

Consultation Questions

Local Cultural entitlements

1. Do you think that developing local cultural entitlements will help to increase participation in cultural activities?	Yes
	Throughout the Final Report of the Cultural Commission the significance of the languages of Scotland was recognised, and we hope that you will agree with us that language is central to the arts and to cultural identity. The right to

Additional Comments:	speak in oneâ€™s native language, to use it in all social and cultural settings and to have the culture associated with that language supported is surely a cornerstone of cultural entitlement. Scottish Language Dictionaries regularly participates in local community projects and our research embraces all dialects of Scots from all areas. However, while a few councils are very supportive, most see language as a low priority and therefore the promotion of Scots and Gaelic is one of areas where local government may need guidance. Improving the perceived status of Scots among its speakers and in the population generally is an important factor in improving the confidence and communication skills of many disadvantaged groups.
2. If you believe further or alternative measures are necessary, what are they?	An Institute for the Languages of Scotland would be able to deliver linguistic cultural entitlements at the grass roots.
3. How do you think the Scottish Executive and local authorities can best utilise the influence and impact of cultural activity?	
4. Do you think the initial draft guidance under Part 1 of the Culture Bill is clear and helpful? Is there anything else it should contain?	Yes
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Creative Scotland

5. Do you agree that there should be a single national cultural development body?	Yes
Additional Comments:	SLD agrees that there is need for a body such as the proposed Creative Scotland, however, there may be aspects of culture which do not fit with its remit. Scottish Language Dictionaries has been core funded by the SAC and is now flexibly funded by them. Lexicography and language research does not sit comfortably alongside the performing arts, visual arts or even literature. While we greatly appreciate the support, advice and encouragement we have had from SAC in the past, we find it increasingly difficult to undertake essentially long-term projects on short-term funding, and much time is taken up by our staff in applying for grants and trying to raise additional funding through outreach and other means. We are

	strongly of the opinion that we should be included as one of the National collections and suggest a possible framework below.
6. Do you agree with the remit proposed for Creative Scotland?	Yes
Additional Comments:	See above.
Has it the right powers and functions?	Yes
Additional Comments:	
7. Do you agree that Creative Scotland should work in concert with the Scottish Executive to implement national cultural policy?	Yes
Additional Comments:	

National Collections

8. Do you agree that the National Collections should remain as constitutionally separate centres of excellence?	Yes
Additional Comments:	<p>We are a national body serving the entire population of Scotland and dealing with material from everywhere from Shetland to Dumfries. We are internationally recognised as the authority in our field. Our lexicographical research is devoted to the languages of Scotland and our dictionaries more than justify our claim to "national" status. We give Scotland every reason to be proud of us. The Final Report of the Cultural Commission recognised that language is a special case and cannot easily be considered alongside performing and visual arts. This presents a powerful argument for proceeding with the proposed Institute for the Languages of Scotland (ILS). A considerable body of research on the feasibility of an Institute has already been carried out, showing widespread support for such an organisation. With Scots and Gaelic bodies working together within a single organisation, the "national treasures" that are the languages of Scotland can be effectively and efficiently nurtured and celebrated. The ILS would be a bridge between academic interests and the general public, a socially relevant body anchored in good scholarship. It would be a focus for new initiatives and would embrace</p>

	<p>the needs and interests of sign language users as well as supporting those who speak languages more recently introduced to Scotland. The ILS would also be able to promote awareness of Scottish Standard English as a high status standard language on a par with other world Englishes such as American English, Canadian English, New Zealand English and Australian English. A single umbrella language organisation would greatly enhance the efficiency, quality and quantity of outreach work by co-ordinating outreach programmes, identifying priorities and directing outreach opportunities towards practitioners with appropriate skills. In order for an Institute for the Languages of Scotland to be set up, a body for Scots, equivalent to the highly successful BÀ²rd na Gĩ½ idhlig would have to be created. Scottish Language Dictionaries would be very happy to participate in discussions and provide or recommend possible members of a steering group to assist with this process (as the Ministerial Advisory Group on Gaelic did for the establishment of the BÀ²rd na Gĩ½ idhlig). Scottish Language Dictionaries is also able to advise on the status of Scottish Standard English.</p>
9. Do you think the powers and functions proposed for the Collections in the draft Bill are right?	Yes
If not, how would you improve them?	
10. What do you think of the name 'National Record of Scotland'?	
11. Do you agree that the Faculty of Advocates should be able to contribute to the board of the National Library by having at least one representative?	Yes
Additional Comments:	
12. Do you agree that the Collections have the appropriate powers to obtain, loan and dispose of objects for or from their collections?	
If not, what would you change?	

Dealing with tainted cultural objects

13. Do you agree that an offence similar to that	
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in the 2003 Act should be introduced in Scotland?	Yes
Additional Comments:	

Powers of local authorities to broadcast information

14. Do you agree local authorities should have a general power to broadcast information about their activities?	
Additional Comments:	
15. Do you think it is necessary to give authorities this power in this Bill, or should local authorities be left to rely on 'the power to advance well-being' in section 20 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003?	

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Scottish Language Dictionaries. Response to Draft Culture (Scotland) Bill.

Local Entitlements

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