

From: First Minister
Sent: 16 July 2018 09:43:29
To: Public Engagement Unit
Subject: FW: EDUCATION SCOTLAND ACT/BILL

MACCS case please for OR

[redacted - 38(1)(b)]

Office of the First Minister

Scottish Government

5TH floor/St Andrews House/Regent Road

Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Tel**[redacted - 38(1)(b)]**

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From: Public Engagement Unit
Sent: 16 July 2018 09:40
To: First Minister
Subject: FW: EDUCATION SCOTLAND ACT/BILL

Hello

Please see an e-mail for consideration and advice

[redacted - 38(1)(b)]

[redacted - 38(1)(b)] St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG |

[redacted - 38(1)(b)]

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Engagement Unit

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From: [redacted - 38(1)(b)]

Sent: 14 July 2018 13:48

To: Scottish Ministers

Subject: EDUCATION SCOTLAND ACT/BILL

FAO: The First Minister

Mr John Swinney, Education Minister

Dear Madam, Sir,

It was with a great disappointment that I heard the announcement the other week that the Scottish Government had decided not to put the Education Bill before the Scottish Parliament.

I am a member of [redacted - 38(1)(b)] Parent Council and on the publication of the consultation document late 2016/early 2017 I was honestly excited about the future prospects for education in Scotland, and the way ahead to tackle deprivation and the associated attainment gap.

Your decision not to proceed with your education bill is a sell out to the vested interests of COSLA and the EIS.

The opportunity has been missed again and the pernicious influence of the Scottish Local Authorities in education means that we will still be talking about deprivation and the attainment gap decades from now.

There is however an alternative way forward which goes a long way to achieving the objectives of your consultation document and a lot more besides.

The wholesale reduction of the number of Scottish Local Authorities.

No longer will we have the morally indefensible situation of the East Dunbartonshire/ West Dunbartonshire comparisons, life expectancy, educational achievements, unemployment, crime and drugs, etc.

The quite unnecessary and wasteful existence of three local authorities in Ayrshire.

Over manned and unquestionably poor value for the council tax payers money.

My commitment to the First Minister, and to Mr Swinney, after reading the consultation document surprised even me, politics aside. I wa born in [redacted - 38(1)(b)] in Glasgow and the progress we have made as a country in reducing deprivation/the attainment gap these last [redacted - 38(1)(b)] years is I consider to be much less than our citizens deserved and are capable of.

Scottish Education was at one time the envy of the rest of the world. Many references in your consultation document make clear that this is no longer the situation.

I truly believe we must remove education from the remits of a significantly reduced number of Scottish Local Authorities or nothing that is important in the education of our children will change.

COSLA is still boasting about the Curriculum For Excellence when everybody I have met with any role in Scottish education considers C for E to be the biggest disaster foisted on unwilling education professionals by local authorities simply wanting to justify their existence.

Yours faithfully,

[redacted - 38(1)(b)]

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