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The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Alex Rowley MSP

Member for Cowdenbeath Constituency
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239 High Street
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RECEIVED
29 FEB 2016
CAB SEC ELL

Angela Constance MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Education &
Lifelong Learning
The Scottish Government
St Andrew's House
Regent Road
EDINBURGH
EH1 3DG

Our Ref: AR01/HS/AC/cw

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25th February 2016

Dear Minister

I recently raised with you the issue of the condition of the Inverkeithing High School building and asked if you would be prepared to join me on a visit to the school to see the building first hand, and also see the excellent work the school is doing.

As I said at that time, Fife Council has done an excellent job in replacing many of its secondary schools and this has meant it using up its capital allocation for many years to come. I am also aware that the Scottish Government has been allocating additional funds to authorities for new build where this is deemed necessary. This is why I am keen therefore that you see Inverkeithing High School, hear about the good work of the school whilst at the same time making you aware of the condition of the building itself so that for future funding Inverkeithing will be considered.

I have spoken to the Executive member for Education in Fife Council and explained that I have invited you to visit the school. He was very supportive of this invitation and also supportive of the principle that you would be there to see the good work of the school so that the visit is kept as a positive one for the school.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Alex Rowley MSP
Cowdenbeath Constituency

Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Foghlaim agus Ionnsachadh Fad-bheatha
Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning
Angela Constance BPA/MSP

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Ur faidhle/Your ref: AR01/HS/AC/cw
Ar faidhle/Our ref: 2016/0007905

23 March 2016

Dear Mr Rowley

Thank you for your letter of 25th February regarding Inverkeithing High School.

Unfortunately I am unable to meet before the Scottish Parliamentary Election due to diary pressures. However, I will revisit this after the election.

Following the announcement on 25th January, all of the current funding for Scotland's Schools for Future Programme has been allocated. However, should that situation change, I would be happy to consider any proposal put forward by Fife Council regarding Inverkeithing High School.

ANGELA CONSTANCE



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Alex Rowley MSP
Member for Mid Scotland and Fife

Ore Valley Business Centre
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John Swinney MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
The Scottish Government
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Our Ref: AR02/HSR/cw

8th February 2018

Dear Deputy First Minister

I am writing to you about the pressing need for funding for a replacement for Inverkeithing High School in Fife which is in a very poor condition and not conducive to an ideal learning environment for pupils or staff.

In the face of the challenges presented by the building, the staff and young people continue to strive for high standards of achievement.

The school's examination results in 2017 were the best ever.

- 51% of S4 pupils gained at least 5 National 5 qualifications
- 25% of S5 pupils gained at least 5 Higher qualifications
- 45% of S5 pupils gained at least 3 Higher qualifications
- 67% of S5 pupils gained at least 1 Higher qualification

This is not the first letter I have written to you on this subject, having raised it with you in August 2016 when you were Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Constitution and the Economy. I also wrote to, and spoke in person on this matter, to your predecessor as Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, Angela Constance MSP.

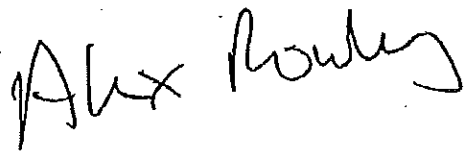
There has been excellent work done in recent years in Fife to replace high schools – leaving Fife with little capacity in its capital budget. I had hoped to see progress on options for Inverkeithing arising from discussions between the Scottish Government and Fife Council; and my concern now is that Inverkeithing has fallen off the agenda and this would not be acceptable.

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I ask that you look at the options for financing a new build replacement school for the current Inverkeithing High School which has served the wider community well but is sadly no longer fit for the purpose of providing a 21st century environment for learning and teaching.

I am also writing to Fife Council along similar terms to ask where they see the replacement school in their priorities and I do hope you can assist with this.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex Rowley". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Alex Rowley MSP
Mid Scotland and Fife

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for
Education and Skills
John Swinney MSP



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Your ref: AR02/HSR/cw
Our ref: 2018/0005249

27 February 2018

Thank you for your letter of 8 February 2018 regarding Inverkeithing High School.

I am delighted to hear about the continued educational achievements of young people at Inverkeithing High School which is testament to the commitment of the school staff and pupils. Moreover, I am sure that a new school building would benefit the whole community.

Through the Scottish Government's £1.8bn Scotland's Schools for the Future Programme, Fife Council has been awarded significant funding of over £57 million towards the construction of three schools: Auchmuty High School, Levenmouth Academy and Waid Academy. These projects were identified by Fife Council as its priority schools for investment.

In spite of the good work of the programme, there is still more to do. In November 2017, I announced the Scottish Government's intention to build upon the success of the programme and develop Scotland's Learning Estate Investment Plan. The detailed development of the plan is underway and I will make an announcement later this year.

JOHN SWINNEY

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