



SCANNED

Highlands & Islands ENTERPRISE

19th March 2007

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Edinburgh
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Dear Barry,

A STRATEGY FOR SCOTLAND'S LANGUAGES

Thank for the opportunity comment on the draft Strategy for Scotland's Languages.

HIE welcomes this document and the recognition which it gives to the importance of languages in modern Scotland. The Strategy is comprehensive in its reach and recognises the range of important strands of language development from basic English language literacy and provision of English to others for whom it is not their first language through to the importance of language learning as part of a local economy.

We are therefore supportive of the rationale, principles and policies set out in the document. We would simply suggest that the benefits of languages to social cultural and community activities might be noted more fully as part of the rationale section.

We recognise that this Strategy is not a framework for resource allocation, nor is it accompanied by precise output targets to be achieved. Rather, it is statement of existing practice and priorities and desired approach. This of course does raise a question of status of the Strategy and the expectations and delivery implications that may flow from interpretation of some of the comments in the Strategy.

We would welcome any thoughts you may have in this matter and the next steps for the Strategy in general.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide further information.

You sincerely

S. J.

ORG.

HIE

supportive

broad support





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