The Committee taks tent o the policie intent o settin staunerts and requirements athort the kintra, fur tae</p>	<p>The Scots Government welcomes and agrees wi these pynts. The Scots Government policy and programmes tae</p>

	<p>mak shair that there is a conseestent baseline o "acceptit practice".</p> <p>The Committee recognises, houaniver, that the Bill wull alloo—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• differin stauerters tae be set fur different airts, wi heicher stauerters likely athin airts designatit as bein o lingueestic signeeficance</li> <li>• local authorities that dinnae hae a historie o Gaelic, or whaur it isnae a prioritie, fur exemple the Orkney Islands, tae opt oot o these requirements.</li> </ul>	<p>uphaud Gaelic hae aye ettled at matchin tae circumstances. This will aye be the case wi the staundarts and is whit wey the pouers relatin tae staundarts hae been set oot tae alloo sindry provision for sindry ettles. This will alloo sindry staundarts tae be used in sindry areas and by sindry bodies. Sic areas as the Orkney Islands that dinnae hae a historie o Gaelic or a demand for Gaelic medium education willnae hae requirements pit on them throu staundarts.</p> <p>Whaur a requirement is applied tae a body throu regulations this will be a requirement set oot in law. Gin there is ony discretion, and the extent o ony discretion, wad depend on how the staundarts are framed and draftit in coorse. Takkin tent that there are requirements in the bill tae mak siccar o consultation as regairds tae staundarts.</p>
<p><b>200-201</b></p>	<p>The Committee is unclair hoo the Scottish Government wull balance its ettle tae introduce stauerters that progress Gaelic wi the abilitie o local authorities tae opt oot. The Committee asks the Scottish Government tae set oot whither it intends tae set criteriae fur applyin Gaelic stauerters tae public authorities, and the circumstances in whilk a public autoritie wull can opt oot.</p> <p>The Committee acknowledges the cries frae mony public buirds fur mair detail as tae whit micht be hauden athin the stauerters. The Committee asks the Scottish Government tae gie sicht o dreft stauerters and requirements fur tae illustrate whit meisures micht be includit, at the latest afore Stage 2.</p>	<p>As abuin, and as indicatit in evidence tae the committee, the ettle in the foremaist exercises o staundarts pouers is tae shift requirements that hae kythed in public authority Gaelic leid plans ower past decades and versions intae staundarts that can then be kept tae by bodies that they apply tae.</p> <p>For bodies sic as Orkney Islands Council that dinnae hae a historie o Gaelic and dinnae hae a Gaelic leid plan or Gaelic Medium education staundarts, requirements willnae be relevant or willnae be used. The Gaelic staundarts will forby include Gaelic medium education, and certes GME staundarts wadnae apply if an authority daesnae hae ony Gaelic medium education.</p> <p>For the ettles o illustration, the Scots Government has pit forrit in annex A examples o whit areas micht be includit in</p>

		<p>Gaelic staundarts. The reddin up and exact draftin wad anely be settled efter consultation wi stakehauders durin the implementation o the Bill.</p>
<p><b>Public Buirds' Plauns and Reporting</b></p>		
<p><b>215-217</b></p>	<p>The Committee recognises the general support frae stakehauders fur meisures in the Bill relatin tae public buirds' plauns and reportin.</p> <p>The Committee taks tent that there is a faut o claritie regairdin the potential consequences fur non-compleeance or non-deleevery o commetments made in a public buird's Gaelic plaun. The Committee therefore asks the Scottish Government fur a cleir statement as tae whit thon potential consequences wuid be, at the latest afore Stage 2.</p> <p>The Committee forder taks tent the Law Society o Scotland's observation that a public autoritie maun complee wi a direction maed by Scots Meenisters unner several saictions o the Bill, wi no proveesion fur an appeal. The Committee asks the Scottish Government tae set oot its rationale fur this approach and mak cleir whither, on reflection, there shuid be proveesion fur an appeal and, gin sae, whit that appeal process micht luik like.</p>	<p>The Scots Government is gled o this comment frae the Committee and kens that there are a nummer o existin informal, formal, legal and Pairliamentary mechanisms that set oot routes and consequences o no complyin, includin Pairliamentary Speirins, Committee thochts on furthset reports, a complaint unner section 70 o the 1980 Act as regards tae education wirkins, application for specific cairryin oot, and - as a maitter o last resort - legal challenge. These existin routes dinnae need tae be repeatit in the content o this bill, and the provisions in the bill for reportin routes is thocht tae be appropriate tae uphaud the forderin forrit necessar in this context. The route for Bòrd na Gàidhlig tae report straicht tae Pairliament is thocht tae be a significant chyngie and an important step.</p> <p>The Scots Government's view is that an appeal isnae fittin here. The directions referred tae are administrative meisures, no judicial anes, and sae makkin provision for an appeal as regards tae them isnae fittin. This is the normal wey o it in legislation. Ministerial directions tend tae be meisures o last resort efter mair informal meisures hae gaed agley. If there is nae resolution at an informal level, then it wad be open as a maitter o last resort for the Scots Ministers</p>

		tae stairt an action for specific cairryin oot or for a public authority tae airt oot judicial review o the directions.
<b>GAELIC EDUCATION</b>		
<b>Staanarts, guideship and directions athin education</b>		
<b>273</b>	<b>Consultation</b> The Committee taks tent o the evident frae stakehauders unnerscorin the need tae consult wi communities on staanerts and guideship fur Gaelic education. The Committee asks the Scottish Government tae conseeder this forder.	As abuin, the Scots Government will mak siccar that a consultation as pairt o the process for the reddin up and furthsettin o staundarts and guidance will include consultation wi community interests.
<b>274-275</b>	The Committee taks tent that fur tae achieve the ettlins o the Bill in relation tae Gaelic education, it staunds abuin aw that there is a suffeecient supplee o teichars that can teich Gaelic and dae sae in Gaelic.  The Committee recognises that there is numerous coorses and ineetiatives in place tae promuive teichin Gaelic or in Gaelic as a career. The Committee recognises forder frae the evident that relative smaw nummers o fowk are makin use o these pathways.	The Scots Government shares the Committee’s view that priority should be pit on the recruitment, education, and uphauidin o teachers o Gaelic and o subjects throu the medium o Gaelic. The Scots Government is gled that the Committee hae taen tent that a nummer o routes intae GME teachin are in place and uphauudit. The Scots Government will keep a strang focus on attractin and uphauidin teachers o GME subjects. The Scots Government wad like tae pynt oot tae the Committee commitments in the National Gaelic Language Plan 2023 – 2028 that “Gaelic-medium Education will be thocht o as a necessar pairt o the wark o education groups sic as the Teacher Warkforce Plannin Advisory Group, the Strategic Board for Teachers Education and athort aw aspects o education reform” and for “forderin forrit o and uphauidin for the routes intae GME teachin.”
<b>276-279</b>	<b>Teichin and Support Staff</b> The Committee taks tent o the concerns o local authorities that a faut o qualifeed staff is a barrier tae expansion o GME and GLE, ane that is ootwi	As abuin, the Scots Government will keep a strang focus on this issue, but we wad want tae add that this isnae ayont the wirkins o local authorities. A nummer o local authorities hae

<p>their control. The Committee asks the Scottish Government whether there is either measures that it could take for the help to access the pool of teachers, school staff and nursery staff. The Committee asks as well that the Scottish Government set out what, given any, actions it would take given a local authority was to experience a shortage of staff, and whether they would take into account factors outside their control.</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the Scottish Government undertake a workforce plan exercise in respect of teachers and support staff for ELC, primary and secondary settings and take consideration whether such an obligation should be inserted into the Bill.</p> <p>The Committee takes note of the evidence of the GTC Scotland regarding its statutory role and how regulations developed by Scottish Ministers will align with its exercises. The Committee asks the Scottish Government to set out how it will guarantee alignment with the GTC Scotland in respect of relevant regulations.</p> <p>The Committee takes note of the evidence that, while welcomed by many, the provisions on standards, guidance and directions lack clarity as to what they will deliver. Similarly, neither local authorities or parents/carers have a clear idea of what possible expectations they can have in relation to Gaelic education provision and standards.</p>	<p>uphold teachers that have an interest in Gaelic learning and in shifting to GME teaching. For such authorities looking to 'grow their own', the Scottish Government will look to make sure that routes are set out and upholding can make this possible.</p> <p>The Scottish Government knows this happens sometimes, and it is not for the Scottish Government to set out what actions should be taken. There is a matter for local authorities. The Scottish Government will, for all that, think about given any help can be given by way of ordering e-School digital delivery upholding or by way of probationer allocations.</p> <p>The Scottish Government is glad of this suggestion regarding workforce planning and will give serious thought to the best way for taking this forward, taking into account that this might need legislation. The Committee might be interested to know of ongoing work already happening in this area.</p> <p>The next, the Scottish Government undertakes a workforce planning exercise within a year to decide the intake of Initial Teacher Education (ITE) programmes. This means a good deal of consultation with various parties including the Teacher Workforce Planning Advisory Group (that has representatives from local authority employers and university providers of ITE). The Group's recommendations to the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills are based on the Scottish Government's statistical model on the future number of teachers needed. The annual statistical model looks at the number of ITE students needed to keep up teacher numbers. The model is based on a number of inputs including projections about the number of pupils in the education system at primary and secondary ages, turnover in teacher numbers (recruitment, maternity, returners, etc) and the retention</p>
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		<p>rates o ITE students. The Scots Fundin Cooncil are at the hinder end responsible for settin intaks tae ITE and scribeve tae universities settin ettles for ilka academic year.</p> <p>The Strategic Board for Teacher Education (SBTE) are upbiggin strategies tae win abuin issues around recruitment and retention o teachers in Scotland, includin geographical and subject-specific challenges. The Board is wirkin forby tae mak mair strang the forderin forrit o teachin as a career, and tae bring in new fowk tae the profession, as weel as upbiggin a teacher education framewark tae uphaud teachers in makkin braider their skills and experience throuot their career.</p> <p>The Teachin Bursary Scheme includes Gaelic medium teachin at baith primary and secondary levels as weel as the teachin o Gaelic as a staun-alane subject at secondary. The scheme engages wi recruitment shortcomes in the hairdest tae fill subjects and gies up tae 84 bursaries o £20,000 for career chyngrs wantin tae unnertak an ane year PDGE initial teacher education coorse, wi a total annual budget o £1.6 million.</p> <p>Importantly, there are relatit commitments in the National Gaelic Language Plan 2023 – 2028 that are relatit tae the issue o warkforce. “Gaelic-medium Education will be thoct o as a necessar pairt o the wark o education groups sic as the Teacher Warkforce Plannin Advisory Group, the Strategic Board for Teacher Education and athort aw aspects o education reform” and “a co-ordinatit approach tae Gaelic medium education support for teachers in schuils will be upbiggit”.</p>
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		<p>As regards tae early lairnin and bairn-care workforce, and in line wi Audit Scotland recommendations in 24-25, Scots Government ettles tae tak forrit wark wi cooncils and ither stakehauders tae upbig lang-term warkforce plans for the ELC sector tae engage wi risks tae sustainability and meet future demand. As pairt o thon, Scots Government will be wirkin tae mak siccar we unnerstaun the data available tae uphaud warkforce plannin, and whaur gaps endure how they nicht be filled. Syne, we will luik tae mak siccar thocht is gien as tae how tae braiden the pool o Gaelic medium education staff in early lairnin and bairn-care settins.</p> <p>Scots Government is committit tae uphaudin a sustainable, diverse and thrivin bairn-care sector in Scotland. In 2024-25 we are giein £16 million extra fundin tae bring pey up tae £12 an oor for staff providin fundit oors in private and third sector providers and bairn-minders. Thon will mean an average increase o around £2,000 a year in gross salary for sic eligible staff as are wirkin full time. This is an important step taewards takkin up the recruitment and retention issues facin the sector the day.</p> <p>In line wi Audit Scotland recommendations and the Programme for Government, in 24-25 we plan tae uphaud the sector faurer by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• wirkin wi cooncils tae pit in place, as a maitter o urgency, a wey o keepin track o forderin forrit wi providers peyin the real Livin Wage tae staff deliverin fundit ELC</li> <li>• growein the bairn-mindin warkforce and triallin new weys o uphaudin retention, in licht o the kenable</li> </ul>
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		<p>dwinnlin awa in this pairt o the warkforce in recent years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• faurer upbiggin the new online ane stop shop for quality assured continuous professional lairnin (CPL) resoources that launched in March</li> <li>• engagin wi the Adult Social Care sector tae unnerstaun how the ELC warkforce can engage in sectoral bargainin and effective vyce as a langer-term mechanism for drawin thegither warkforce pey and conditions atween local authority and private, voluntary and independent warkforces.</li> </ul> <p>In the reddin up o ony regulations by the Scots Government there wad be braid discussion and public consultation tae mak siccar o matchin up wi ony relatit public authority wirkins, or in this case the role o GTCS. Jist noo it isnae jaloused that these pouers will be uised tae inbring staundarts relatin tae maitters that are pairt o the remit o GTCS, and the Scots Government wad tak tent tae mak siccar that ony regulations makkit uisin the pouers o this Bill wad fit wi the legal framewark awready in place.</p>
<p><b>280-283</b></p>	<p><b>Gaelic Education Staunarts and Guideship</b>          Gien that the requirements that staunerts or guideship coud place on local authorities coud be signeeficant, the Committee asks the Scottish Government fur sicht o dreft staunerts and requirements fur tae illustrate whit meisures micht be incluidit, and the associatit costs, at the latest afore Stage 2.</p>	<p>The Scots Government has eikit on in the annex some examples o staundarts. These are anely for the ettle o illustration the noo and shouldnae be thocht o as draft staundarts. The reddin up an exact draftin o the actual staundarts wad anely be settled efter consultation wi stakehauders durin the implementation o the bill.</p> <p>The Scots Government taks tent o the exchyngne atween Scots Government and the DPLRC on this pynt, and that the</p>



	<p>Unner the praisent overtures, the stauerters created wuid be set oot in subordinate legislation subject tae the negative procedure. This means that the relevant Committee wuid be maed awaur o the subordinate legislation and coud mak comments on the record. Houaniver, it wuidnae general involve a Meenister giein probation tae the Committee anent the meisures, hoo they wuid wirk or why the Scottish Government haed dreftit them in that wey, as wuid hauppen unner the affirmative procedure. This is o concern tae the Committee.</p> <p>The Committee taks tent that Gaelic leid stauerters prepared unner saiction 6 pouers athin the Bill wull be subject tae the affirmative procedure whiles Gaelic education stauerters, prepared unner saiction 12, wull be subject tae the negative procedure.</p> <p>Gien the potential impact o meisures that coud be brocht in unner these regulations, the Committee recommends that regulations haudin Gaelic education stauerters are subject tae the affirmative procedure as weel.</p>	<p>DPLRC were content wi the choice o negative procedure for section 12. The Scots Government taks tent that a shift awa frae negative procedure for these regulations wad tak them oot o alignment wi section 2 o the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and the procedure for staundarts for education mair braidly. In reddin up this legislation thocht has been gien tae the legislative framewark awready in place that wirks in the sindry areas bein amendit and syne it is oor thocht that negative procedure is fittin in this context.</p>
<p><b>284-285</b></p>	<p><b>Fluencie</b></p> <p>The Committee taks tent o the evident unnerscorin the desire fur speakers tae hae 'effective fluencie' in Gaelic as an ootcome o GME. The Committee recommends that the Scottish Government include this as ane o the identifeable ootcomes athin the strategie and tae develop a conseistent national meisure fur this.</p>	<p>There are a when o meisures in place tae gauge fluency and the level and quality o the Gaelic bein lairnt in GME clesses. The Scots Government is gled o this recommendation and will luik intae how this can be makkit mair strang, how this can be includit in strategy or staundarts, and how best tae win the confidence o the spikker community on this pynt.</p>

	<p>The Committee taks tent forby o the evident statin that achievin 'effective fluencie' requires opportunities tae speak Gaelic in communitie settins. The Committee asks the Scottish Government hoo it intends tae support and faceelitate sic opportunities.</p>	<p>Measures the noo tae gauge fluency include teachers' professional judgement, SQA examinations, HMIE inspections, Curriculum for Excellence levels and Gaelic National Staundartised Assessments (Measaidhean Coitcheann Naiseanta na h-Alba).</p> <p>Alang wi the provision o GME immersion education and uphaidin for the professional lairnin o teachers, the Scots Government ettles tae mak siccar that a when o oot-o-schuil GME experiences are available for GME young fowk. These are providit by a when o bodies and involve culture, airts, heritage, sports, debate, drama, and ither intergenerational and youth activities. The Scots Government will luik at the possibility o sic ongauns bein uphaidit by baith strategy and staundarts.</p>
<p><b>286</b></p>	<p><b>Education reform alignment and Gaelic curriculum</b>  The Committee taks tent o cries fur a distinct Gaelic curriculum. The Committee asks the Scottish Government whit conseederation it haes gien tae the feasibilitie o this, includin in relation tae assessment and examination.</p>	<p>The Scots Government taks tent o the importance o this comment but kens forby that there are twa sides tae this. It is important for GME young fowk tae lairn and be immersed in the culture o the leid they are lairnin, but at the same time it is important for GME young fowk tae gain skills and qualifications in weel-kent sectors and established areas o study. Houaniver, the Scots Government is gled o the Committee comment. The Scots Government kens forderin forrit has been makkit in this area but there is room for faurer upbiggin.</p>
<p><b>Duties o Meenisters and Local authorities</b></p>		

<p>316- 318</p>	<p>The Committee taks tent o the disparitie in the evident regairdin whit effect saiction 15 wull hae. [Section 15 is the amendment to the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 to better include Gaelic as part of the definition of school education]. The Committee therefore asks the Scottish Government tae cleirly set oot, on the face o the Bill, whit the intention o this proveesion is, whit that intention wull win, and whin it wull be wun.</p> <p>The Committee acknowledges cries frae mony stakehauders fur an expleecit richt tae GME. While the Committee unnerstauns the desire ahint sic cries, it taks tent o existin barriers tae deleeeverin this, includin teachin staff nummers and ither resoorce challenges and grees wi the Scottish Government that this isnae required tae be in the Bill.</p> <p>The Committee acknowledges forby the cries fur cleir pathways fur Gaelic lairners, fur tae mak shair that they can tak their lairnin frae primarie throu tae senior saicondarie schuil and win qualifications.</p>	<p>The Bill doesnae chyngae section 1(1) o the 1980 Act, which caws for education authorities tae siccar for their area ‘fittin and efficient provision o schuil education’, amang ither things. Thon bides as it is, and it is aye the case that education authorities are maistly responsible for decidin whit ‘fittin and efficient’ means for their area. The Bill is chyngin the definition o ‘schuil education’ and whit wey Gaelic is integratit intae thon definition. This maks clearer that schuil education includes Gaelic in Scotland, and that, in their decisions aboot whit maks ‘fittin and efficient’ schuil education for their areas, education authorities should include Gaelic medium education and Gaelic lairner education in their unnerstaunin o schuil education. Ane o the ower-aw ettles o Gaelic upbiggin – in education and ithergates – is tae mak normal and bring in tae the mainstream the leid as an ilkaday pairt o Scots public life. This provision wirks faurer taewards thon ettle within the airt o education. The Bill is makkin vieve whit is within the scowth o an education authority’s key duty when it is plannin whit schuil education wad be ‘fittin and efficient’ for its area. As regards tae the suggestion that the Scots Government’s ettles should be set oot on the face o the Bill, the Scots Government is o the mind that it is better that the Bill itsel set oot the chyngae in the law that is tae tak place, wi the practical steps and the timetables for winnin tae that ettle bein taen forrit in discussion wi education authorities.</p> <p>The Scots Government taks tent o the Committee view on an explicit richt tae Gaelic medium Education.</p> <p>The Scots Government is gled o this comment and agrees wi the importance o clear and consistent pathways.</p>
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<b>Forder and Heicher education</b>		
<b>336-337</b>	<p>The Committee taks tent o the evident supportin the proveesion tae extend the richt tae requeest Gaelic Medium Primarie Education, tae noo include Gaelic Medium Airlie Lairnin and Bairn-care.</p> <p>The Committee taks forder tent, houaniver, o evident frae local authorities relatin tae the resoorces required tae unnertak assessments and the need fur demand tae be sustainable. The Committee taks tent that the Financial Memorandum disnae set oot the costs o sic an extension.</p>	<p>Scots Government kens forby aboot the clear messages frae Gaelic interests that uphauidin for Gaelic medium education, Early Lairnin and Bairn-care should be uphauudit and makkit mair strang.</p> <p>The Education (Scotland) Act 2016 allous an entitlement for parents tae speir for Gaelic medium primary education. This provision is braidly acceptit and includit in 2017 Gaelic education guidance that, at the time, had local authority inpit and uphauidin. The Scots Government agrees that demand needs tae be sustainable. The costs o assessment in Gaelic medium primary education and early lairnin and bairn-care hae been thocht oot in the financial memorandum.</p>
<b>343-345</b>	<p>The Committee taks tent o the link atween creatin mair opportunities tae speak and studie Gaelic in forder and heicher education and developin mair Gaelic speakin capacitie athin the wirkforce, includin new Gaelic teichars.</p> <p>The Committee asks the Scottish Government whit meisures it intends tae introduce in relation tae forder education, fur tae help address the issue o smaw teichar nummers, whit the cost o thon meisures wuid be tae the providers and whither the Scottish Government intends tae meet the cost o that new proveesion.</p> <p>The Committee asks the Scottish Government hoo it wull mak shair that Gaelic lairnin is available in education ayont the schuil forby, includin forder education and apprenticeships.</p>	<p>The Scots Government ettles tae provide mair opportunities for young fowk tae uise and forder their Gaelic skills in faurer and higher education and in the warkplace and community.</p> <p>A when o meisures are in place tae tak tent o the need for GME teachers tae enter the profession. The costs o these meisures are met by Scots Fundin Cooncil, Skills Development Scotland and the Scots Government, wi mair uphauidin comin frae Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Stòrlann.</p> <p>The Scots Government has kent aw along the need for Gaelic opportunities in post-schuil and adult education. This is a braid and diverse sector wi a nummer o bodies makkin a contribution. This wad include public authorities sic as Scots Fundin Cooncil, UHI, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Universities, MG ALBA, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Skills Development Scotland and local authorities.</p>

		<p>As statit abuin, the Short Life Wirkin Group on Economic and Social Opportunities for Gaelic maks a wheen o recommendations relatit tae Gaelic trainin opportunities and the Gaelic warkforce. The formal reponae tae thon will be gied oot in coorse and gang faurer tae takkin up these pynts. As regards tae apprenticeships, wark is takkin place tae upbig an evidence base for the wark tae mak mair strang the apprenticeship models, and as pairt o the Scots Government’s reform o apprenticeships this will luik intae whit wey Gaelic lairnin is includit in apprenticeships.</p>
<b>SCOTS LEID</b>		
<b>Scots Strategie</b>		
<b>375-376</b>	<p>The Committee taks tent o the proveesion in the Bill fur the dreftin o a National Scots Strategie by Scots Meenisters. The Committee believes that it is important that the strategie recognises the rich diversitie o Scots leids and byleids.</p> <p>Gien the concerns brocht up in probation at Stage 1, the Committee asks the Scottish Government tae conseeder whither the Bill, as praisently dreftit, encompasses enouch the reenge o leids and byleids that it conseeders constitute the umbrella term 'Scots', fur tae provide a meaningful defineetion and suffeicient claritie fur the tairgetin o the ‘support’ the Bill enveesages.</p>	<p>The Scots Government kens the braid diversity o Scots leids and byleids, and this will be reflectit in the strategy.</p> <p>The Bill, as drafitit the noo, hauds a defineetion o Scots. The Scots Government agrees wi representatives o the Scots language community that the term Scots should and daes wirk as an ower-aw or umbrella term tae include Scots byleids in aw their forms.</p>
<b>378-379</b>	<p>The Committee taks tent that, in the absence o a Scots Leid Buirid, the Scottish Government is relyin on Scots organisations tae engage.</p>	<p>The Scots Government will tak tent o the inpit frae key Scots bodies tae the sindry documents that need tae be reddit up. Wirkin wi Scots leid bodies has the benefit o makkin siccar</p>

	<p>The Committee taks forder tent that, gien resoorce constraints, thon organisations michtnae hae the capacitie tae engage in these processes athoot affectin their ither activities.</p>	<p>that the hale jing-bang o leids and byleids they represent hae inpit tae the process.</p> <p>The Scots Government is gled o this point frae the Committee and will gie thocht tae meisures that could be considert as regards tae this.</p>
<p><b>Leid guideship</b></p>		
<p><b>388-390</b></p>	<p>The Committee recognises the concerns o some stakehauders that the reference tae "Scots culture" could be read as ane culture, insteid o the mony Scots tradeetions and leids.</p> <p>The Committee therefore recommends that the Scottish Government reference mair explicit the Scots leids and byleids in aw their forms athin the Bill and seeks the Scottish Government response tae these wirries.</p> <p>Gien that multiple meisures in the Bill wull involve consultation wi relevant organisations, fur exemple on stauverts and guideship in relation tae Scots leid and Scots education, the Committee asks the Scottish Government fur an assurance that it wull consolidate consultations as aften as possible, fur tae tak intae accoot the impact on resoorces o multiple consultations on public buirds and interestit parties and whin it proposes tae unnertak these consultations.</p>	<p>The Scots Government will mak siccar that a link is set oot atween culture and communities and kennin whaur communities are diverse.</p> <p>The Scots Government has aye kent Scots as includin a when o varieties and regional forms and will haud forrit wi this. This wis set oot clearly in the Scots Government policy on Scots and mair thocht will be gien as tae whaur it is best tae restate and clarify this pynt.</p> <p>The Scots Government will ettle tae reduce the burden on consultation, but, aw the same, kens the value in takkin views frae the spikker communities. The Scots Government is gled tae gie the reassurance that whaur possible consultations will be consolidatit and the effect on bodies and authorities will be gied thocht tae.</p>

<b>SCOTS EDUCATION</b>		
<b>410-414</b>	<p>The Committee taks tent that Scots activitie is awreidie takkin place in schuils and that some resoources and professional lairnin is available fur tae support teichars.</p> <p>The Committee taks tent as weel that some local authorities are unclair as tae whit role Scots education is tae play athin the curriculum.</p> <p>The Committee heart different veesions fur Scots education frae witnesses and in screivit probation. It is unclair tae the Committee whither the primarie focus is tae, fur exemple—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mak shair that fowk can yaise the leid that they are maist comfortable wi</li> <li>• develop an appreciation and unnerstaunin o local heritage and culture</li> <li>• develop a Scots curriculum</li> </ul> <p>The Committee therefore asks the Scottish Government fur a cleirer airticulation o whit role Scots education wull play, whit it howps tae achieve wi Scots education and hoo it wull meisure success.</p> <p>The Committee asks that the Scottish Government clarify hoo Scots leid is tocht athin the 1+2 leid framewark includin hoo it taks different byleids and variants intae accoont.</p>	<p>The Scots Government is the noo uphauidin the reddin up o Scots resoources and oppourtunities for Scots professional lairnin.</p> <p>Advice on this has been reddit up by Education Scotland. Scots Qualifications Agency has forby uphauidit teachers wi examples o how Scots can be introduced intae schuils. Mair recently the Open University and Education Scotland hae providit uphauidin for teachers on the uise o Scots in the curriculum.</p> <p>Sindry witnesses will hae sindry expectations, and the first twa points makkit could easily be jyned thegither in Scots lairnin in schuil classrooms. The third pynt could be better set oot as introducun Scots intae the curriculum. The pynts dinnae contradict. Ilk ane wirks taewards the ettle o uphauidin an appreciation o linguistic diversity – amangst the Bill's ower-aw ettles.</p> <p>For ettles jist noo, the Scots Government has providit a link tae a document reddit up by Education Scotland - <a href="#">Scots in the Curriculum for Excellence</a>.</p> <p>A when o ither resoources are available on the Education Scotland site. The Scots Government will mak siccar these speirins are taen up by the documents necessar tae the Scots provisions in this Bill.</p>

		Scots is taught wi the 1+2 languages programme. Sindry byleids and forms are respectit, and this hasnae kythed itsel as an issue o concern.
<b>Guideship relatin tae Scots leid education</b>		
<b>420</b>	As wi offeelial status fur Scots and the Scots strategie, the Committee recommends that the Scottish Government recognise the rich diversitie o Scots leids and byleids whin developin its guideship on Scots education, tae tak intae accoot the reenge o leids and byleids that it conseeders tae come unner the umbrella term 'Scots'.	The Scots Government has aye kent Scots tae include a wheen o varieties and regional forms and will haud forrit wi this. This wis statit clearly in the Scots Government <a href="http://www.gov.scot/language-policy: English version - gov.scot">Scots language policy: English version - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)</a> policy on Scots and mair thocht will be gien as tae whaur it is best tae restate and clarify this pynt. In this we are takkin oor lead frae the Scots leid community.
<b>Stounerts athin education</b>		
<b>429-431</b>	<p>Gien that the requirements ony stounerts or guideship coud pit upon local authorities coud be signeeficant, the Committee asks the Scottish Government fur sicht o dreft stounerts and requirements fur tae illustrate whit meisures and requirements nicht be incluidit, as weel as the projectit costs tae local authorities associatit wi thon meisures, at the latest afore Stage 2.</p> <p>The Committee asks the Scottish Government as weel tae gie a clair statement on whither—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a local autoritie is obliged tae implement thon meisures regardless o cost,</li> <li>• the local autoritie haes fou discretion tae implement the meisures set oot in the Bill and ony future ancillarie proveesions</li> </ul>	<p>The Scots Government has eikit on in the annex some example areas whaur staundarts micht be upbiggit. These are anely for the ettles o illustration jist noo and shouldnae be thocht o as draft staundarts. The reddin up and exact draftin o the actual staundarts wad anely be settled efter consultation wi stakehauders durin the implementation o the bill. Staundarts relatin tae professional lairnin and resoources micht be priority areas for the Scots leid community.</p> <p>The Scots staundarts for education will be haudit in regulations, and regulations are the law. Education authorities need tae keep tae the law. Gin there is ony discretion, and whit the extent o ony discretion wad be, wad depend on whit wey staundarts are framed, takkin tent o the fact that consultation will be necessar as regards tae the reddin up o staundarts.</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ance implementit, a local authorities haes the abilitie tae amend, cease, or modify sic measures, shuid it wish tae dae this.</li> </ul> <p>The Committee asks the Scottish Government tae explain hoo it wull gabound alignment wi the GTC Scotland in respect o relevant regulations fur Scots education.</p>	<p>In the reddin up o ony regulations by the Scots Government there wad be braid discussion and consultation tae mak siccar o matchin up wi ony relatit public authority wirkins, or in this case the role o GTCS. The noo, it isnae jaloused that these pouers will be used tae inbring ony staundarts relatin tae maitters that are pairt o the remit o GTCS, and the Scots Government wad tak tent tae mak siccar that ony regulations makkit uisin the pouers o this Bill wad fit wi the legal framewark awready in place.</p>
<b>CONSEEDERATION O DELEGATIT POUERS</b>		
<p><b>451</b></p>	<p>The Committee taks tent the pynts maed by the Delegatit Pouers and Legal Reform Committee in its report and seeks anither response frae the Scottish Government on these maitters. Speceeficallie, the Committee asks the Scottish Government tae set oot whither it intends tae streamline the reenge o direction-makkin pouers in the Bill and, gin sae, tae set oot details o hoo this wull be daen.</p>	<p>As regards tae this speirin, the Scots Government is gled o the report o the <a href="#">Delegatit pouers in the Scots Languages Bill at Stage 1 (parliament.scot)</a> furthset on 23 April 2024 and thanks the committee members for their thochts around these maitters. We are content that the direction-makkin pouers as draftit mak siccar that they logically follae-on frae relatit pairts o the legislation, houaniver this will be kept unner review as ony chyngees are makkit tae the bill in its passage throu Pairliament. As regards tae the direction-makkin pouers providit at section 9(6) and section 14(2), the Scots Government agrees tae tak oot these particular direction-makkin pouers, haein confirmed that their uise might be gey remote and limitit and could be covered by clear staundarts or guidance.</p>
<b>FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM VS FINANCE</b>		
<p><b>487-491</b></p>	<p>The Committee taks tent o the Scottish Government poseetion that the Financial Memorandum isnae a budget, and that it disnae accoont fur the tot o whit</p>	<p>The Financial Memorandum has been reddit up in keepin wi the requirements o staundin orders.</p>

<p>will be spent on Gaelic and Scots, but rather is an estimate of costs of the specific actions within the Bill.</p> <p>Houaniver, the Committee takes tent of concern frae stakeholders as weel, includin the Finance and Public Administration Committee, that it is unclear hoo the Scottish Government haes satisfied itself that nae complete new costs are likelie tae be required, or whit the practical and financial implications of a “dynamic approach” wuid be. The Committee therefore asks the Scottish Government tae reveesit the costs set oot in the FM and gie mair detail on the fou financial costs associatit wi the Bill’s proveesions, at the latest afore Stage 2.</p> <p>The Committee takes tent that the Financial Memorandum ettles tae gie an estimate of costs that local authorities wuid incur gaun throu the process of designatin pairt or aw o their airt as ane o lingueestic signeeficance, includin consultation wi communities. Houaniver, there is nae indication athin the Financial Memorandum or ither Bill documents that forder Scottish Government fundin wuid accompanie a designation, fur the deleevery o accresst activitie or the meetin o heicher leid stauerters.</p> <p>While recognisin the praisent financial climate fur aw levels o government, the Committee is concernt that, athoot fundin, the meisures in the Bill – particular concernin airts o lingueestic</p>	<p>In repone, the Scots Government wad like tae tak tent o the practical challenge in airtin oot halely new costs or financial implications eikit ontae the provisions o the Bill. Gaelic forderin in Scotland is taen forrit by a nummer o authorities, bodies and community groups, wirkin wi their ain priorities and decision-makkin structures. Decisions are aften taen on Gaelic maitters in repone tae local needs without reference tae Scots Government guidance.</p> <p>In the Financial Memorandum, the Scots Government ettled tae ween at the cost tae authorities o the process o designatin an area as an area o muckle linguistic mense.</p> <p>The Scots Government foremaist comment in the Financial Memorandum on new spend wis makkit wi a focus on the processes comin oot frae the Bill. The Scots Government view wis that a level o Gaelic ongawin wis awready takkin place in local authorities. Likesay, local authority officers are the noo gaugin authority wirkins, thinkin about statutory guidance and Gaelic national plan priorities, reddin up, owersettin, and furthsettin consultation documents, reddin up and pittin in place policies and actions.</p> <p>In short, the process o reddin up a Gaelic leid plan noo will be like tae the process o reddin up a Gaelic Leid Plan unner the Bill. Ayont thon, Scots Government has pit in bids tae uphaud the delivery o mair ongauns relatin tae the designation o areas o muckle linguistic mense, and Scots Government wad be gled tae gie the Committee an update on ony forderin forrit wi this. Forby, we wad like tae tak tent that the Gaelic sector that the Bill provisions will effect isnae a static sector.</p>
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	<p>significance - will raise expectations that cannot be delivered by local authorities, Gaelic or Scots organisations, on present budgets.</p> <p>The Committee takes note of the evidence from witnesses underscoring the need for financial, and other, support. The Committee takes further note of the comments from several witnesses that without extra resources, it would be difficult for communities or public bodies to recognise the added value of the Bill.</p>	<p>Scots Government often sees examples of Gaelic growth and upbuilding in which local authorities set out new spend. New spend can be viewed as an aspect of the current work of the Gaelic sector and need not be thought of as being wholly dependent on the provisions of the Bill.</p> <p>The Committee explored further about funding for the much larger number of organisations that would be in an area of multiple linguistic sense designation. On this we were noted further that such a designation will have implications for a range of public authorities with upbuilding commitments to Gaelic to think about, and not just the designating local authority.</p> <p>Further, minority language communities are evident to see structures put in place that give recognition to their community and have the potential to further the language.</p>
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## **ANNEX – STAUNDARTS (ILLUSTRATIVE ANELY)**

The ettle o this annex is tae gie mair detail on the Gaelic staundarts. It's howped this will help tae address the speirins in the ECYP Committee's Stage 1 report on Gaelic staundarts. The follaein staundarts are anely by wey o illustration.

Likesay, the Stage 1 report speirs for mair detail on the staundarts and speirs tae see draft staundarts. The report speirs forby aboot the possibility o sindry staundarts for sindry pairts and aboot consultation and optin oot frae the staundarts. There will be consultation on the upbiggin o staundarts as required by the bill and that will mak siccar o opportunity for threapin ower and upreddin o staundarts and how they'll be uised. As indicatit afore, the ettle o this in the foremaist uises o staundarts pouers is tae shift requirements that hae been set oot in public authority Gaelic leid plans ower past decades and versions intae staundarts that can then be haudit tae as a maitter o law.

There's been interest forby in how the staundarts will apply tae a designatit area o muckle linguistic mense. It's howped that this paper will mak mair vieve the threaps around these and ither speirins aboot Gaelic staundarts in the Scots Languages Bill.

Staundarts will be gied thocht tae for the follaein braid areas o Furthsettins, Communications, Public Engagement, On Line ongauns, social media, Identity, Visibility, Staffin and Impact Assessment or Gaelic policy pruin and community upbiggin. As regards tae education, staundarts will be gied thocht tae for the follaein braid areas o GME Ingang, Provision, Uphaudin, Schuil management, GME Structure, teacher requirements, promotion, Resoorces and pupil uphaudin, catchments, and traivel.

For the ettles o the meenit, anely a wee walin follaes by wey o examples. These shouldnae be thocht o as draft staundarts.

## **Communications and Public Engagement**

Standards relating to communications sent by a public authority.	A public authority will have a bilingual policy – meaning it will accept communications in Gaelic and English and give responses in Gaelic and English.
Standards relating to meetings run by a public authority that are open to the public.	A public authority that is holding a public meeting in an area of multiple linguistic meaning must make sure that the meeting can be carried out bilingually.
Standards relating to public events funded or run by a public authority.	A public authority holding or running public events in an area of multiple linguistic meaning will make sure that information about the event is available bilingually.
Standards relating to a body's publicity and advertising.	A public authority working in an area of multiple linguistic meaning will make sure that publicity and advertising is available bilingually.

## **Identity and Visibility**

Standards relating to signs displayed by a public authority.	A public authority working in an area of multiple linguistic meaning will use bilingual signage and logos.
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## **Staff Matters**

Standards relating to a public authority upbuilding Gaelic skills through planning and training its workers.	A public authority working in an area of multiple linguistic meaning will ensure staff who are available for Gaelic learning and Gaelic use in their place of work.
Standards relating to a public authority recruitment and appointment.	A public authority working in an area of multiple linguistic meaning must, when advertising posts, think about in what jobs is Gaelic necessary and in what jobs is Gaelic to be hoped for.

## **Policy Review and Gaelic Impact Assessment**

Standards relating to a body upholding the Gaelic language.	A public authority must ensure for the services it offers through the medium of Gaelic.
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### **GME Ingang and Provision**

Staundarts relatin tae GME Continuity.

A public authority will siccar for GME Primary pupils the opportunity tae haud forrit intae Gaelic secondary education.

### **GME Shape and Structure**

Staundarts relatin tae secondary GME provision.

A public authority wi primary GME will offer secondary continuity for aw GME Primary pupils, makkin siccar that GME hauds forrit intae S4 and that aw GME pupils hae the opportunity tae lea schuil wi a GME qualification.

### **Schuil Management**

Staundarts for Schuil Management.

In Schuils wi GME classes, the Senior Management Team will tak GME intae accoont in aw relatit schuil decisions.

Staundarts relatin tae ethos and environment.

For schuils wi GME classes, the schuil will tak up a bilingual ethos.

### **Teachers**

Staundarts relatin tae personal lairnin.

A public authority wi teachers o Gaelic will mak siccar Professional Lairnin is available throu the medium o Gaelic for GME teachers.

### **Resoorces and Uphaudin**

Staundarts relatin tae an authority or body luikin for uphaudin frae Gaelic bodies.

A public authority wi Gaelic lairner education and GME maun luik for the uphaudin o relatit Gaelic bodies tae augment classroom lairnin.

Staundarts relatin tae resoorces and pupil uphaudin.

A public authority wi GME and Gaelic lairnin education will mak siccar that guid quality resoorces are in place tae uphaud GME and GLE pupils.