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**Sent:** REDACTED  
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**Subject:** Teach First FOI  
**Attachments:** Education charity expresses interest in Scottish Government programme - ....docx  
**Categories:** FOI

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**From:** Jonathan Dando [mailto:JDando@teachfirst.org.uk]  
**Sent:** 31 July 2017 17:22  
**To:** REDACTED  
**Subject:** Teach First press story for The Herald tomorrow

Dear REDACTED,  
I hope you're well.

James is away at the moment, so I wanted to drop you a note to share with you the attached which we will be providing to The Herald for publication tomorrow. It is under embargo until then. As you will have seen, the media interest in Teach First has increased over recent weeks, and we wanted to make clear our position and intention.

If you've any questions, please do give me a ring on REDACTED  
Thanks  
Jonathan

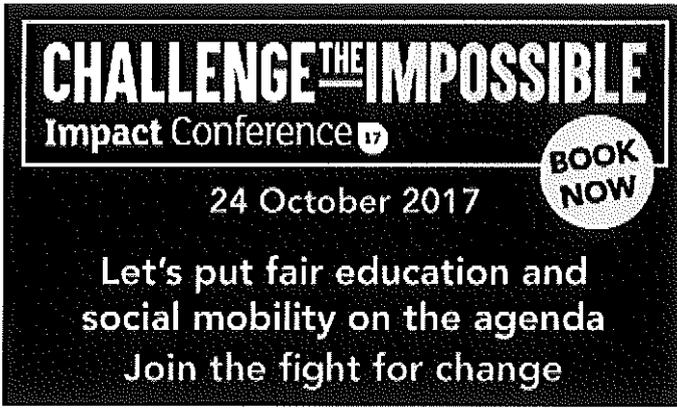
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# TeachFirst

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## **Education charity expresses interest in new teacher training approaches**

The education charity, Teach First, has confirmed that it is interested in tendering for a new proposed route into teaching announced by the Scottish Government, but it would need to be a bespoke model designed and delivered with Scottish university and education providers, and supported by communities in Scotland.

Teach First, part of the Teach for All global network which operates in 40 countries around the world including Sweden, Denmark and Germany, is a charity and social enterprise which seeks to tackle inequality in education and ensure no child's future is determined by their background. As part of this, it works with universities to provide an additional route into teaching, by combining teacher education and leadership. The innovative two year PGDE programme is focused on supporting schools in deprived areas in line with the charity's mission to tackle inequality in educational outcomes.

Teach First, which currently operates in England and Wales, does not have a Scottish programme but attracts hundreds of Scottish applicants each year and ranked 4th most popular employer for graduates in the "High Fliers: the UK Graduate Survey 2017."

The Scottish Government has committed to develop a "new and innovative" route into teaching through public tender as part of its drive to attract more talented graduates into the profession.

Commenting, Teach First Director Reuben Moore said:

"Tackling inequality in educational outcomes is at the heart of our charity's work and we currently work in low-income schools across the whole of England and Wales to do so. Our programme offers talented graduates an alternative route into the teaching profession, to help raise the attainment of pupils in need, strengthen the teaching workforce and develop leaders across education and society.

"Teach First has long believed that a bespoke Scottish programme could be an additional response to tackling the achievement gap in Scotland. This is an ambition we share with Scottish Government and we have been in regular contact over the last few years to discuss the potential for a Scottish programme because we want to see what we can do to help all children succeed. We would welcome the opportunity to work alongside the Scottish Government to achieve this.

"We're pleased that the Scottish Government intends to develop a new and innovative route into teaching, and we look forward to examining the specification in more detail to assess our suitability as a potential bidder. However, we are adamant that any model in Scotland would have to be bespoke, and therefore different from our other programmes in the UK and around the world. We want to complement, not compete with, the pathways that already exist and are very respectful of the long tradition of teacher education in Scotland. We would only want to support if it was right and supported by the broader Scottish community.

"If the opportunity was right, our ambition would be to work closely with a Scottish university partner and the wider education establishment to develop a programme that has the academic rigour befitting of Scottish education, whilst providing a new and innovative offering to talented Scottish graduates that otherwise may not join the teaching profession."

**Notes: not for publication**

- For media inquiries, contact Peter Duncan, 07740 469949 or Gareth Brown, 07907 520571.
- Teach First is a charity and social enterprise, which began in 2002 and has since recruited 10,000 teachers to programmes in England and Wales.
- Last year, Teach First was inspected by Ofsted in each of our local areas (and their partnership with universities and schools). The quality of teacher training was judged to be Outstanding by Ofsted across England in 41 of 48 categories (and good in the remaining categories) - the report can be found [here](#).
- Independent evidence of Teach First participants (ie in their first two years) by the Institute of Education, researched by Dr. Rebecca Allen, shows that, despite still working towards their qualifications, they are increasing the GCSE results of students. A GCSE student in a school with our teachers improved by one grade overall across their eight best GCSEs. The report can be found [here](#).
- Since 2012, 392 of our participants had listed their first degree as having taken place in Scotland, with 193 of those participants listing Scotland as their current location.