



The Scottish Parliament



Sandra White MSP

Glasgow Kelvin

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet
Secretary for Education and Skills
John Swinney MSP

12 June 2017

Dear John

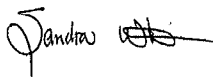
I have been contacted by a constituent raising concerns on the current status of the Palestine/Israel teaching materials for schools which was due to go on the open area of the national intranet for education GLOW.

They have indicated that they are having problems accessing the material and that some of it has been removed.

Could you please clarify the position on this material in order to give a full response.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Kind regards

 M. S. P.

Sandra White MSP

1274 Argyle Street, Glasgow, G3 8AA
Email: Sandra.white.msp@parliament.scot

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 June 2017 15:06:51
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: 06.17 SW to JS re Palestine Israel teaching material

Attachments: 06.17 SW to JS re Palestine Israel teaching material.doc

For MACCS, MR please.

[REDACTED] Assistant Private Secretary (Correspondence) to John Swinney
MSP | Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary Education and Skills | Scottish
Government | St Andrew's House | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | [REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 June 2017 16:00
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 06.17 SW to JS re Palestine Israel teaching material

Please find attached a letter from Sandra White MSP to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills John Swinney MSP.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Office of Sandra White MSP
Glasgow Kelvin
[REDACTED]

Please note my working days are Tues, Wed and Thursday

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Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for
Education and Skills
John Swinney MSP



Scottish Government
Riaghaidh na h-Alba
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E: 

Ms Sandra White MSP
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By email: sandra.white.msp@parliament.scot

Our ref: 2017/0021428

27 June 2017

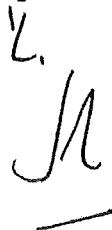


Thank you for your letter dated 12 June 2017 on behalf of your constituent regarding accessing the draft Israel and Palestine learning and teaching materials.

I have given consideration as to how best to proceed to ensure that fair and balanced material is available to schools. Given the sensitivity of the issues, I have asked Education Scotland to work with partners in leading a review of all the draft material. This will involve taking account of the consultation responses and will include a piloting exercise in a number of schools with feedback being used to develop the material further.

With regard to the matter you raise about access to the material, it is appropriate that the material remains accessible on a restricted basis with password protection during this phase of development. Such an approach ensures that access to the material can be granted to all of the partners involved in its development and to anyone involved in a piloting process.

Education Scotland will be in touch with key partners involved in the development of the materials about arrangements for reviewing the material.



JOHN SWINNEY

