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Education, Children and Young People  
Committee

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10 December 2024

Dear Convener,

As discussed at last week's Committee session with myself and the Chief Examining Officer, I attach the findings from the Scottish Association for Teachers of History (SATH) survey on the SQA's Higher History Review 2023/24, which they have agreed I can share with you.

I am grateful to SATH for sharing this feedback from history teachers. I acknowledge the concerns being raised by history teachers and the need to rebuild trust and confidence going forward. There are some helpful points made in the survey and I know SQA are considering how best to respond to those.

The SQA, Scottish Government and the President of SATH met on Monday 9 December to consider the survey feedback and next steps, including what more can be done to support teachers delivering Higher History this year and in the future. I am also keen to meet with the President of SATH personally to discuss the findings of the survey in more detail.

Lessons have also been identified by the SQA around strengthening the understanding of the awarding process, and reviewing how marker feedback is gathered, considered and used. This will be helpful in ongoing teacher engagement as we move to establish Qualifications Scotland (QS).

Through Education Reform there is also an opportunity to improve the oversight of our qualifications. The Scottish Government is open to considering additional, practical and cost-effective measures that can further enhance the strengthened provisions in the Education Bill.

I have asked SQA to update the Committee on the additional support for Higher History learning and teaching once those measures are finalised.

Your sincerely,

**JENNY GILRUTH**

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