TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2011

The Scottish Government,
The General Teaching Council for Scotland,
Education Scotland,
The Association of Head Teachers and Deputies in Scotland,
The Educational Institute of Scotland—

- What are your views on the issues raised in the petition and in the Committee’s subsequent discussion?
- From the perspective of your organisation, what work is planned or underway to ensure that all new teachers are confident in their abilities to firstly identify and then secondly address additional support needs (especially dyslexia and autistic spectrum disorders)?
- (to the Scottish Government only) Is the Donaldson Review working group considering the issue of training to ensure that all teaching and support staff have a basic level of awareness of the needs of pupils who have additional support needs and an understanding of some practical strategies that can be employed?
- (To the Association of Head Teachers and Deputies in Scotland only) What skills / experience should headteachers have in relation additional support needs? To what extent do headteachers have a role in ensuring that the staff in their schools have the awareness and skills around additional support needs?

Local Authorities—

- What are your views on the issues raised in the petition and the Committee’s subsequent discussion?
- Does your local authority provide continuous professional development (CPD) for teaching staff in additional support needs? If not, what are the reasons for this and are there any plans to look at this again?
- What support or training does your authority provide to non-teaching staff (for example, janitors, caretakers or catering staff) to help them deal with pupils who have additional support needs?