



COMUNN NA GÀIDHLIG

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2 July 2002

Tessa Jowell
Secretary of State for Culture
Media & Sport
Department for Culture Media & Sport
2-4 Cockspur Street
LONDON
SW1Y 5DH

Dear Secretary of State,

DIGITAL CURRICULUM

I am writing on behalf of Comunn na Gàidhlig, the Government funded National Development Agency for the promotion of the Gaelic language and culture in response to your invitation to submit comment on the Consultation Paper on the Digital Curriculum Service.

The Board of CNAG welcomes the consultation exercise and the opportunity to comment.

The BBC's proposals to invest in a new Digital Curriculum is fully supported and welcomed to ensure that educational interests take full advantage of the opportunities which interactive educational materials and services have to offer in this highly competitive and technologically minded society.

We believe that the proposed service could be fundamental in improving the effectiveness of education delivery throughout the UK.

We are extremely disappointed and concerned that no recognition is given in the Consultation Document to the provision of Gaelic language versions of materials along the lines of the commitment made for Welsh language versions. (Para 3.2 of Annex 1).



The BBC has an excellent record of supporting a comprehensive Gaelic radio service which is now available on radio in most parts of Scotland as well as world-wide on the internet. We would, therefore, urge the BBC to ensure that the provision of Gaelic language versions of educational materials is available as part of the proposed BBC Digital Curriculum Service, to meet the needs of the increasing number of Gaelic Medium Units, Gaelic pupils, teachers and adult learners of the language.

I hope that it will be possible for you to take full account of our representations on this important matter.

Leis gach dèagh dhùrachd


Donald Martin
Acting Chief Executive