

Look forward to hearing from you

[redacted]

[redacted]

Scottish Government

Learning Directorate: People and Leadership

Tel: 0131 244[redacted]

[www.engageforeducation.org](http://www.engageforeducation.org)

**From:** [redacted][mailto:[redacted]@scis.org.uk]

**Sent:** 15 September 2017 16:52

**To:** Roy D (David)

**Subject:** Fwd: Teaching Qualification

Dear [redacted]

Briefing paper attached.

Best wishes

[redacted]

**From:** [redacted] [mailto:[redacted]@scis.org.uk]

**Sent:** 15 September 2017 16:52

**To:** [redacted]@gov.scot

**Subject:** Fwd: Teaching Qualification

Dear [redacted]

Briefing paper attached.

Best wishes

[redacted]

SCIS and UHI have worked in close partnership to develop the Post Graduate Diploma: Teaching Qualification Practitioner Route (TQPR). This qualification has been designed to meet the needs of colleagues currently working as teachers in independent schools in Scotland who do not possess a formal teaching qualification. SCIS have co-designed the TQPR, and we believe the bespoke nature offers a contextualised route for colleagues. Whilst the majority of alternative Programmes are geared for new entrants, this innovative approach acknowledges the experience of individuals coupled with the unique characteristics of each school in the independent sector.

SCIS are delighted to give our endorsement, and commend it to colleagues as a Programme that:

- benefits from the tri-partite expertise of UHI – staff, programmes and online, distance delivery experience
- offers academic parity with alternative models of teacher education in Scotland: i.e., on successful completion, participants will have achieved 120 Master’s credits with the option to undertake further study (60 credits) to achieve a full Master’s degree in Education
- is contemporary in structure/design and strives to develop and enhance classroom practice whilst simultaneously equipping participants with an enquiring stance
- facilitates engagement with current priorities, issues and perspectives in Scottish Education and how these relate to their own context
- promotes collaborative engagement
- allows participants to engage in relevant, professional learning over 2 years on a part-time, on-line basis which takes cognisance of the current and future demands on colleagues
- leads to Full Registration with the GTCS, **providing colleagues possess the academic entry conditions set by the GTCS\***, allowing teachers the option to progress their career in the independent or maintained sector

\*Colleagues should contact the GTCS directly to verify the academic status

See <https://www.uhi.ac.uk/en/courses/pgdip-teaching-qualification-practitioner-route/>

If you require further information, please contact [margaret@scis.org.uk](mailto:margaret@scis.org.uk) in the first instance

[redacted]

**From:** John Edward <john.edward@scis.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 25 October 2017 13:02  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: SCIS meeting 24 Oct- draft note

[redacted]

It would be the whole of the UK and the English speaking world.

Thanks again

[redacted]



**John Edward**  
Director



[www.scis.org.uk](http://www.scis.org.uk)

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**From:** [redacted] @gov.scot [mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot]  
**Sent:** 25 October 2017 12:59  
**To:** John Edward  
**Subject:** FW: SCIS meeting 24 Oct- draft note

Thanks for quick turnaround. Happy to add this.  
Can you please confirm which of the text highlighted most accurately reflects the conversation as my notes weren't clear?

Thanks

[redacted]

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**From:** John Edward [mailto:john.edward@scis.org.uk]  
**Sent:** 25 October 2017 12:56  
**To:** [redacted] ; [redacted]  
**Cc:** [redacted] ; [redacted] ; [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: SCIS meeting 24 Oct- draft note

[redacted] , [redacted]

Many thanks.

In terms of the note below, I would just add:

- “subject to **probably** the most extensive charity testing in Scotland, if not the whole of the UK ( /the English speaking world?)”  
The list of charities reviewed in detail by OSCR is here - <https://www.oscr.org.uk/charities/managing-your-charity/reviews-of-charitable-status/charities-reviewed>. 106 have been reviewed, 6 subsequently withdrew or wound up. Of the remaining 100, 52 are independent schools (<https://www.oscr.org.uk/charities/managing-your-charity/reviews-of-charitable-status/charitable-status-reviews-schools>).  
No such charity test exists in England & Wales, the regime in Northern Ireland is still developing (and does not apply to “independent” schools, which are mainly grammar schools – see <https://www.isc.co.uk/schools/>), there is no such strict test in Aus, NZ, USA, Can etc.
- For full UK numbers see <https://www.isc.co.uk/research/annual-census/> . ISC covers 31 of our largest schools, covering 25k of the c30k pupils overall. I have also attached the information we have for recent years.
- When asked internally recently, 87% of our marketing and admissions staff put “financial climate” as their number one concern.
- On means-tested assistance post the 2005 Charities Act, and the details in the Biggar report, it is legislation the effect of which has not been scrutinised much post-legislation. The >3x rise in means tested fee assistance means that financial assistance overall from a sector of 30k pupils in Scotland is in line with the financial support for HE students in England according to the Office of Fair Access, following a substantial widening access campaign. Bursary provision to Scottish HE students, according to the SAAS, is c.£50 million to c.50k students. (SCIS schools is £47m, of which >£31m fully means tested, to 8-10k pupils.)

Anything else, please just ask.

John



**John Edward**  
Director



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**From:** [redacted]@gov.scot [mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot]

**Sent:** 24 October 2017 20:53

**To:** John Edward; [redacted]@gov.scot

**Cc:** [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot

**Subject:** SCIS meeting 24 Oct- draft note

John/ [redacted] ,

Please see draft notes to capture the key points from our meeting this afternoon. I've tried to keep this succinct and would propose to circulate it to Mr Mackay along with the SCIS submission (and independent economic impact report). Apologies for

any typos- I will hopefully pick most of these up when I re-read tomorrow on a larger screen..

I'm happy to take on board any amends that you may have. However, I'm on leave from tomorrow for 2 weeks but have copied in colleagues who can assist and I'd be grateful if you could copy them into any comments

### **Meeting with SCIS to discuss Barclay recommendation to remove business rates relief entitlement for independent schools**

- Barclay recommendations are contradictory. While the report recommends that charity relief should be retained for the university properties that primarily deliver the core function of education, independent schools core functions are singled out. Additionally other restrictive membership, fee based institutions such as royal colleges (GP's, surgeons etc.) charitable institutions were not considered for reform by Barclay
- It is unclear why Barclay has settled on only a handful of charities out of tens of thousands and in particular those which have been subject to probably the most extensive charity testing in Scotland, if not the whole of the UK ( /the English speaking world?)
- Scotland has the lowest independent fees in GB [ **Action**- JE to provide figures] meaning it offers a competitive product internationally.
- Independent pupil numbers are in decline [**Action** -JE to provide figures] and are at their lowest recorded level
- Most (all?) independent schools offer bursary places and will generally commit to give financial assistance to a pupil for up to 6 or 7 forward years. S1 parents and pupils will have just begun the academic year on the assumption that assistance will be available until they complete their education. The total value of bursaries is worth around £47 million per year (with £31 m of that being means tested support with the balance being non-means tested support awarded for scholarships for academic excellence and targeted support to Forces families, widows etc.)
- There is some evidence that, for parents, affordability is the key issue in deciding whether to send children to independent schools and if just 5% of parents remove their children from the independent schools the resulting increase in education costs to the state could easily negate the estimated £5 million savings
- Schools have a limited number of options to recoup the additional cost. (While some schools have modest reserves, these could not cover the ongoing annual costs)

-Fees could be increased (which may lead to parents removing children from schools, increasing eth burden on state schools)

- Assets could be sold- most likely playing fields. However this would limit/remove the use of facilities by local communities and would only provide a one-off windfall, whereas the rates burden would be ongoing so would be a short term fix only (**Not explicitly discussed, but is this relevant?**)

-reduce means tested bursaries and community offer, which risks failure of the charity test and some schools founding charters./principles would prevent them from

taking this route. If schools do chose this route it simply makes the whole system more elitist

- A small number of schools have been struggling for the past few years- for example due to the oil downturn- and to levy rates could result in closure which would increase the burden on local State schools (although this is far less likely to occur for international pupils). This is not thought to be wide spread but could have significant consequences for some councils.
- Special schools are of particular concern and some special schools that are currently in receipt of charity relief are likely to fail to meet the current criteria to qualify for disabled person relief (this is most likely for facilities that specialise in complex social or educational needs, rather than physical disabilities) and the consequential impact on some of the most vulnerable children in society is unknown.

[redacted]

Secretary to Barclay Review

3G North, Victoria Quay, EH6 6QQ

Scottish Government

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[redacted]


**From:** John Edward <john.edward@scis.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 25 October 2017 13:16  
**To:** [redacted]; [redacted]  
**Cc:** [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: SCIS meeting 24 Oct- draft note  
**Attachments:** Copy of 2016\_17 External Lets.xlsx

Further to this, one school in Glasgow has just sent me the list of their current community lets for schools and sports facilities, by way of a guide of the level of wider assistance beyond fee assistance.

John



**John Edward**  
 Director

  
 www.scis.org.uk  
 @ SCISschools

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**From:** [redacted] @gov.scot [mailto: [redacted] @gov.scot]  
**Sent:** 24 October 2017 20:53  
**To:** John Edward; [redacted] @gov.scot  
**Cc:** [redacted] @gov.scot; [redacted] @gov.scot; [redacted] @gov.scot  
**Subject:** SCIS meeting 24 Oct- draft note

John/ [redacted] ,

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- A small number of schools have been struggling for the past few years- for example due to the oil downturn- and to levy rates could result in closure which would increase the burden on local State schools (although this is far less likely to occur for international pupils). This is not thought to be wide spread but could have significant consequences for some councils.
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[redacted]

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3G North, Victoria Quay, EH6 6QQ

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[redacted]

**From:** John Edward <john.edward@scis.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 26 October 2017 16:37  
**To:** [redacted]; [redacted]  
**Cc:** [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: SCIS meeting 24 Oct- draft note

Thanks

Lastly on this, the independent group that looked at the impacts on pupils leaving the sector due to fees increased by taxation – of whatever kind - are:

Baines Cutler Solutions  
<http://www.bcsconsultants.co.uk/>

John

PS I have had an enquiry today about the potential effect of Barclay on the proposals for St Mary's Music School (which has SG Aided Places) to move to the old Royal High building on Regent Road.



**John Edward**  
 Director



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**From:** [redacted]@gov.scot [mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot]  
**Sent:** 25 October 2017 15:52  
**To:** [redacted]@gov.scot; John Edward  
**Cc:** [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot; [redacted]@gov.scot  
**Subject:** RE: SCIS meeting 24 Oct- draft note

Thanks - broadly happy with this & John's tweaks but one or two other suggestions shown

[redacted]

Head of Funding & Infrastructure Unit | Workforce, Infrastructure & Reform Division | Learning Directorate | 2A South  
 | Victoria Quay | EH6 6QQ  
[\[redacted\]@gov.scot](mailto:[redacted]@gov.scot) | 0131 244 [redacted] | [redacted]

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 24 October 2017 20:53  
**To:** John Edward; Moore JC (Jonathan)  
**Cc:** [redacted]; [redacted]; [redacted]  
**Subject:** SCIS meeting 24 Oct- draft note

John/ [redacted] ,

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-reduce means tested bursaries and community offer, which risks failure of the charity test and some schools founding charters./principles would prevent them from taking this route. If schools do chose this route it simply makes the whole system more elitist

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Dh'fhaodadh nach eil beachdan anns a' phost-d seo co-ionann ri beachdan Riaghaltas na h-Alba.  
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