

From: REDACTED – PERSONAL
INFORMATION [Section
38(1)(b)]
Workforce, Infrastructure and Reform
Division
Learning Directorate

12 February 2021

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

EDUCATION - DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION INCLUDING DEVICE PROVISION

Purpose

1. To set out initial advice on a potential large scale rollout of devices for every pupil in Scotland.

Priority

2. Routine.

Background

3. Scottish Government invested £25m across 2020/21 to enable disadvantaged learners to remain connected to their learning. The funding has been used to provide devices and MiFi connectivity for learners to use primarily outside of physical school settings. Over 70,000 individuals will benefit from this investment.

4. Given the need to provide ongoing support (both technical and practical), the project was delivered through grant funding to local authorities who effectively own the devices and loan them to learners.

5. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

6. A further £45 million investment was announced on 13 January which local authorities can use flexibly to support remote learning, including for the provision of additional devices and connectivity solutions for those who still need them. We will not know how many devices and connectivity solutions have been purchased with this funding until into the new financial year.

Areas of consideration

7. Investment so far has been a specific response to the closure of school buildings in March 2020, and a desire to further support the delivery of remote learning during the

most recent lockdown. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

8. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

9. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

School Connectivity

10. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

11. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

12. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

13. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

14. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

Personal Connectivity

15. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

16. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

Devices

17. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

18. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

19. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

20. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

21. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

Teacher Digital Literacy

22. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

23. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

24. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

Digital platforms

25. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

26. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

Local authorities

27. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

28. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

Potential costs

29. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

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High-level proposal

37. The forthcoming Digital Strategy (the overarching document that sets out Scottish government's ambitions for all aspects of digital) will include an action that states "We will set out new and ambitious reform programmes for key areas of government, including health and social care, learning and schools, justice, planning and agriculture and the rural economy."

38. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

39. REDACTED [FORMULATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY - Section 29(1)(a)]

Conclusion

40. The Deputy First Minister is invited to consider the initial advice set out above and provide feedback as appropriate.

41. Officials are happy to discuss any aspect of this advice in more detail.

Section 38(1)(b)

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12 February 2021

Copy List:	For Action	For Comments	For Information		
			Portfolio Interest	Constit Interest	General Awareness
Minister for Children and Young People					X

DG Education, Communities and Justice

Director of Learning

Director Digital

Andrew Drought

Sam Anson

Elizabeth Morrison

Malcolm Pentland

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Colin McAllister