Dear Clare

1 + 2 Languages Policy

At its meeting on 9 January 2020, the Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee considered a number of bi-annual reports on EU issues prepared by the Scottish Government (reports attached). One of the reports provides an update regarding the Scottish Government’s 1+2 languages policy.

Annexe B of the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skill’s letter includes information relating to secondary school language teachers by main subject. While the Committee notes these totals may not accurately reflect overall teacher numbers, we want to highlight the consistent downward trend in teacher numbers for certain languages, specifically French and German.

We understand your Committee made a number of observations relating to modern languages in its recent report on subject choices in schools. The Committee intends to write to the Scottish Government seeking further clarity on this issue and we will ensure any information provided will be shared with your Committee.

Yours Sincerely,

Joan McAlpine MSP, Convener,
Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee