Submission from Anon

10) I agree that the bill will deliver changes in GME but I don’t think it is strong enough. I feel the provisions should cover nursery through to secondary school. In my experience most issues I have heard of are at nursery level (which then affects numbers going into school) and in the secondary schools. You then have a situation where kids have worked for years to increase their Gaelic, only to be failed at this stage with lack of provisions.

11) With regards to promotion, the main challenge should be to make sure that each child receives information on GME at the earliest stages. E.g. through the health visitors, playgroups and nurseries both private and public. Even in low level Gaelic usage areas there are likely to be different activities happening in the area that relate to Gaelic e.g. here we have a Gaelic Karate Class, Football class, Gaelic night classes, Gaelic Walks and shops where people are happy to speak Gaelic to customers. I collate that info and place it on facebook pages or a new website that is under construction at the moment.

Promotional work will help to increase the numbers in the schools and therefore increase the number of speakers. As the numbers are going up in our school, we see numbers increase in our Gaelic night classes.

14) Having recently attended a GME parents convention it became very clear that in instances where GME levels are not properly being delivered by schools there is no one that has the authority to step in and rectify the situation. This has resulted in children being let down badly by their schools and has had serious impacts on the level of Gaelic being delivered. I believe there should be a regulator that can step in e.g. Bord na Gaidhlig. The funding provided should also be strongly linked to the level of GME provided e.g. you have instance where schools are providing very poor levels of GME but they still receive their full funding. This should not be the case.