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EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES

Second Periodical Report
presented to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
in accordance with Article 15 of the Charter

UNITED KINGDOM

Foreword:

Devolved powers were formally transferred from the UK government to the devolved administrations in Scotland and Wales on 1 July 1999 and to Northern Ireland in December 1999.

At this time, the Welsh Assembly took over responsibility for a number of the UK government's functions, including the Welsh language, education and training, economic development, and local government. The Scottish Parliament also took on responsibility for a range of UK government functions, which cover broadly the same ground as was previously covered by the Scottish Office. This included responsibility for Gaelic and Scots.

The NI Assembly is currently in suspension. During this period its language functions and Charter responsibilities are exercised by UK Government Ministers.

The UK government retains responsibility for foreign affairs, defence, national economic policy, social security and broadcasting.

There are therefore three devolved bodies which, along with the UK government, are principally responsible for implementing the provisions of the European Charter for regional or minority languages in the United Kingdom.

There is no statutory definition of an official language in Northern Ireland. The majority of the population are monolingual English speakers. There are two indigenous languages - Irish and Ulster-Scots, a small number of speakers of immigrant languages and British and Irish Sign Language users.

PRELIMINARY SECTION

1. **Please provide the necessary background information, such as the relevant historical developments in the country, an overview of the demographic situation with reference to the basic economic data for the regions, as well as information on the constitutional and administrative structure of the State.**

The United Kingdom is a parliamentary democracy, based on universal suffrage. It is also a constitutional monarchy in which ministers of the Crown govern in the name of the Sovereign, who is both Head of State and Head of the Government.

There is no 'written constitution'. Instead, the relationship between the State and the people relies on statute law, common law and conventions.

The UK Parliament makes primary legislation - other than for matters devolved to the Scottish Parliament and the Northern Ireland Assembly (which was suspended by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland from midnight on 14 October 2002) - and is the highest authority in the land. It continues to have the supreme authority for government and law-making in the UK as a whole.

The executive comprises the Government (members of the Cabinet and other ministers responsible for policies), government departments and agencies, local authorities, public corporations, independent regulatory bodies and certain other organisations subject to ministerial control. The judiciary determines common law and interprets statutes.

Local authorities work within the powers laid down under various Acts of Parliament. Their functions are far-reaching and include education, social services, land use planning, housing, waste disposal and recycling, and transport. Some are mandatory, which means that the authority must do what is required by law. Others are discretionary, allowing an authority to provide services if it wishes.

In certain cases, ministers have powers to secure uniformity in standards to safeguard public health or to protect the rights of individual citizens. Where local authorities exceed their statutory powers, they are regarded as acting outside the law and can be challenged in court.

The main link between local authorities and central government in England is the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister. However, other departments, such as the Department for Education and Skills, the

Department for Work and Pensions, the Department of Health and the Home Office, are also concerned with various local government functions.

Scots Gaelic

Under the terms of the Act of Union of 1707 the separate governments of Scotland and England were united under one Parliament to form Great Britain. Scotland's separate legal system, national church and education system were safeguarded under the settlement, which also made provision for the office, within government, of a Secretary for Scotland.

The ministerial post of Secretary for Scotland was created in 1885. The Secretary for Scotland also assumed responsibility at that time for the Scotch Education Department, which was formed in 1872 from the Board of Education for Scotland.

The status of the office of Secretary for Scotland was enhanced in 1926 to that of Secretary of State. Throughout the twentieth century the responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Scotland continued to expand and The Scottish Office finally comprised six Departments by 1999.

On 1 July 1999 a new Scottish Parliament and Executive were established with legislative and executive responsibility for a wide range of devolved matters, including education. The Scottish population elects members to both the UK and the Scottish parliaments. The main political parties represented are Scottish Labour, Scottish National, Scottish Conservative & Unionist and Scottish Liberal Democrat parties. Smaller parties active in Scottish politics include the Scottish Green Party and the Scottish Socialist Party.

Issues devolved include:

- health
- education and training
- local government
- social work
- housing
- planning
- tourism, economic development and financial assistance to industry
- some aspects of transport, including the Scottish road network, bus policy and ports and harbours
- law and home affairs, including most aspects of criminal and civil law, the prosecution system and the courts
- the Police and Fire services
- the environment
- natural and built heritage
- agriculture, forestry and fishing
- sport and the arts
- statistics, public registers and records

Issues reserved to the UK Government include:

- constitutional matters
- UK foreign policy
- UK defence and national security
- fiscal, economic and monetary System
- immigration and nationality
- energy: electricity, coal, gas and nuclear energy
- common markets
- trade and industry, including competition and customer protection
- some aspects of transport, including railways, transport safety and regulation
- employment legislation
- social security
- gambling and the National Lottery
- data protection
- abortion, human fertilisation and embryology, genetics, xenotransplantation and vivisection
- equal opportunities

There continues to be a Secretary of State for Scotland who remains a member of the UK Cabinet, and whose role is to represent Scotland in matters reserved at UK Government level. The office of the Secretary of State for Scotland is known as the Scotland Office and is based mainly in London. It now forms part of the Department of Constitutional Affairs.

The current structure of local government in Scotland was established by the Local Government etc (Scotland) Act 1994 and came into effect on 1 April 1996. The structure consists of 29 unitary authorities, which have replaced and taken over the functions of the 53 District and 9 Regional Councils established in 1975.

The 3 Islands Councils remain unchanged. The 32 councils are responsible for all local government services administered by their predecessors with some minor exceptions.

The estimated population of Scotland on 30 June 2001 was 5.1 million, accounting for 9% of the population of the United Kingdom. Following a decline over most of the 1980s, small increases were recorded in each year up until 1995. Since then there has been a gradual decline in population until 2001 when a slight increase was seen.

The majority of the population is concentrated in the central area around Glasgow and Edinburgh. The Highlands and Islands have the most area but the fewest people.

Scotland has six cities:

-	Glasgow	578,710
-	Edinburgh	449,020
-	Aberdeen	211,910
-	Dundee	145,460
-	Stirling	86,200
-	Inverness	50,920

Scotland, with an area of 7,792,000 hectares, accounts for about a third of the total area of the United Kingdom. The Scottish mainland from the border with England to the north coast is about 440 km in direct line and its maximum breadth is about 240 km. In addition to the mainland there are some 380 islands of which over 100 are inhabited and some are relatively large in area e.g. the Shetland Isles.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in Scotland totalled £69.2 billion in 2001, an average level of £13,660 per head. The largest elements in the GDP are manufacturing (21%); real estate and business services (18%); and retail and wholesale (11%). The manufacturing sector in Scotland is strongly oriented towards export and 57% of Scottish exports go to other countries in the European Union. Most of the industrial activity is concentrated in the relatively small area of the Central Belt, although Aberdeen, outside that area, is an important centre of the oil industry. Glasgow and the surrounding area of west central Scotland constitute the main industrial centre. Edinburgh is the capital city and administrative centre, with a major concentration of financial and professional institutions as well as an important manufacturing sector.

Scotland has a history of fairly high levels of unemployment and during the 1980s the unemployment rate (International Labour Organisation definition) rose to 14.9% (1987). Between then and 1990 there was a steady decline to about 9.3% overall but unemployment has risen and fallen again over recent years. In Spring 2003 it stood at 5.6% (with male unemployment at 6.1% and female unemployment at 5.1%), compared to 5.0 in the United Kingdom as a whole. The overall figures, however, conceal a very wide range of levels of unemployment in different parts of the country.

Cornish

Cornwall is administered by two tier local government, with a County Council and six District Councils. The Isles of Scilly are administered separately by a form of unitary authority.

Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly have a population of around 513,500, of which nearly a quarter (23.3%) is of retirement age. Between 1993 and 2003, the population grew by more than 8% compared with less than 4% for England. The latest unemployment rate is 4.2% compared with 4.8% for England. Cornwall and Scilly is currently designated a European Objective 1 funding area in recognition of its economy lagging behind the European Union average when measured by Gross Domestic Product per head.

Northern Ireland

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland suspended the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Executive with effect from midnight on 14 October 2002. The Secretary of State, assisted by his team of Northern Ireland Ministers assumed responsibility for the direction and control of the Northern Ireland Departments. Details of each Minister's responsibility can be found on the Northern Ireland Office website <http://www.nio.gov.uk>

There are eleven Government Departments in Northern Ireland. They, and their associated bodies, are responsible for functions often devolved to local authorities elsewhere (for example public housing, planning and education). There are presently 26 district councils in Northern Ireland, with responsibilities including the management of recreational, sporting, social, community and cultural facilities, environmental health, waste management and the promotion of tourism and economic development. Councils also have a representative function, nominating members to serve on various statutory bodies (e.g. Health and Education boards) and a consultative function whereby they are asked for their views on matters such as planning or water conservation.

The Northern Ireland Office acts as a channel for liaison with the relevant Whitehall Department for those provisions of the Charter, for which responsibility would not be devolved to the NI administration (e.g. Broadcasting).

An Interdepartmental Charter Implementation Group chaired by the Department of Culture Arts and Leisure (DCAL) and involving all Northern Ireland Departments, the Northern Ireland Office, Customs and Excise, the Inland Revenue and the Northern Ireland Courts Service is responsible for co-ordinating work to implement, monitor and report on the Charter.

The population of Northern Ireland is around 1.7 million, it has the youngest population of any region in the UK and one of the youngest in the EU. Full details can be found on the census website, www.nisra.gov.uk.

The 2001 Census recorded 167,490 people with some knowledge of Irish (10.4% of the population).

Manx Gaelic

The Isle of Man, with a land area of 572 sq. km/ 227 square miles, is situated in the heart of the British Isles. It is not part of the United Kingdom but is a Crown Dependency; that is, an internally self-governing dependent territory of the British Crown.

Tynwald, the Island's 1,000 year old Parliament, makes its own laws and oversees all internal administration, fiscal and social policies. External issues, such as foreign representation and defence, are administered on the Island's behalf by the United Kingdom Government, for which the Island makes an annual payment.

As a Crown Dependency, the ultimate responsibility for the good government of the Island is vested in the Crown, but by long-standing convention, the UK Government does not legislate for the Island except with the specific consent of the Isle of Man Government.

The resident population at the last census of April 2001 was 76,315, representing an increase of 6.4% on the 1996 Interim Census figure. The resident population was comprised of 37,372 males and 38,843 females.

Manx Gaelic is a member of the Celtic group of the Indo-European family of languages. It is believed that the Island's language usage changed from "British" to "Gaelic" (Gaelic being the Irish word for the Irish language) in perhaps the early 6th century. It continued largely unchanged by the Norse invasions and settlement which began in about 800 AD, with the Island being a dependency of Norway until the year 1266.

Even during the middle years of the 18th century the majority of the Island's people were native Manx speakers with little or no knowledge of the English language. Thereafter the decline of the Manx language began and except in those parts of the Island furthest from the towns, children born after the middle part of the 19th century were, for the most part, brought up in the English language, and only a handful of original native speakers survived into the second half of the 20th century, the last dying in 1974. The latter decades of the 20th century have, however, seen a considerable revival of interest in, and use of, the language. Whilst the decennial census in 1961 recorded only 165 people with knowledge of the language, the 2001 census recorded 1,689 people who could either speak, read or write Manx Gaelic.

It seems likely that Manx wasn't committed to writing until about 1610, when the Bishop of Sodor and Mann, John Phillips, had a translation made of the Book of Common Prayer, although this wasn't actually published until 1894. The first publication in the Manx language came a century after Bishop Phillips, when Bishop Thomas Wilson had his "Principles and Duties of Christianity" translated into Manx, using a spelling different from Bishop Phillips' Welsh-based system. It is this system that, with modifications and adaptations, has continued to be used to the present day.

Welsh

The Welsh language has been used in Wales since at least the sixth century BC. King Edward I of England passed laws which made English the legal and administrative language. Under the Act of Union, proficiency in English became a requirement for holding public office, and English became the language of the courts. During the Industrial Revolution, the population of Wales increased dramatically, due to the growth of industries such as coal, steel and slate. This led to both an increase in the numbers of people speaking Welsh, and a decrease in the proportion of the Welsh-speaking population, due in particular to workers from England moving to Wales to work in the collieries in the nineteenth century. As Welsh citizens became more assimilated, a serious language shift towards English occurred, in particular in the south-east and north-east. This development, which had a negative effect on the use of Welsh, was reinforced through legislative acts such as the Education Act

of 1870, which made public education entirely English, and the Local Government Act of 1889, which made English the language of local authorities. Despite measures taken at a later stage to permit teaching in and of Welsh, attitudes towards it remained negative.

However, during the latter part of the twentieth century there has been a strong movement towards protecting and promoting the Welsh language, in particular in education and broadcasting. This has also stimulated interest in the Welsh language and culture.

2. Please indicate all regional or minority languages, as defined in paragraph a of Article 1 of the Charter which exist on your State's territory. Indicate also the parts of the territory of your country where the speakers of such languages(s) reside.

Scots Gaelic

English is, by custom and usage, the official language of government, business, education, the law and other professions. It is spoken everywhere in Scotland, alongside Scottish-English (Scots) and Gaelic (the two regional or minority languages which exist in Scotland). A geographic breakdown of the latest Gaelic census figures is set out in **Annex A**

Cornish

Cornish speakers in the UK reside predominantly in Cornwall.

Irish

There are two indigenous languages in Northern Ireland: Irish and Ulster-Scots.

The Irish language movement in Northern Ireland is essentially revivalist. Almost all of the last historical speakers of Irish had died by the 1970s but by then Irish-speaking families had appeared in different parts of Northern Ireland, including a small cluster in Belfast. Irish is being transmitted intergenerationally in these families. Irish speakers are spread throughout Northern Ireland with the largest concentration in the greater Belfast area. The Northern Ireland 2001 census provided a breakdown of speakers by local Government districts. See **Annex B** attached.

Ulster-Scots

Ulster-Scots is defined in legislation (The North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999) as the variety of the Scots language which has traditionally been used in parts of Northern Ireland and Donegal. In the late 1960s a sociolinguistic survey (Gregg) found that the main Ulster-Scots areas were in North-East Down (the Ards), County Antrim and eastern County Londonderry (around Coleraine).

Manx Gaelic

Manx Gaelic is the only regional or minority language, as defined in paragraph a) of Article 1 of the Charter used in the Isle of Man. People who can use the Manx language are spread across the Island.

Welsh

There are Welsh speakers across the whole of Wales. The highest proportions of Welsh speakers are found in Gwynedd, the Isle of Anglesey and Ceredigion, where the proportion of speakers aged 3 or over is 74.3%, 62.6% and 60.9% respectively. The lowest concentrations of Welsh speakers are found in Blaenau Gwent and Monmouthshire, where the proportion of speakers is fewer than 7.5%. The percentage of Welsh speakers aged 3 or over in Cardiff, the capital city of Wales, is 9% according to the Household Interview survey 1997. However, the numbers of speakers in low density speech areas

may still be substantial. For example, according to the 1991 Census there were 17,171 Welsh speakers aged 3+ in the City of Cardiff.

- 3. Please indicate the number of speakers for each regional and minority language. Specify the criteria for the definition of “speaker of regional or minority language” that your state has retained for this purpose.**

Scots Gaelic

The number of Gaelic speakers recorded at 30 June 2001 is 58,652. Those that can speak, read or write Gaelic are 65,674 and the number that can speak, read, write or understand is 92,396. These figures would indicate that there is a significant number that can read and write Gaelic, but not speak Gaelic (perhaps this figure is explained by learners). Also there is a considerable number that can understand Gaelic but do not speak, read, or write (perhaps this figure is explained by those brought up as Gaelic speakers but do not use it in their day-to-day lives). Gaelic speakers live in every council area in Scotland. The highest numbers are found in the Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (Western Isles Council), Highland and Argyll and Bute areas. A full breakdown of the latest census figures is set out in **Annex A**.

The Scots language survives in Scotland in different forms spoken in different parts of the country. There are no official figures for the number of Scots speakers.

Cornish

An independent academic study commissioned by the Government Office for the South West and published in April 2000 suggested a figure of about 300 effective speakers of Cornish, based on a criterion of being able to ‘hold a general conversation at ordinary speed on everyday topics.’ The number is believed to have grown since then, as evidenced by the 51 passes of Cornish Language Board examinations at the two highest grades since 2000 and anecdotal evidence from language groups and teachers.

Irish

The 2001 Census asked respondents about their knowledge of Irish. The Census recorded 167,489 people with some knowledge of Irish (10.4% of the population). This included at least 106,844 who could speak Irish. Full details of the response are given at **Annex B**. There was no information on the level of competence.

Ulster-Scots

There was no question on Ulster-Scots in the 2001 census and there is no definitive baseline information on numbers. The Northern Ireland Life and Time Survey (1999) found that 2% of respondents self-identified as Ulster-Scots speakers. This would equate to around 35,000 people. The Life and Times Survey was based on a representative sample of 2,200 adults.

Manx Gaelic

The 2001 Census recorded 1,527 people who could speak Manx, 706 who could write Manx and 910 who could read Manx, with a total number of 1,689 people with ability in one or more of these areas. The key element in this Census question was fluency. Persons only knowing a few words or phrases were asked to tick the box marked, “No, cannot speak, read or write Manx Gaelic”. A breakdown of the figures is provided in the extract of the 2001 Census attached at **Annex D**.

Welsh

Information from the Welsh House condition survey 1998 revealed that there are 570,000 Welsh speakers - 20.5% of the population aged three and over in Wales.

4. Please indicate the non-territorial languages, as defined in paragraph c, Article 1 of the Charter, used on your State's territory and provide statistical data concerning speakers.

None

5. Please provide recent general statements on the policy of your State concerning the protection of regional or minority languages where it may be of use to supplement the above four points.

Scots Gaelic

Partnership Agreement for a Better Scotland

The "Partnership Agreement for a Better Scotland" document sets out the principles which will guide the Scottish Executive in developing and implementing policies in Scotland. This document can be found at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/library5/government/pfbs.pdf>

The high level commitments which relate to Gaelic and Scots are as follows:

- "We will develop a new focus for Scotland's languages recognising both our heritage and our diversity"
- "We will legislate to provide secure status for Gaelic through a Gaelic Language Bill"
- "We will introduce a national strategy to guide the development and support of Scotland's languages, including British Sign Language and ethnic community languages"
- "We will continue to invest in Gaelic-medium education, including the provision of more teacher training places"

Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005

In outlining the Executive legislative programme for 2004-2005, the First Minister, Jack McConnell noted that:

"My ambition is to see Gaelic grow once more in its everyday usage across Scotland. Something more Scots can feel part of, and proud of.

A year ago, on the 100th anniversary of the Mod, we launched our consultation on a draft bill to secure the status of the language in Scotland.

And one year on, in this legislative programme, we will introduce and pass into law the **Gaelic Language Bill** to build on the work we already support in broadcasting, the arts and education."

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Bill was introduced to the Scottish Parliament in September 2004. In doing so, the Minister for Education and Young People, Peter Peacock, noted:

"This bill will make it easier for people to use Gaelic and ensure that public bodies - such as councils and health boards - have to take the needs of Gaelic speakers into account.

I believe this bill will leave the Gaelic language well-equipped to meet the demands of the 21st century and ensure it prospers for years to come."

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 received Royal Assent on 1 June 2005 and its provisions are expected to be commenced later this year. The progress of the Bill through Parliament is recorded on the Parliament's website at

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/bills/billsInProgress/gaelicLanguage.htm>

The Act and its accompanying explanatory notes can also be found at the website above.

The main provisions of the Act are as follows:

- establishment of the Gaelic development agency, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, which is required to exercise its functions with a view to securing the status of the Gaelic language as an official language of Scotland commanding equal respect to the English language
- the requirement for the development of a National Gaelic Language Plan to set out a blueprint for future Gaelic development (and within that plan, the development of a national Gaelic education strategy) across Scotland
- the ability for Bòrd na Gàidhlig to require individual Scottish public bodies to prepare and implement a Gaelic language plan which will set out how they will use the Gaelic language in connection with the exercise of their functions
- the ability for Bòrd na Gàidhlig to issue guidance to public bodies on the development of Gaelic education

Gaelic Secondary Information Communication Technology Implementation Group

In August 2004, the Minister for Education and Young People established a Gaelic Secondary Information Communication Technology Implementation Group.

This Group was established to look specifically at the needs of the Gaelic secondary education sector and to formulate proposals to enable expansion of this sector. It is the view of the Scottish Ministers that the shortage of Gaelic medium secondary subject teachers, while being addressed, means there is a need to consider other means of subject delivery and in particular the benefits that could come from the use of ICT in Gaelic classes in secondary.

It is considered that a virtual solution to Gaelic secondary could offer a way of meeting the increased demand for Gaelic subject teaching at a secondary level. This would be of benefit to Gaelic education but it could also demonstrate the potential for other areas of education delivery.

The Group has been asked to formulate proposals in the following areas:

- Decide which subjects and which stages to focus on.
- Commission the preparation of course materials working with Learning and Teaching (Scotland).
- Establish the delivery mechanisms and locations for Gaelic ICT subject delivery.
- Consider the professional development needs of teachers to assist the delivery of courses.

Gaelic-medium Education Teachers Short-life Action Group

In January 2005, the Minister for Education and Young People established a Gaelic-Medium Education Teachers Short-Life Action Group which would review the following areas of activity and make recommendations:

- Strategies to increase the supply of Gaelic-Medium Teachers
- Existing Teacher Education Opportunities
- Professional Preparation of Gaelic-medium Teachers
- Professional Support for Gaelic-Medium Teachers

This Action Group is scheduled to report with recommendations to the Scottish Ministers in the summer of 2005.

Guidance on Gaelic Education

The Minister for Education and Young People issued draft Guidance under section 13 of the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000 for consultation in the summer of 2004.

The aim of the Guidance Paper is:

- to ensure education authorities have a policy statement on Gaelic education
- to encourage a consistent approach to Gaelic reporting under the 2000 Act
- to inform parents and Gaelic interests of their entitlement to Gaelic-medium education in each education authority area

The terms of the draft Guidance can be found at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Arts-Culture/gaelic/17909/GaelicEdGuidanceConsult>

Cornish

On 14 June 2005 the Minister for Local Government announced, through a national press release, the Government's endorsement of the Cornish Language Strategy, adopted by Cornwall County Council and Cornish language organisations, as providing the framework for implementation of Part II of the Charter. He said the Government will work with the local authorities and the Cornish language organisations, through the Government Office for the South West and in line with the Government's Charter commitments, to take the Strategy forward.

Irish

The Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement was signed on 10 April 1998 and all signatories of the Agreement recognised "the importance of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to linguistic diversity, including in Northern Ireland, the Irish language, Ulster-Scots and the languages of the various ethnic communities". The UK Government made specific commitments in relation to Irish.

The joint declaration by the British and Irish Government on the 1 April 2003 states: -

'The British Government will continue to discharge all its commitments under the Agreement in respect of the Irish language. Specifically, in relation to broadcasting, the British Government will take all the necessary steps to secure the establishment as soon as possible, following receipt of the final business case in April, of a fund for financial support for Irish language film and television production. It will also take steps to encourage support to be made available for an Ulster-Scots academy. The two Governments will continue to work with the relevant regulators and broadcasting authorities to address the technical and other barriers with a view to increasing substantially the reception of TG4 in Northern Ireland.'

Manx Gaelic

The Isle of Man Government Plan 2005-2008 contains six overall objectives, one of which is "Positive National Identity". One of aims within this objective is "Culture & Heritage" and this is defined as: *To protect, present and promote the unique cultural heritage of the Island.* Three of the points within this aim are:

- Support Manx Studies and the publication of the New History of the Isle of Man;
- Extend the provision of Manx language teaching in schools; and
- Support the work of the Gaelic Broadcasting Committee.

A specific target in the Government Plan is to increase the number of persons involved with the language from the level found by the 2001 Census.

Wales

As a result of the devolution of power within the United Kingdom, the Welsh Assembly Government is responsible for promoting the Welsh language. That responsibility currently lies with the Assembly Minister for Culture, Welsh language & Sport. In 2002 the Assembly Government launched *laith Pawb* (Everyone's Language) which is a National Action Plan for a Bilingual Wales. The measures set out in *laith Pawb* are aimed at achieving a number of key targets by 2011 with the aim of achieving a sustained increase in both the number and percentage of people able to speak Welsh.

PART ONE

- 1. Please state the main legal act(s) and/ or provisions that you consider essential for the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages in your country. Please provide:**
 - **Copies of those acts and/or provisions, in English or French, should your country not have done so in the initial periodical report;**
 - **Details and copies of new legislation or policy documents with relevance to regional or minority languages;**
 - **Details of case law or other legal or administrative developments in this field.**

Scots Gaelic

<i>Annex E –</i>	<i>The Gaelic Bill 2005</i>
<i>Annex F –</i>	<i>Broadcasting Act 1990, 1996</i>
<i>Annex G –</i>	<i>Communications Act 2003</i>
<i>Annex H –</i>	<i>Education Scotland Act 1980</i>
<i>Annex I –</i>	<i>Standards in Scotland's Schools Act 2000</i>
<i>Annex J –</i>	<i>Gaelic Language Education (Scotland) Regulations 1986</i>
<i>Annex K –</i>	<i>Draft Guidance on Gaelic Education (issued under the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc). Act 2000</i>

Cornish

There is no legislation pertaining particularly to the Cornish language.

Irish and Ulster Scots

The Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 provides for the teaching of Irish as a modern language as an integral part of the curriculum. It also provides for the cross-curricular themes of Cultural Heritage and Education for Mutual Understanding through which schools, if they so wish, can provide education on Ulster-Scots or Irish language, literature and culture.

In the Belfast Agreement, which was signed on Good Friday, 10 April 1998, the Government of the United Kingdom committed itself jointly with the Government of Ireland to take positive action to support linguistic diversity. The commitments in the Belfast Agreement were underpinned by an Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland also signed on 10 April 1998.

The North/South Language Body was established by the North/South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 and came into operation on 2 December 1999. The North/South Language Body has two separate agencies, Foras na Gaeilge (the Irish Language Agency) and Tha Boord o Ulster Scotch (the Ulster-Scots Agency).

The Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 places a duty on the Department of Education to encourage and facilitate the development of Irish Medium Education. A promotional body Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta was established by the Department of Education in August 2000. Some of the objectives of this body are to facilitate and encourage the development of Irish-medium education in Northern Ireland, to represent the sector, and to liaise with and provide the Department with advice on various issues relating to Irish-medium education”.

The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 introduced legislation empowering Councils to erect street names in any other language alongside the English name.

The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 places a duty on Health and Social Services Trusts when making any decision with respect to children or young people in care to give due consideration to their linguistic background.

Manx Gaelic

In July 1985 the Report of the Select Committee on the Greater Use of Manx Gaelic was approved by Tynwald. The specific recommendations of the report were as follows:

- a. Tynwald declares its intent that the preservation and promotion of the Manx Gaelic should be an objective of the Isle of Man Government.
- b. The Board of Education in conjunction with the Manx Heritage Foundation should provide foundation courses in Manx studies for all pupils in both primary and secondary schools with opportunities for further specific courses on a voluntary basis and to that end should also provide courses for teachers. We also recommend that an 'O' level course be created in Manx studies.
- c. Boards and Departments should use bi-lingual signs for offices, vehicles and on notepaper and should, wherever possible and practical, make greater use of the Manx Gaelic insofar as this can be done without increasing costs or reducing efficiency.
- d. The Ceremonial Oaths entered in the Liber Juramentorum should be capable of being taken in Manx Gaelic provided certain conditions are fulfilled and appropriate legislation introduced where necessary.
- e. The Manx Heritage Foundation should establish a voluntary Manx Language Advisory Commission.
- f. The use of bi-lingual documentation should not be discouraged provided such use does not deleteriously affect commercial activity or the expeditious administration of justice.
- g. Street name signs and village and town boundary signs should be bi-lingual except where the traditional Manx name is the accepted form.

These recommendations have largely been acted on and they have led to improvements in the support for and status of Manx Gaelic.

A copy of the substantive part of the Select Committee's Report (without the somewhat lengthy written submissions to the Committee) is attached at **Annex L** to this Report.

The Department of Education's report entitled "The Future Development of the Manx Language" was received by Tynwald in December 1995. The Report has been used by the Department, where practical within resource and personnel constraints, as a guide to Manx language development and policy. A copy of the Report is attached at **Annex M** to this Report.

See also the comments concerning present Government policy at part 5 of the Preliminary Section.

Legislation

The Broadcasting Act 1993 provides that a sound broadcasting service intended for reception wholly or mainly in the Island shall include a condition requiring the holder of the licence to include in the service such proportion of programmes in Manx Gaelic as may be specified in or determined in accordance with the licence. A copy of the relevant section of the 1993 Act is attached at **Annex N** to this Report.

The Education Act 2001 provides that the school curriculum shall include the teaching of Manx Gaelic and the culture and history of the Island. A copy of the relevant section of the 2001 Act is attached at **Annex N** to this Report.

Welsh

a) The 1967 Welsh Language Act

This established the right to use Welsh in the Courts and also provided for Ministers to prescribe Welsh versions of statutory forms. This provided the means to give the language validity in public administration. This Act was substantially amended and its provisions extended by the Welsh Language Act 1993 described below.

b) The 1993 Welsh Language Act

The main provisions of this Act were to establish the Welsh Language Board, a body with the specific function of promoting and facilitating the Welsh Language, and to provide for the preparation by public bodies of schemes giving effect to the principle that in the conduct of public business and the administration of justice in Wales, the English and Welsh languages should be treated on a basis of equality. Over 180 public sector Welsh language schemes have now received the approval of the Welsh Language Board.

A number of categories of bodies are named in paragraph 6 of the Welsh Language Act 1993, as being public bodies for the purposes of the Act. The National Assembly for Wales can, through introducing subordinate legislation under Section 6(1)(o) of the Welsh Language Act 1993, name further organisations as being public bodies for the purposes of the Act. Five such pieces of legislation have been made to date, in 1996, 1999, 2001, 2002 and 2004. The naming of public bodies in this way opens the way for the Welsh Language Board to require that the organisation prepares a Welsh language scheme setting out how it will give effect to the principle that, as far as is appropriate in the circumstances and is reasonably practicable, the Welsh and English languages will be treated on a basis of equality.

c) The Government of Wales Act 1998

Section 32 states that the National Assembly may do anything it considers appropriate to support the Welsh language.

2. Please indicate the bodies or organisations, legally established in your state, which further the protection and development of regional or minority languages. Please list the names and addresses of such organisations.

Gaelic Organisations

*Bòrd na Gàidhlig
Darach
Stoneyfield
Inverness
IV2 7PA*

*Comunn na Gàidhlig
5 Mitchell's Lane
INVERNESS
IV2 3HQ*

*Proiseact nan Ealan/The Gaelic Arts Agency
10 Shell Street
STORNOWAY
Isle of Lewis
HS1 2BS*

*BBC Gaelic Television
Queen Margaret Drive
GLASGOW
G12 8DG*

*An Comunn Gàidhealach
109 Church Street
INVERNESS
IV1 1EY*

*Sabhal Mòr Ostaig
Teangue
Sleat
Isle of Skye
IV44 8RQ*

*Gaelic Media Service
Taigh Shìphoirt
Seaforth Road
STORNOWAY
Isle of Lewis
HS1 2SD*

*Cli-Gaidhlig
5 Mitchell's Lane
Inverness
IV2 3HQ*

*Comhairle nan Sgoiltean Araich
53 Church Street
Inverness
IV1 1DR*

*Feisean na Gaidheal
Meall House
Portree
Isle of Skye
IV51 9BZ*

SCOTS ORGANISATIONS

*Scots Language Resource Centre
AK Bell Library
York Place
PERTH
PH2 8EP*

*Scots Language Dictionaries
27 George Square
Edinburgh
EH8 9LD*

*The Saltire Society
9 Fountain Close
22 The High Street
EDINBURGH
EH1 1TF*

Cornish

There is no statutory body formed specifically for this purpose for Cornish. Cornwall County Council, the six District Councils and 38 Town and Parish Councils have so far adopted a policy statement of support for the language. There is a well-established voluntary sector of organisations promoting the use and development of the language, to which Cornwall County Council has made available for a

number of years, on application, small grants totalling £5,000 a year towards projects. There is a Cornish Sub-Committee of the UK Committee of the European Bureau of Lesser Used Languages.

Irish and Ulster Scots

The North/South Language Implementation Body with two separate agencies, Foras na Gaeilge (Irish Language Agency) and Tha Boord o Ulstèr Scotch (Ulster-Scots Agency) was established by the Governments of the UK and Ireland to promote Irish and Ulster-Scots. The addresses of the agencies are:

Tha Boord O Ulstèr Scotch
5th Floor
Franklin House
10-12 Brunswick Street
BELFAST
BT2 7GE

Foras na Gaeilge
7 Cearnóg Mhuirfean
DUBLIN 2

Foras na Gaeilge
Teach an Gheata Thiar
2-4 Sráid na Banríona
BÉAL FEIRSTE (BELFAST)
BT1 6ED

The North/South Language Implementation Body has a statutory responsibility for funding a range of organisations which promote Irish:

Comhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge
Gael Linn
Conradh na Gaeilge
An tOireachtas
An Comhlachas Náisiúnta Drámaíochta
Cumann na bhFiann
Comhlúadar
Iontaobhas Ultach

A promotional body Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta was established by the Department of Education in August 2000. Some of the objectives of this body are to facilitate and encourage the development of Irish-medium education in Northern Ireland, to represent the sector, and to liaise with and provide the Department with advice on various issues relating to Irish-medium education.

As part of its statutory duty under the 1998 Education Order, the Department of Education worked with Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta to establish the Irish-medium Trust Fund known as "Iontaobhas na Gaelscolaíochta". The Trust Fund provides support for the development of Irish-medium sector by awarding grants to independent Irish-medium schools and helping with capital costs for Irish-medium schools which have been approved for recurrent grant aid but which are not yet eligible for capital costs.

An Irish Language Film and Television Production Fund has been set up, it will be administered by the Northern Ireland Film and Television Commission. EU State aid approval is awaited.

Government Departments and some of their associated bodies provide funding for a range of legally established community and voluntary groups that promote the use of Irish or Ulster-Scots.

Following approval of the business case and budget allocation, an Ulster-Scots Academy Implementation Group has been established (at the end of June 2005).

Manx Gaelic

A range of bodies, organisations and societies contribute to the provision of resources for Manx speakers and those who wish to learn the language. Government Departments, Agencies, Local Authorities and private companies are increasingly providing bi-lingual Manx and English signage around the Island and seeking to use Manx names and titling.

The Government funds the Gaelic Broadcasting Commission (Bing Ymskeaylley Gaelgagh), which advises on the making and broadcasting of programmes in Manx Gaelic. Such programming is mainly provided on Manx Radio. Manx Radio also provides a Gaelic News section on its website which has the main local news items in written and in spoken form.

The Manx Heritage Foundation, an Isle of Man Government agency, funds Manx Gaelic projects, including research work carried out under the auspices of the Centre for Manx Studies (affiliated to the University of Liverpool and jointly funded by Manx National Heritage and the IoM Department of Education). It has a full-time Manx Language Development Officer. It also offers financial support to Mooinjer Veggey, the pre-school Manx Gaelic group. It offers financial assistance for the translation/ writing/design and publication of written and audio-visual resources (including children's books and videos) in Manx.

The voluntary Manx Language Society (Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh) runs a 'Manx Language Week' annually in November to promote the Manx Language and traditional culture, with links to the other Gaelic areas of Ireland and Scotland, with funding from both Government agencies and private businesses.

A joint Manx National Heritage/ Manx Heritage Foundation/ Isle of Man Arts Council/ Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh Manx language focussed weekend of events is held annually at Cregneash.

Welsh

The Welsh Language Board was established as a statutory body by the Welsh Language Act 1993, with the specific remit of promoting and facilitating the Welsh Language. The address of the language Board is:

Welsh Language Board
Market Chambers
5-7 St Mary's Street
Cardiff
CF10 1AT

www.bwrdd-yr-iaith.org.uk

The Welsh Language Board oversees the development and implementation of language schemes by public bodies. It grants aid to organisations which promote the language, promotes the language through community initiatives (Mentrau Iaith) carries out positive marketing campaigns, and gives advice and information to the public on the use of Welsh. It works with the private and voluntary sectors to encourage the use of Welsh by those sectors. The Welsh Language Board currently employs over 70 members of staff. The Welsh Assembly Government appoints a Board of Members. The current Board comprises 11 members.

The Welsh Language Board is a body sponsored by the Welsh Assembly Government and receives grant in aid to support its activities. Grant in aid for the 2005/06 financial year was set at almost £12million.

3. **Please indicate if any body or organisation has been consulted on the preparation of this periodical report or about the implementation of the recommendation of the Committee of Ministers addressed to your State. In the case of an affirmative answer, specify which one(s).**

Scots Gaelic

The Scottish Executive undertook a written consultation exercise with local authorities, public bodies and NGOs across Scotland. This consultation exercise reminded those bodies of the requirements of the undertakings of the Charter which the UK has ratified and sought information on the Scots and Gaelic policies they had in place to inform the preparation of the UK's periodic report.

Cornish

Cornwall County Council has been consulted on the preparation of this report.

Irish and Ulster Scots

The following have been consulted on this report:

- All NI Departments and a range of associated bodies
- Foras na Gaeilge – The Irish Language Agency
- Tha Boord o Ulster Scotch - The Ulster-Scots Agency

Manx Gaelic

No bodies outside of the Isle of Man Government have been consulted in the preparation of this first report following the extension of the Charter to the Isle of Man in respect of Part II protection for Manx Gaelic.

Welsh

The Welsh Language Board has been consulted by the Welsh Assembly Government in the compilation of this response.

4. **Please indicate the measures taken (in accordance with Article 6 of the Charter) to make better known the rights and the duties deriving from the application of the Charter.**

Scots Gaelic

As noted in section 5, the Scottish Executive has high-level policy commitments to develop a new focus for Scotland's languages.

In particular, new legislation has been brought forward in the form of a Gaelic Language Act with the specific aim of securing the status of the Gaelic language, promoting its use and increasing the number of Gaelic speakers. The Act establishes a statutory body Bòrd na Gàidhlig with a duty to promote, and facilitate the promotion of, the Gaelic language and with the ability to request public bodies in Scotland to develop Gaelic language plans. These plans would set out how the Gaelic

language would be used in connection the exercise of the body's functions – for example, what service provision it would make for Gaelic speakers; what use would be made of the Gaelic language in terms of its corporate identity; and what publications it would make available in the Gaelic language.

The Bòrd has also been given the specific function of monitoring, and reporting to Ministers on, implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. This will ensure that Ministers and public bodies are aware of progress being made toward implementation of the Charter.

Cornish

The Minister for Local Government and the Regions announced on 5 November 2002 the Government's decision to recognise that Cornish falls under Part II of the Charter. A national press release was issued by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister to make widely known this decision, which was reported in the national and regional media in Cornwall.

Following discussions initiated by the Government Office for the South West, an Advisory Group of Cornish language organisations was convened by Cornwall County Council, in March 2003, as a forum for discussing application of the Charter and arranging public consultation on the needs and wishes of speakers of Cornish and those wishing to learn the language. The Cornish Language Strategy that has been developed as a result includes a chapter explaining the Charter and the full text of Parts I and II in an appendix. The Strategy has been sent in bilingual form to all the principal public bodies in Cornwall, to the language organisations, and to individuals on request. It is also available in public libraries and on Cornwall County Council's website. Cornwall County Council issues press releases at each stage of the Strategy work, in each case emphasising the Charter as the stimulus for its development. Cornwall County Council wrote to public bodies in Cornwall with an interest in the language, to seek their involvement in the Strategy and support for the language in the light of the Charter.

The Government Office for the South West's website includes an explanation of the Charter and provides links to the Charter text and its Explanatory Report.

Irish and Ulster Scots

Guidance and codes of courtesy on 'Meting UK Government Commitments in respect of Irish and Ulster-Scots' were published in January 2004. These guidelines were issued to all Government Departments in Northern Ireland and also forwarded to Irish Language and Ulster-Scots organisations for their information. This Guidance was also subject to consultation including an equality impact assessment.

The Interdepartmental Charter Group hosted (in September 2004) a meeting of all interested organisations and persons to inform and discuss the implementation of the Charter. Attendance was encouraged in association with a range of language Organisations and Non Governmental Organisations (NGO's), and the conference was publicised in the Irish language press. Around a hundred individuals and organisations were represented, including government departments and agencies, Irish language groups and Ulster-Scots groups. Delegates had the opportunity to ask questions and enter discussions in Irish and Ulster-Scots.

Public Authorities in NI regularly respond to requests for information from the media, academics and community and voluntary organisations. In addition ministers and officials take appropriate opportunities to publicise at conferences, meetings, etc.

The NGO (Non-Governmental Organisation) POBAL, which receives core funding from Foras na Gaeilge, ran a campaign to alert Irish speakers to their rights under the Charter. Foras na Gaeilge continues to work to encourage the use of Irish in Public life.

Manx Gaelic

The Isle of Man Government's decision to request that the United Kingdom's ratification of the Charter be extended to the Island in respect of Part II protection for Manx Gaelic was reported on local radio

and in the local press. The Charter's Part II protection for the Manx language has also been discussed in Tynwald, the Island's Parliament.

Welsh

Ministers within the Welsh Assembly Government have issued press notices drawing attention to the Charter. The Minister for Culture, Jenny Randerson issued a press notice in March 2001 welcoming the ratification of the Charter. Opportunities are taken to highlight the Charter in speeches given by Ministers.

The Welsh Language Board, the Assembly Government's Sponsored Body, publicised the Charter on its website and wrote to a large number of organisations (including Public Bodies, Broadcasters, Unitary, Education and Health Authorities and Trusts) enclosing details about the Charter following its entry into force on 1 July 2001.

- 5. It is understood that full details of the measures taken to implement the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers will appear in the body of the report. Nevertheless, please summarise those measures for each recommendation.**

Scots Gaelic

1- "make primary and secondary education in Scottish Gaelic generally available in the areas where the language is used"

Delivery of Gaelic education on a local level is a matter for individual local authorities. However, under the terms of the Gaelic Language Education (Scotland) Regulations 1986 local authorities are able to bid for central funding to support the delivery of Gaelic education. All education authorities are also required under the terms of the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc. Act 2000 to set out the circumstances in which or the conditions in which they will make provision for Gaelic-medium education. This provision will shortly be supplemented by guidance from Ministers (**Annex K** - Draft Guidance on Gaelic Education (issued under the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc. Act 2000) which would require education authorities to set out the level of demand in their area which would trigger the delivery of Gaelic-medium education.

Finally, the Gaelic Language Act requires the development with the National Gaelic Language Plan a strategy for the development of Gaelic education and would enable Bòrd na Gàidhlig to request local authorities to develop a Gaelic language plan.

2- "with regard to Scottish Gaelic and Welsh, establish a system for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in regional or minority language education, including the production and publication of reports on findings"

The Gaelic Language Act makes provision for Bòrd na Gàidhlig to report on a yearly basis to Ministers on the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages in relation to Gaelic. The Bòrd is required to include that report in its Annual Report which must be laid before the Scottish Parliament.

3- "provide information and guidance to those responsible for implementing the undertakings chosen for Gaelic, in particular in the fields of education and administration"

The Gaelic Language Act will require Bòrd na Gàidhlig to produce, and submit to the Scottish Ministers for approval, a National Gaelic Language Plan. This National Plan will set out a blueprint for future Gaelic development on a national basis and will act as guide for public bodies in how they approach their duties in relation to the Gaelic language and the Gaelic undertakings of the European Charter. The Bòrd is also given the duty in the Act to provide advice and assistance to public bodies on matters relating to the Gaelic language, Gaelic culture and Gaelic education.

4- *“facilitate the establishment of a television channel or equivalent television service in Scottish Gaelic and overcome the shortcomings in Scottish Gaelic radio broadcasting”*

“facilitate the establishment of a television channel or equivalent television service in Scottish Gaelic.”

Since the Charter came into force on July 1 2001, the Government has brought forward a number of provisions in the Communications Act 2003.

The Act changes the status of the Gaelic broadcasting fund, now called the Gaelic Media Service (GMS). The Service is required to secure that a wide and diverse range of high quality programmes in Gaelic are broadcast or otherwise transmitted so as to be available to persons in Scotland. It can fund the making of programmes, training and research and is now for the first time able to hold its own broadcasting licence.

Funding for the GMS of £8.5 Million was devolved to the Scottish Executive as part of the devolution settlement in 1999. The Executive have announced an allocation of £8.7 million for 2005-06.

The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport is also committed to seeking a better deal for Gaelic broadcasting and has been working with all interested parties in order to put together a sustainable strategy for Gaelic television. As part of this deal she has also offered a one-off contribution of £250,000 from DCMS budgets as part of an arrangement for establishing a Gaelic channel.

As part of their public service television review, published in June 2005, Ofcom proposed that a Gaelic channel be established on the basis of public funding and contributions from commercial broadcasters, whose own Gaelic programming would necessarily reduce in coming years, and the BBC.

BBC / Television

The BBC has a crucial role to play in safeguarding Gaelic cultural heritage.

BBC Scotland aims to produce a rich and broad range of high-quality and distinctive television and radio programmes for all age groups, properly reflecting the diverse nature of Scotland and celebrating all aspects of Scottish culture and heritage.

It has been confirmed in the Green Paper on the BBC Charter Review of March 2005 that the BBC will have a key role to play in any future Gaelic television service.

“...overcome the shortcomings in Scottish Gaelic radio broadcasting”

The BBC runs and funds BBC *Radio nan Gaidheal* – a service which has a loyal following.

In line with the Committee of Ministers’ recommendations, the BBC has been improving access to *Radio nan Gaidheal*. The BBC has greatly increased FM coverage (there was a boost in 2002 and again in 2003) and added satellite and Freeview provision (which added Borders to the coverage area). *Radio nan Gaidheal* is also available on digital radio DAB and is available globally on the Internet as part of the BBC’s on-line Gaelic provision.

There are also a number of small commercial stations broadcasting in Gaelic in the Western Isles.

7- *“create conditions for the use of Scots and Ulster Scots in public life, through the adoption of a language policy and concrete measures, in co-operation with the speakers of the language”*

This recommendation will be addressed within the context of the Scottish Executive’s commitment to develop a National Languages Strategy. This will be developed in consultation with all relevant interests later this year. At present, there are a range of groups supporting and promoting Scots in public life in Scotland. These include the Scots Language Society, the Scots Language Resource

Centre, Scottish Language Dictionaries, Dictionary of the Scottish Tongue and the Association for Scottish Literary Studies. Some groups receive funding from the Scottish Arts Council, from the Heritage Lottery Fund and other sources. Scots funding also comes from local authorities and the enterprise network.

The Scottish Executive has also advocated the inclusion of Scots in the school curriculum where appropriate. There is continuing support on the part of The Scottish Executive, Learning and Teaching Scotland, and the Scottish Qualifications Authority which is designed to assist schools in making their pupils aware of the richness and diversity of language, including Scots, in introducing them to a range of Scottish literature, and in encouraging them to develop ability to understand and to communicate effectively in forms of Scots. Many schools offer their pupils a rich experience of Scottish literature.

Irish and Ulster Scots

Recommendation 5. Improve the public service television provision and facilitate the broadcasting of private radio in Irish;

The following steps to improve the situation of Irish language broadcasting have been made:

An Irish Language Broadcast Fund of £12m over four years was approved by the EU Commission on 8 June 2005. The Fund will co-finance a wide range of moving image products in Irish in Northern Ireland.

DCAL sponsored television training in late 2003 and the subsequent development of training through the Film and TV Production Fund;

Increases in Irish programming on BBC NI (see information at **ANNEX O**) and;

Improvements made in the reception of TG4

Together these mark current and planned improvement in the situation of Irish language broadcasting. The UK Government has taken the recommendation of the Committee of Ministers seriously and has acted on it.

As outlined in our response to the initial report an independent body (the Office of Communications, OFCOM) awards private radio licences. While the UK government sets the limits of this body's powers it cannot interfere in individual cases.

Recommendation 7. Create conditions for the use of Scots and Ulster Scots in public life, through the adoption of a language policy and concrete measures, in co-operation with the speakers of the languages.

The UK Government has taken the following steps:

- Issued Guidance on the Charter to Public Bodies;
- Issued suggested Code of Courtesy for Ulster-Scots Users;
- Encouraged Departments and Public Bodies to adopt language policies that include Ulster-Scots (many have now done so)
- Worked to develop an Ulster-Scots Academy.

These Codes of Courtesy and language policies have been drawn up in the context of consultations with Ulster-Scots groups. There has also been formal consultation with the language groups on this issue and once this has been taken into account revised Charter Guidance will be issued in 2005.

Together these actions mark a significant improvement in the situation of Ulster-Scots in public life. The UK Government has taken the recommendation of the Committee of Ministers seriously and has acted on it.

Manx Gaelic

Points 5, 6, and 7 of Part I of the Outline for Three Yearly Periodical Reports are not relevant to the Isle of Man at present.

Welsh

Recommendation 2

In line with Iaith Pawb, the Assembly Government is committed to reporting annually on progress. This will include monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in minority language education.

Recommendation 6

The All Wales Task Group for Welsh Language Services is preparing a new direction on how it can assist and encourage further development in bilingual provision

6. Indicate what steps your state has taken to inform the following of the recommendations:

- **All levels of government (national, federal, local and regional authorities or administrations);**
- **Judicial authorities;**
- **Legally established bodies and associations.**

Scots Gaelic

As noted above, the Scottish Executive undertook a written consultation exercise with local authorities, public bodies and NGOs across Scotland. This consultation exercise reminded those bodies of the requirements of the undertakings of the Charter which the Executive was committed to implementing and sought information on the Scots and Gaelic policies they had in place to inform the preparation of the Scottish Executive's periodic report.

More generally, as the Scottish Executive has developed the initiatives on Gaelic development, Gaelic education, Gaelic broadcasting and Scots which are detailed in the periodic report reference has been made to the recommendations of the Committee of Experts. The development of those policies has involved informing the above bodies, authorities and levels of government about the requirements of the Charter.

Irish and Ulster Scots

An Interdepartmental Charter Implementation Group with representatives from all Northern Ireland (NI) Departments, the Northern Ireland Office, NI Court Service, Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise was set up to monitor implementation of the Charter, provide advice on the preparation of annual Departmental and Executive implementation reports, advise on resource implications and develop guidance for Departments. This forum is the chief conduit for informing all levels of government of their Charter obligations. The Interdepartmental Charter Implementation Group meets regularly (three or four times a year) and has set up various subgroups to take forward particular issues.

We are not aware of any recommendations relating to judicial authorities. Nevertheless extensive consultation of judicial authorities in relation to the Charter has been taking place.

Welsh

Networking Groups established to champion the use of the Welsh language in NHS Trusts and Local Health Boards

Survey of Welsh Language Awareness amongst healthcare professionals in Wales

7. Please explain how your state has involved the above, in implementing the recommendations.

Scots Gaelic

Please see the information contained under section 5 above.

Irish and Ulster Scots

The Charter Group (see 6, above) has been involved in all stages of the production of advice and guidance for public authorities, and in compiling reports to the Council of Europe. Therefore all relevant public bodies are involved in implementing the recommendations contained in the last report.

PART II

1. Please indicate what measures your State has taken to apply Article 7 of the Charter to the regional or minority languages referred to in paragraphs 1 and 3 of part I above, specifying the different levels of government responsibility.

Measures that the Northern Ireland authorities have implemented in relation to Irish and Ulster-Scots.

The Interdepartmental Charter Implementation Group (ICIG) chaired by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL) and involving all Northern Ireland Departments, the Northern Ireland Office, HM Revenue and Customs and the Northern Ireland Courts Service has produced and issued 'Guidance on Meeting UK Government Commitments in Irish and Ulster-Scots' for public authorities in Northern Ireland. This guidance was pro-actively translated into Irish and Ulster-Scots. The ICIG regard the Guidance as a 'Living document' it will be regularly reviewed to ensure optimum implementation (**Annex P**).

Article 7: Objectives and principles

1. In respect of regional or minority languages, within the territories in which such languages are used and according to the situation of each language, the Parties shall base their policies, legislation and practice on the following objectives and principles:

a) The recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth;

Scots Gaelic

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 provides for recognition of the Gaelic language as an official language of Scotland commanding equal respect to the English language. The Act will provide for the development of a National Gaelic Language Plan, a national Gaelic education strategy and the development of Gaelic language plans by individual public authorities. Gaelic features at all levels of education in Scotland.

The Scottish Executive considers Scots to be an important part of Scotland's distinctive linguistic and cultural heritage. There are a range of groups supporting and promoting Scots in Scotland, some of which receive support from the Scottish Arts Council. The Executive has also advocated the inclusion of Scots in the school curriculum where appropriate.

The Scottish Arts Council (SAC) supports a number of Scots groups including:

- Association of Scottish Literary Studies – run annual conferences, offer training for teachers and produce support material on Scots language and literature. They provide a range of study guides on major Scottish writers.
- Scottish Language Dictionaries – provides an accurate record of Scots from earliest times to the 21st century in both printed and electronic format. SLD have also launched the ‘Scul Wab’ – a Scots web site with games, puzzles, exercises, stories and teachers notes, to encourage the wider use of Scots.
- Scots Language Resource Centre – is involved in the promotion of the Scots language.

SAC also provided funding for the Itchy Coo project which was established in 2002 to develop a series of original publications in Scots aimed at children and young people.

- The project has sold 60,000 copies of 16 books written in Scots
- Itchy Coo has implemented a nationwide programme of in-service training for teachers.
- Itchy Coo also has an interactive website.

Irish and Ulster Scots

The Belfast Agreement commits all participants to “recognise the importance of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to linguistic diversity including in Northern Ireland the Irish language, Ulster-Scots and the languages of the various ethnic communities, all of which are part of the cultural wealth of the island of Ireland”.

Cornish

The Minister for Local Government and the Regions, in announcing the UK Government’s recognition of Cornish under Part II of the Charter, specifically referred to the symbolic importance of the language for Cornish identity and heritage. On 14 June 2005, the Minister for Local Government, in announcing in a national press release funding support for the language, said “Languages are part of our history, our culture, and our identity. It is right that we should nurture the Cornish Language.”

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport supports the general principle of language as an expression of cultural wealth, particularly where this supports regional distinctiveness and sense of place, and this policy is delivered regionally through its agencies.

The National Curriculum in England sets out a statutory entitlement to learning for all pupils whilst allowing schools to meet the individual learning needs of pupils and to develop a distinctive character and ethos rooted in their local communities. The Programmes of Study for History allows scope for pupils to develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the cultural, economic, and historical characteristics of their local area/community. Key Stages 1-3 each include a local history study which range from looking at “the way of life of people in the more distant past who lived in the local area” to looking at local history “from a variety of perspectives including political, religious, social, cultural, aesthetic, economic, technological and scientific”, as well as examining “significant events, people and changes from the recent and more distant past”.

Cornwall County Council, the six District Councils and 38 Town and Parish Councils in Cornwall have adopted a policy statement of support for the language as a vital part of Cornwall’s distinctiveness and special heritage.

Cornwall County Council, as the Local Education Authority, set up a ‘Sense of Place’ project in 2003 to help Cornish school children grow up with a strong sense of their own culture and heritage. The project provides specially written resources for teachers to deliver the national curriculum with a Cornish perspective, including a unit providing an introduction to the Cornish language, and is being used by 70 primary schools. A further phase of ‘Sense of Place’ will also be aimed at secondary schools. Key Stage 3 modules are being piloted with a few schools at present, with the aim of making them more widely available in the future. The work of the Sense of Place project was promoted when

100 pupils performed songs in Cornish on St Piran's Day, the patron saint of Cornwall, in March 2003. This has become an annual event.

Cornwall County Council has supported a number of cultural festivals and organisations which centre on Cornwall's distinct culture and language, among them the Lowender Peran festival and its associated resource base, An Daras, the publication of Cornish music and dance through the Cornish Dance Society and various music groups, the Dehwelans festival and the performances of the Cornish miracle plays, the Ordinalia (also supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund).

District Councils have also supported such events that tend to put language in a cultural context. In addition the Gorseth has been hosted and assisted by a range of towns and parishes.

Through its annual £5,000 language fund, Cornwall County Council has also supported wider initiatives such as the production of films in Cornish

Manx Gaelic

The Isle of Man Government Plan 2005 – 2008 sets out Positive National Identity as one of the Government's six core aims. Within this overall aim is an objective entitled "Culture & Heritage", which is described as:

"To protect, present and promote the unique cultural heritage of the Island."

As specific actions the Government will:

- Support Manx Studies and the publication of the New History of the Isle of Man;
- Extend the provision of Manx language teaching in schools;
- Support the work of the Gaelic Broadcasting Committee.

A specific target is to increase the number of persons involved in the language from the level found in the 2001 Census during the period of the Plan.

See also the information set out in Part I of this Report.

Welsh

Welsh occupies a central position in the National Curriculum for Wales. All pupils of statutory school age (5-16) in maintained schools are, apart from very limited statutory exemptions, required to study Welsh either as a first or second language. In addition, it is a common requirement of the National Curriculum for Wales that pupils should be given opportunities, where appropriate, in their study of a subject to develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the cultural, economic, environmental, historical and linguistic characteristics of Wales. This is known as the Cwricwlwm Cymreig.

Welsh is widely used as a medium of instruction in schools. In 2003-04 some 32% of primary schools either has Welsh as the sole or main medium of instruction or use Welsh as a medium of teaching for part of the curriculum. In the secondary sector, about 23% of schools meet the statutory definition of a Welsh speaking school which is one where more than half of the foundation subjects of the National Curriculum, other than English, Welsh and Religious Education, are taught wholly or partly in Welsh.

Welsh also features at Further and Higher levels of Education. Learning the language is a significant adult learning activity. Provision of Higher Education through the medium of Welsh varies between institutions within Wales. Overall 3% of students undertook at least part of their degree through the medium of Welsh in 1999-2000. The Welsh Assembly Government is committed to making bilingualism a reality and has a target of 7% of students undertaking at least part of their degree studies through the medium of Welsh. Recent actions to support this have been the establishment of Welsh medium Post Graduate Research and Teaching Fellowships.

General measures in the UK

The promotion of the understanding of the cultural diversity in the UK and the need for mutual understanding and respect is part of citizenship education for young people in schools. Pupils are challenged to explore their identities, develop their understanding of multiple identities and diversity and identify the groups and communities to which they belong.

b) The respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question.

Scots Gaelic

In the Policy Document *Partnership Agreement for a Better Scotland*, the Scottish Executive agreed to develop a new focus on Scotland's Languages, recognising both our Heritage and Diversity, to guide and develop Scotland's languages and give Local Authorities a responsibility to draw up a Language Plan that reflects the communities they serve. Work has commenced on this Language Initiative.

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act will provide for the development of Gaelic language plans according to local needs. The Scottish Executive provides specific grants to education authorities to support the provision.

Irish and Ulster Scots

The UK Government and the Northern Ireland administration are committed through the Belfast Agreement to "recognise the importance of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to linguistic diversity including in Northern Ireland the Irish language and Ulster-Scots".

The Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland took this into account in their recent review of parliamentary constituency boundaries.

The Review of Public Administration is continuing and no major issues have been unearthed to date in regard of the Charter.

Cornish

Cornwall is administered by two tier local government, with a Cornwall County Council and six District Councils. The Isles of Scilly are administered separately by a form of unitary authority.

Changes to the structure or boundaries of local government can only happen if the Secretary of State for the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister requests the advice of and following receipt of a recommendation from the independent Electoral Commission. When looking at boundaries the statute (the Local Government Act of 1992) requires, in carrying out this function, that "the Electoral Commission ... shall have regard to –

(a) the need to reflect the identities and interests of local communities,

(b) the need to secure effective and convenient local government,

(c) Community identities - which are exemplified by many factors including language - are therefore taken into consideration when considering boundary change.]

Manx Gaelic

Not applicable.

Welsh

Within Wales, local government is divided into 22 principal councils as provided for in The Local Government (Wales) Act 1994. The Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales has a responsibility to keep the boundaries of the authorities under review and may recommend changes to boundaries, including the merger of two or more authorities into one, if it feels that this is in the interests of "effective and convenient local government".

In operational terms, one of the issues they take into account is the "sense of community". In parts of Wales, that "sense of community" is one which may be connected to the main first language of that community. In that case, the Commission might well take this into account in any proposal to divide or move a community in administrative terms. It would, of course, be weighed against other pertinent factors.

c) The need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them

Scots Gaelic

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 provides for recognition of the Gaelic language as an official language of Scotland commanding equal respect to the English language. The Act will provide for the development of a National Gaelic Language Plan, a national Gaelic education strategy and the development of Gaelic language plans by individual public authorities. Bòrd na Gàidhlig will undertake a programme of language promotion with a view to raising the profile of the language and ultimately increasing the number of speakers. Bòrd na Gàidhlig funds a significant number of bodies to promote the Gaelic language across Scotland. In addition to the funding made available for the development of GME the Executive also provides support to the Gaelic Media Service for the development of Gaelic broadcasting.

As set out in 7.1.b above, in the Policy Document *Partnership Agreement for a Better Scotland*, the Scottish Executive agreed to develop a new focus on Scotland's Languages, recognising both our Heritage and Diversity, to guide and develop Scotland's languages and give Local Authorities a responsibility to draw up a Language Plan that reflects the communities they serve. Work has commenced on this Language Initiative.

Irish and Ulster Scots

The establishment of the North/South Language Body '**(The North/South Cooperation (Implementation Bodies) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999)**' with 2 separate agencies (Tha Boord o Ulster Scotch –Ulster-Scots Agency and Foras na Gaeilge the Irish Language Agency) to promote Irish and Ulster-Scots is an example of resolute legislative action to promote and safeguard these languages.

The remit of the Ulster-Scots Agency is 'promotion of greater awareness and use of Ullans and of Ulster Scots cultural issues, both within Northern Ireland and throughout the island.'

Foras na Gaeilge is responsible for the promotion of the Irish Language. They opened a Belfast Office on 17 February 2003.

Foras na Gaeilge and the Ulster-Scots Agency have a good working relationship.

The Linguistic Operations Branch (LOB) is one of the two branches in the Linguistic Diversity Unit in the Department of Culture Arts and Leisure (DCAL). LOB commissioned and published (2004) a research report entitled "Establishing the Demand for and Activities in the Ulster-Scots Language". LOB intends to commission a summary and critique of the current literature and research available on the Irish language and Ulster-Scots language.

The ICIG established a subgroup (in May 2004) to look at training issues arising

from the implementation of the Charter across government departments. The training subgroup intends to commission a survey of staff training needs with regard to Irish and Ulster-Scots, across all the government departments which operate in Northern Ireland.

The ICIG has also set up a subgroup to consider the use of the Irish language in Courts and Tribunals in the context of the ongoing Criminal Justice Review. This Article 9(1) subgroup has considered the issue and reported to the relevant Minister in the DCA (Department of Constitutional Affairs). A smaller group is now considering the practical issues the report identified.

Department of Environment (DOE) (Driver Vehicle Licensing Northern Ireland)/Department for Regional Development (DRD) staff completed an Irish language awareness course piloted by the Irish Language organisation POBAL.

The Public Record Office for Northern Ireland (PRONI) surveys its Irish language holdings and, in 2004, mounted an exhibition based on the most important individual manuscript. It is seeking the deposit of, and public access to, a significant Ulster-Scots literary archive.

The Linenhall Library has continued to organise classes in Ulster Scots language and literature. An adult language class has commenced under the auspices of North Down and Ards Institute as an accredited course of the Open College Network.

Foras na Gaeilge: Discussions are ongoing with MAGNI in relation to the provision of services for the Irish speaking community and, in particular, the Irish-medium education sector.

The joint declaration by the British and Irish Government on the 1 April 2003 states that the British Government **'will also take steps to encourage support to be made available for an Ulster-Scots academy.'**

The Department of Culture Arts and Leisure (DCAL) is providing £12m over 5 years for an Ulster-Scots Academy. An implementation group has been established and it is expected that the Academy will be fully functioning by the end of 2006.

An Irish Language Broadcast Fund of £12m over four years was approved by the EU Commission on 8 June 2005. The Fund will co-finance a wide range of moving image products in Irish in Northern Ireland.

Cornish

The particular focus of action, by all levels of Government, since November 2002, has been supporting the development of a Cornish Language Strategy for the protection, promotion and development of the language. This Strategy development work has been funded jointly by Cornwall County Council and the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (through the Government Office for the South West).

The Strategy was commissioned by an Advisory Group of Cornish language organisations, convened by Cornwall County Council in March 2003 as a forum for discussing the key first step of application of Part II of the Charter, that is consulting on the needs and wishes of Cornish language speakers and those wishing to learn the language. A Strategy Steering Group was established to lead the process, with five representatives chosen by the Cornish language organisations for their skills, knowledge and time commitment. The remaining three members of the Steering Group were two officers from Cornwall County Council and one official from the Government Office for the South West. Inclusive consultation in order to inform the development of a Strategy began in autumn 2003. A series of open public meetings was held, one in each District and hosted by the District Council, together with four Focus Group meetings with public and private sector organisations based around education, public life, media and commerce. The purpose of these consultations was to establish a clear understanding of the problems and issues facing the language, how these might be addressed, what were the aspirations for the development of the language, and how could organisations contribute. Around 300 organisations and individuals participated in these meetings or sent in written contributions, including between 12-40 people at each open public meeting.

The Strategy Steering Group considered all these contributions and prepared a draft Strategy, which was considered by the Advisory Group in March 2004. The draft Strategy was then subject to public

consultation over the summer 2004 and a small number of amendments were made to reflect comments received, although the overwhelming response was supportive. A number of useful submissions relating to the later implementation stage were also received and retained for future consideration. The Advisory Group endorsed the final Strategy document at its meeting on 14 October 2004. Cornwall County Council issued press releases at each stage of the process: in March 2003 to announce the agreement to develop a Strategy; in September 2003 to announce the consultation and open meetings; in May 2004 to announce consultation on the draft Strategy; and in November 2004 to announce its endorsement by the Advisory Group. On each occasion the press releases emphasised the protection and promotion under the Charter as the stimulus for the Strategy work.

Cornwall County Council adopted the Strategy on 6 April 2005, Kerrier District Council adopted it on 19 May 2005 and the other five District Councils are all going through the process towards adoption. The Strategy has been adopted by the Cornish language Non Governmental Organisations including the Gorseth, Cornish Language Board Agan Tavas, Cussell an Tavas and Kowethas an Yeth.

The Minister for Local Government has, on 14 June 2005, endorsed the Strategy as providing the framework for implementing Part II of the Charter and agreed for the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister to provide up to £80,000 a year for three years towards a new Strategy Manager appointment and a supporting package for administration, consultancy and projects in order to take forward the detailed implementation plans.

All levels of Government will be involved in developing and supporting actions included in the Strategy.

Manx Gaelic

See information under section a) above.

In addition, as stated in Part I of the Report, the Broadcasting Act 1993 and the Education Act 2001 contain specific legislative requirements in the areas of sound broadcasting services and the school curriculum respectively.

Welsh

In 2002, following a policy review of the Welsh language by the National Assembly's Culture and Education Committees, *laith Pawb* a National Action Plan for a Bilingual Wales was launched. The aim of *laith Pawb* is to build on the foundations already laid and work to support and promote the Welsh language. An additional £28m will be provided to support the Welsh language between 2003-06. As well as substantial additional funding to the Welsh Language Board this includes measures within the formal education structure, additional funding to the Welsh Books Council and funding to establish a National Welsh Language Theatre Company. The Assembly Government is committed to report annually on progress in relation to *laith Pawb*. The first annual report for 2003-04 has been published and at the time of writing the report for 2004-05 will be available shortly.

The Welsh Language Board will be merged with the Assembly Government by April 2007 as part of the Assembly Government's reform of public bodies. However the merger will not result in any way in the diminution of the application of the Welsh Language Act. An office of Dyfarnydd will be set up, the functions of which have yet to be defined in detail, but the office will have specific functions in relation to Welsh Language Schemes.

The Welsh Assembly Government has a rolling programme of legislation under Section 6(1)(0) of the Welsh Language Act so as to ensure that coverage of the public sector is as comprehensive as possible. When new bodies are established which exercise functions of a public nature, the Welsh Assembly Government seeks to include them in subordinate legislation as quickly as possible. Five Orders have been made so far under section 6(1)(o) and other will be made in future. The fifth Order made in January 2004 saw the water companies in Wales being included within the scope of the Welsh Language Act. This was the first instance of utility companies being included within the ambit of the Act and the Assembly Government is working to identify whether it would be possible to bring other sectors of the utilities under the Act.

The Welsh Language Board undertakes a programme of language promotion designed to raise the profile of the language across all sectors. The Welsh Language Board grant aids numerous organisations whose remit includes the promotion of the language. In 2005-06 it will provide over £6.6m in grants to bodies and organisations that promote the Welsh language. Some of the main grant recipients include Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin, a Welsh language nursery education movement which runs almost 1000 community based pre school and mother and toddler groups, the Urdd which organises cultural/leisure activities for young people, and the National Eisteddfod of Wales..

d) The facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life

Scots Gaelic

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 provides for recognition of the Gaelic language as an official language of Scotland commanding equal respect to the English language. The Act will provide for the development of a National Gaelic Language Plan, a national Gaelic education strategy and the development of Gaelic language plans by individual public authorities.

The Scottish Arts Council (SAC) provides funding for the Arts through the medium of Scots.

The Scottish Arts Council's Literature Department's support to Writers, Publishers and Readership embraces all of the languages of Scotland, both historical and contemporary. The SAC portfolio of ten national core-funded organisations includes Scottish Language Dictionaries, the country's principal lexicographical body; and the Scots Language Resource Centre, which provides information and resources concerning all aspects of the language. New writing in Scots is published and promoted through the magazines *Lallans*. *Itchy Coo* is a highly successful and award-winning new imprint for a range of new publications in Scots aimed at children and young people.

The Scots Language Resource Centre is funded by the Scottish Arts Council and Perth and Kinross Council to increase awareness of the Scots language, to collect and disseminate information about Scots and to encourage people to use the language. The Centre seeks to develop a national collection of material in Scots: to inform decision makers about Scots and to encourage the development of positive measures designed to support Scots: to encourage local authorities in Scots speaking districts to build up collections of Scots language material and to make these available to the public through libraries and similar institutions: to raise awareness amongst teachers and educationalists of Scots language teaching materials and to encourage the use of these in schools throughout the country: to build up a network of interested individuals and institutions with the intention of encouraging dialogue between them on the development of services for Scots and to inform the media of relevant issues related to Scots with the intention of raising awareness of the language.

Gaelic broadcasting

BBC Scotland aims to produce a rich and broad range of high-quality and distinctive television and radio programmes for all age groups, properly reflecting the diverse nature of Scotland and celebrating all aspects of Scottish culture and heritage.

The BBC runs and funds BBC Radio nan Gaidheal – a service which has a loyal following as well as providing Gaelic on-line services on the bbc.co.uk website.

Ofcom published their paper, 'Looking to the future of Gaelic Broadcasting' in November 2004 which outlined proposals for a Gaelic digital channel.

As part of the BBC Charter Review, the Green Paper published in February 2005 stated that the BBC has a crucial role to play in safeguarding Gaelic cultural heritage. The Government is keen to see a better deal for Gaelic – perhaps including a dedicated channel, as Ofcom suggests. The BBC will have a key role to play in any future channel.

Legislation - In fulfilling its remit under the 1990 and 1996 Broadcasting Acts and the 2003 Communications Act, the Gaelic Media Service has an obligation to grant-aid the production and development of Gaelic programmes and projects on television, radio and new media. Funding has been devolved to the Scottish Executive who have announced an allocation of £8.1 million for 2005-06.

The Communications Act 2003 states that the Service may finance or engage in any of the following:

- The making of programmes in Gaelic with a view to those programmes being broadcast or otherwise transmitted so as to be available to persons in Scotland.
- The provision of training for persons employed, or to be employed, in connection with the making of programmes in Gaelic to be so broadcast or otherwise transmitted;
- Research into the types of programmes in Gaelic that members of the Gaelic speaking community would like to be broadcast or otherwise transmitted.

Irish and Ulster Scots

A number of Government Departments in Northern Ireland have translated key documents into Irish and Ulster-Scots. Some Government Departments have advertised in newspapers in Irish and Ulster-Scots.

The language section of the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure website is tri-lingual, Irish, Ulster-Scots and English.

BBC Northern Ireland offers regular programmes in Irish on Radio Ulster and occasional programmes on Northern Ireland BBC TV.

Ofcom's Review of public service television broadcasting stated that TG4, the Irish language service in the Republic of Ireland, should be rolled out and extended into Northern Ireland as proposed in the Belfast/Good Friday agreement. Broadcasting would begin in 2005, which should increase coverage to 65-70% of the population of Northern Ireland.

In addition, the new Irish Language Television and Film Production Fund will provide £12 million of funding over the next 5 years.

BBC Northern Ireland has produced and broadcast a regular radio series and occasional TV programmes on Ulster-Scots.

In relation to Ulster Scots, the Ofcom review of public service television found that a sense of Ulster Scots identity is as likely to be based on an association with music, heritage and other cultural factors as it is with language. Ofcom concluded that there was a need within Northern Ireland to have this sense of identity appropriately reflected and portrayed on public service channels.

Ofcom found that both BBC Northern Ireland and Ulster TV had demonstrated an on-going commitment to doing that.

Government Departments are willing to accept correspondence in Irish or Ulster-Scots and a voicemail system exists for callers who wish to make their enquiry in Irish or Ulster-Scots. Following consultation with language groups as part of the Equality Impact Assessment on the 'Guidance on Meeting UK Government Commitments in Respect of Irish and Ulster-Scots' it emerged that Irish language users specially were not happy with the current voicemail facility. The Interdepartmental Charter Implementation Group (ICIG) has instigated an independent and wide ranging review of the Irish voicemail system to identify and evaluate options for its improvement and operational performance.

The Northern Ireland Museums Council's website includes a "Welcome" heading in both Irish and Ulster-Scots.

The Ulster Folk and Transport Museum translated into Irish and Ulster-Scots two linked worksheets for schoolchildren on the theme 'Life in Victorian

Times'. A series of fifty cards giving basic information on buildings in the Open Air Museum, produced as part of the Living Museum project, were also translated into Irish and Ulster-Scots.

The Ulster-Scots Agency publishes the '*Ulster-Scot*' newspaper. The first issue of the '*Ulster-Scot*' was published in November 2002. The Agency published one edition of the '*Ulster-Scot*' in 2002, 8 editions in 2003, 8 editions in 2004 and intends to publish 9 editions in 2005. The '*Ulster Scot*' is inserted free of charge into the Saturday edition of a regional Northern Ireland newspaper the '*Newsletter*' and is also available on the Ulster-Scots Agency website. In addition the '*Newsletter*' features a weekly Ulster-Scots language column '*The Crack*', which is supplied by the Ulster-Scots Agency. The '*Irish News*' (a daily newspaper) contains a daily Irish language supplement '*An tEolas*'. Foras na Gaeilge funds Lá (daily newspaper), Foinse (Sunday paper) and several periodicals.

The Minister of the Department of Culture Arts and Leisure launched the Ulster-Scots Agency's website www.ulsterscotsagency.com on the 10 March 2003. Foras an Gaeilge launched their bilingual website (Irish/English) www.gaeilge.ie on the 9 September 2004.

The Northern Ireland Museums Council's Business Plan 2005/ 6 includes a target to provide guidelines on the use of minority languages, including Irish and Ulster-Scots, to Northern Ireland's museums by end of March 2006. Relevant guidance will also be featured in its Cultural Diversity Guidelines to be issued during 2005.

Cornish

Many place names in Cornwall are already in Cornish and entry signs erected by the Government's Highways Agency (on trunk roads) and by Cornwall County Council (on local roads) on roads into Cornwall already include both English and Cornish (Kernow). Many Town Councils have erected a Cornish welcome in their name boards and some now have place name signs in their historic form at their main entrance routes. Carrick District Council has a policy on designating Cornish language names for new streets and public buildings. Penwith District Council and Penzance Town Council have erected a series of new street signs with the old Cornish names, as an extension to the Penzance Town Trail. Kerrier District Council is investigating and considering bilingual street signage policy. District Councils generally accept Cornish names for new developments.

Cornwall County Council's letterhead, website and reception area includes the use of Cornish. Kerrier District Council decided in April 2005 to work towards the use of Cornish alongside English on its signs, letterheads, promotional material and website.

Cornwall County Council and all the District Councils, along with the European Objective 1 programme, funded the Delhwelans Festival of Cornwall in 2004, an international celebration of Cornish history and heritage, including the language. Other cultural events supported by Cornwall County Council include the Lowender Peran festival and An Daras, the Golowan festival, Cornwall Film Festival which has an annual competition for a production in Cornish, the Celtic Film Festival when in Cornwall in 1997, 2001 and again in 2006. The Gorseth is regularly supported in terms of facilitation by Town and Parish Councils.

In addition, Cornwall County Council's £5,000 grants fund has assisted development of a website for the Cornish Sub-Committee of the UK Committee of the European Bureau of Lesser Used Languages and assistance in running teaching days across all language groups. Cornwall County Council officers advise and assist those wanting information and help in introducing some Cornish into schools and businesses.

The Arts Council England, South West is the region's funding and development agency for the arts and can provide grants for a range of arts and cultural activities in Cornwall, including through the medium of Cornish.

The Heritage Lottery Fund provides grants to a wide range of heritage and heritage activities, and these can now include heritage languages, including Cornish. HLF is providing £154,500 to the Institute of Cornish Studies/University of Exeter for the Cornish Braids: Exploring Cultural Identity through Oral History project, to create an accessible archive preserving Cornwall's 20th century oral history, using the testaments of different generations and communities to record Cornwall's spoken heritage.

Recordings will be kept in the Cornwall Record Office and also made freely available through the Cornwall Centre/Kressen Kernow. A grant of £22,000 was awarded to Lowender Peran to carry out a project, An Daras, to encourage involvement in the folk art heritage of Cornwall, focusing on the areas of dialect/verbal art, costume, traditional music, dance and customs. Project outputs included a website, CD/Video/DVD and a Cornish Dialect songbook.

A promotional visitor leaflet for Bodmin Moor published by Caradon District Council and North Cornwall District Council in 2003 includes the use of Cornish.

BBC Radio Cornwall offers, on Sundays, a 5-minute programme in Cornish of news of interest to Cornish speakers.

Implementing Vision 3 of the Strategy for Cornish ("Where the Cornish language is recognised in public life as a valued and visible part of Cornwall's distinct culture and heritage") will include actions to encourage the wider use of the language in public life, including through signage and promotional materials of public bodies, cultural initiatives, promotion of language products and identifying opportunities for widening and increasing the use of the language in the media. All levels of Government will be involved in developing and supporting these actions.

Manx Gaelic

Manx Radio, which is partly Government funded, provides some Manx Gaelic programming with assistance from the Gaelic Broadcasting Commission. The latest Annual Report of the Gaelic Broadcasting Commission, for the year ended 31st March 2004, was laid before Tynwald (the Island's parliament) in May 2005. This Report sets out the present position in respect of Gaelic programming and a copy is attached at **ANNEX Q**.

The Manx press offers an occasional bi-lingual news column in one of its newspapers and a weekly column in another.

In January 2004 Manx National Heritage produced 'Skeelalyn Vannin – Stories of Mann' – a set of 6 digitally re-mastered CDs and accompanying book of biographical sketches, transcriptions and translations of the Manx Gaelic recordings of the last native Manx speakers made by the Irish Folklore Commission in 1948.

Manx National Heritage is presently engaged in a Manx Gaelic recording project in which present day fluent Manx speakers are recorded, with age ranges of 20+ - 80+ years, both Manx by birth and Manx by residency.

Welsh

The Government is committed to a sustainable future for Welsh language broadcasting. The Welsh Fourth Channel Authority, S4C, receives a statutory government grant - £88.69 million in 2005 - updated each year in line with inflation, for the provision of Welsh language television services. In addition, S4C has a statutory entitlement to receive a minimum of ten hours a week of Welsh language programmes from the BBC, free of charge; the value of these programmes in 2003-04 was approximately £20 million. During 2004 S4C broadcast an average of 39 hours a week of Welsh language programmes on its analogue service and 84 hours a week on the digital channel S4C Digidol.

A full Welsh language radio service is provided by the BBC.

Both S4C and the BBC provide online services in Welsh, which complement their programme services.

The Green Paper on the review of the BBC's Royal Charter, published on 2 March 2005, made clear the Government's view that the BBC should continue to provide more dedicated programming in and for each of the devolved nations of the United Kingdom. It noted that this should include provision in indigenous minority languages across a range of platforms and that the internet has particular value in supporting these languages.

In the Green Paper, the Government also undertook to review the formula for the provision of Welsh language programmes by the BBC to S4C, accepting the conclusion of the Laughton report on S4C, that 'a revised settlement...for the digital age is a target worth achieving and a priority for all who care about the ecology of public service broadcasting in Wales'.

Schemes such as the Language Sensitivity Training Scheme (Law yn Llaw) commissioned by the Welsh Language Board and the TWF Project (a programme to encourage new parents to transmit Welsh to their children) also commissioned by the Welsh Language Board target private use of Welsh. The Mentrau Iaith (community Language initiatives) mentioned above also do work in this area.

Menter & Busnes (agency to promote entrepreneurship amongst Welsh speakers) addresses economic life. The Welsh Language Board and the Welsh Development Agency are also in dialogue regarding holistic language planning strategies in the field of economic development.

The Arts Council for Wales provides funding for the Arts through the medium of Welsh as well as English. Funding from the Welsh Assembly Government also supports the Welsh Books Council in the publication of books in the Welsh language.

General measures in the UK

The BBC Agreement states that services provided by the BBC should: contain programmes which reflect the lives and concerns of both local and national audiences and; contain a reasonable proportion and range of programmes for national audiences made in Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and in the English regions outside London and the South East.

The BBC runs 40 local radio stations in England and the Channel Isles and 6 radio stations for the Nations – Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The Communications Act 2003 requires Ofcom to include in the licences of regional Channel 3 services conditions for securing that a sufficient amount of time is given to the provision of a suitable range of high quality regional programmes, including news, a sufficient proportion of which must be shown at or around peak time. Furthermore, Ofcom must set conditions for securing a suitable proportion of regional programmes which must be made in each region and, where appropriate, for sub-regional or local programmes.

e) The maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages

Scots Gaelic

Gaelic and Scots interests are represented on the UK Committee of the European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages.

Irish and Ulster Scots

Iomairt Cholm Cille (ICC) (Columba Initiative) was established in 1997 to foster support for the Gaelic Languages and to develop links between Gaelic Scotland and Ireland North and South. The initiative embraces and celebrates the similarities between the two languages (Irish and Scots Gaidhlig) and cultures and provides a channel for interaction cultural exchange and relationship building.

The main purpose of ICC has been to develop new relationships between communities and speakers of Irish and Scottish Gaelic, and to facilitate sustainable co-operation between these communities and networks of speakers of Irish and Scottish Gaelic in the arts, education, sport, and social and cultural matters.

ICC has heightened awareness of the contribution of Gaelic to the cultural identity in the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland.

In fostering a true understanding of the diverse experience and culture of the Irish and Scottish Gaelic communities. It has also succeeded in its main objective of strengthening the Gaelic links between its three target areas (Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, and Scotland) and promoting a positive image of the Gaelic language and culture both within and outside of these communities.

The Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch (Ulster-Scots Agency) has developed links with Scotland. The two organisations which the Agency has established and developed links with are the Scots Language Resource Centre and the Scottish National Dictionary Project.

Cornish

Cornish is represented on the UK Committee of the European Bureau of Lesser Used languages.

Manx Gaelic

Not applicable within the Island, but Manx Gaelic groups in the Isle of Man do have links with other Gaelic/minority language groups within the British Isles and further afield (e.g. the Breton language of Brittany region of France).

Welsh

The Welsh Language Board, out of its grant in aid, gives support to the London Welsh Medium Junior School. The Welsh Language Board regularly replies to requests for information regarding the Welsh language from Welsh speakers living in England and maintains a list of Welsh tutors outside Wales.

Wales is represented on the UK committee of the European Bureau of Lesser Used languages. The Welsh Language Board was also innovative in setting up the European Network of Language Boards in 2001, with the aim of debating issues of common interest to minority languages across Europe.

Wales is leading the work of the British Irish Council's sectoral group on indigenous, minority and lesser-used languages, with the Welsh Language Board responsible for providing secretariat support for the group. The group is focussing on 3 specific areas, including language transmission within the family with Wales taking the lead in this area, building on the work already undertaken by the Board as part of the Twf initiative. Individuals with digital satellite receivers can watch S4C transmissions UK wide.

f) The provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages.

Scots Gaelic

Gaelic features at all levels of education and is supported by a scheme of specific grants available from central government. The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act introduces new provision to strengthen the delivery of Gaelic education by requiring the development of a national Gaelic education strategy and providing for Bòrd na Gàidhlig to issue guidance in relation to Gaelic education. Specific initiatives are in place to address the areas of teacher recruitment and the development of the secondary curriculum.

There is continuing support on the part of The Scottish Executive, Learning and Teaching Scotland, and the Scottish Qualifications Authority which is designed to assist schools in making their pupils aware of the richness and diversity of language, including Scots, in introducing them to a range of Scottish literature, and in encouraging them to develop ability to understand and to communicate effectively in forms of Scots. Many schools offer their pupils a rich experience of Scottish literature.

The Scottish Executive has issued guidance to assist in curriculum design. In June 1993, The Scottish Office Education Department issued National Guidelines on the education of 5-14 year olds. The Guidelines advocate the inclusion of Scots literature in the curriculum and Learning and Teaching Scotland produces teaching materials in support of this inclusive policy. This allows pupils to be confident and creative in language and to develop notions of language diversity, within which they can

appreciate the range of accents, dialects and forms of expression they encounter. This helps children value the Scots they may use at home or with their peers.

Learning and Teaching Scotland (LTS) produces a range of support materials relating to the Scots language.

- In 2003, LTS issued a Curriculum Support pack for Scots Language and Literature Int. 1 and 2 and Higher.
- LTS also provide teaching resources for specific texts and more general advice on teaching Scots language.
- There is also more general advice on teaching Scots language in the publication, *Teaching Scots Language: Staff Resources and Approaches*. Although this is primarily intended to assist centres in teaching the Advanced Higher unit on Scots language, the advice and guidance offered is very relevant to other courses.

LTS also has a package of Scots resources entitled *The Kist* which was produced in collaboration with education authorities in Scotland. This package of resources is an anthology of Scots and Gaelic texts and a pack of related materials for teachers and pupils which will allow teachers to address Scottish linguistic and literary concerns within the context of 5-14 language work.

Specific local examples are:

East Lothian Council promote Scots in schools by means of use of Scots literature and the study of Scottish history in primary and secondary

Scottish Borders Primary schools and Secondary schools English Departments take the teaching of Scots forward through the 5-14 Curriculum, the Standard Grade curriculum in Language and the Higher Still curriculum in Language.

Renfrewshire Council has encouraged work on Scots in school as part of the work of the Cultural Co-ordinators.

Angus Council has adopted a policy and guidelines on the Scots language and Scots culture.

Moray Council has adopted a Policy Statement and Guidelines on the Teaching of the Scots Language and Scottish Culture in their area.

In Glasgow City Council the study of Scots is encouraged in primary and secondary schools.

Irish and Ulster Scots

The Ulster-Scots Agency currently funds a Curriculum Development Unit at Stranmillis University College where primary and secondary schools materials as well as an adult language course are being developed. These projects are due to finish in August 2006 and will be tested/trialed after that.

Irish language education is available at all levels of the education ladder from pre-school through to university.

The Department of Education supports the implementation of Part II of the Charter through the provision of various elements of the current statutory NI curriculum. This will continue with the revised schools curriculum when it is introduced from 2006 onwards.

Education for Mutual Understanding (EMU) and Cultural Heritage are two of the six educational cross-curricular themes, which are a compulsory part of the NI curriculum. Education for Mutual Understanding is about "fostering self-respect, respect for others and the improvement of relationships between people of differing cultural traditions", and is set within the progressively widening context of Northern Ireland, the island of Ireland, the British Isles and the wider world. The objectives for Cultural Heritage are concerned with the common and diverse features of pupils' cultural background and the interdependence of cultures.

Mutual understanding, along with Citizenship, will continue to be among the key elements of the revised statutory curriculum, which will be introduced from September 2006 and includes the aim of developing young people as contributors to society. There will be a compulsory new element of Local and Global Citizenship, which will introduce young people to concepts such as Diversity (including cultural identity), Equality and Inclusion.

Funding is provided by the North/South Language Body for projects to develop educational materials to support teaching of Irish and Ulster-Scots. An Irish-Medium Unit has also been established by the Council for the Curriculum Examinations and assessment (CCEA), with a remit to translate examination and assessment materials and they have been trying to extend that role over the last few years.

Cornish

The National Curriculum in England sets out a statutory entitlement to learning for all pupils whilst allowing schools to meet the individual learning needs of pupils and to develop a distinctive character and ethos rooted in their local communities. Within the Programmes of Study for History there is scope for aspects of local cultural history and heritage to be taught. Plans for a Cultural and Creative Entitlement for all pupils will also strengthen the teaching of local cultural history, heritage and language through its aims of developing their understanding and appreciation of cultural heritage and diversity, and through the fostering of partnerships between schools and local cultural sectors.

The National Languages Strategy, 'Languages for All * Languages for Life: A Strategy for England', published by the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) in December 2002, introduced a primary school entitlement to language learning. The original criteria for the languages to be offered was reviewed by Ministers, allowing primary schools to offer language learning programmes in any language for which they have in house, or access to, expertise and which reflect the needs of the school community. Languages are not statutory at Key Stage 2.

The National Curriculum in England requires secondary schools to offer at Key Stage 3 one of the working languages of the European Union. After that requirement has been met other languages may be offered in accordance with individual school's wishes.

There is now a statutory entitlement to study languages at Key Stage 4. Schools must offer at least one course in an official language of the EU that leads to an approved qualification. Schools may, in addition, offer courses in any other language(s). There are no national qualifications for Cornish, but schools can offer Cornish as a second language.

A National Recognition Scheme - Languages Ladder - one of the 3 overarching objectives of the National Languages Strategy and recommended by the Languages Strategy and developed by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES) for the DfES, provides an assessment scheme that will enable people across all stages of education * primary, secondary, further, higher, and adult education, to get credit for their language skills at a number of stages depending on their ability, ranging from 'breakthrough' to 'mastery'. The current DfES contract with UCLES is for the assessment scheme ('Asset Scheme') to cover more than 20 languages in the initial development phase. Whilst Cornish is not included among these languages, one of the three models of assessment the scheme offers, the 'can do' statements for formative, self & peer assessment, can be used to gauge pupil achievement for any language.

The DfES commitment to the Charter was set out in a letter on 10 May 2004 to Headteachers of all secondary schools in Cornwall explaining the position on Cornish language teaching within the school curriculum. The letter explained that Language Colleges (LCs) may offer Cornish at Key Stage 4 as a subsidiary second language, with the usual qualifying funding arrangements applying as though they were offering 'standard' second taught languages in the LC curriculum, despite there being no GCSE syllabus available for Cornish. DfES has offered to advise any other secondary school wishing to introduce Cornish language teaching into their curriculum and ensured Headteachers are aware of the Strategy developed locally.

The independent academic study commissioned by the Government Office for the South West in 2000 showed there is some form of teaching in the language in twelve primary schools and four secondary

schools, generally as ex-curricular activity although in four of the primary schools it is taught as part of the integrated school curriculum. Since that report was completed the two specialist Language Colleges in Cornwall, Hayle Community College and Penrice School, are providing teaching of Cornish as part of their curriculum at year 7/8 where students experience a number of languages. Hayle, in addition, has undertaken a language learning project with local primary schools.

The Cornwall County Council 'Sense of Place' project includes a unit providing an introduction to the Cornish language being used by 70 primary schools and Key Stage 3 modules are being piloted by a few secondary schools, with the aim of making them more widely available in the future.

The Cornish Language Board offers graded examinations in the Cornish language and these are moderated by Cornwall County Council.

Implementing Vision 1 of the Strategy for Cornish ("Where there is opportunity for all who wish to learn Cornish, at all levels of education") will include actions to assess the level of demand for learning at different levels, audit existing resources and look at resource requirements, assess and disseminate good practice, investigate and assess the range of methods available for teaching the language including the potential of distance learning. Central Government and Cornwall County Council as the Local Education Authority will be involved in developing and supporting these actions.

Implementing Vision 2 of the Strategy for Cornish ("Where the learning of Cornish is valued in the same way as the learning of other languages") will include actions to facilitate understanding and skills exchange between professional and voluntary teachers, identify the needs of voluntary teachers and draw up a programme to address them, investigate the means of establishing recognised qualifications, and address questions of the image of learning and teaching Cornish. Central Government and Cornwall County Council as the Local Education Authority will be involved in developing and supporting these actions.

Manx Gaelic

As part of Government policy, the Manx language was introduced into schools by the Department of Education in September 1992, as an optional subject for pupils aged 7 and over. This scheme has proved to be very successful and is highly popular with the children.

The teaching is provided by a peripatetic team comprising the Manx Language Officer and 3 school teachers.

The aims of the scheme are:

- To provide Manx language teaching in schools for those pupils whose parents wish them to learn;
- To foster a sense of identity and develop self-confidence;
- To promote positive attitudes to Manx culture;
- To promote positive attitudes to language learning.

Its objectives are:

- To enable pupils studying Manx to experience a range of learning situations which will be designed to be both enjoyable and successful;
- To enable pupils to speak, read and (to a lesser extent) write some Manx in a range of practical situations;
- To enable pupils to follow a continuous and progressive programme which, ultimately, can lead to a General Certificate in Manx.

There are presently about 850 pupils having weekly Manx Gaelic lessons.

Children at the Bunscoill Ghaelgagh, the Manx medium school, have all their lessons in Manx. There are two full-time teachers at the school, four full-time peripatetic Manx teachers and the Department of Education's Manx Language Officer, who also teaches there on a part-time basis. It is hoped that the children at the Bunscoill Ghaelgagh will continue some of their lessons in Manx at secondary level.

The oldest children at the school are now in year four (age 8/9). The school presently caters for approximately thirty children.

The Department of Education, through its Manx Language teaching staff, also runs a half day per week Manx Gaelic class where the pupils are given instruction primarily in the medium of Manx Gaelic. This facility is open to all children attending primary schools in the Isle of Man who are keen on learning and speaking Manx to a higher degree of fluency.

The General Certificate in Manx - Teisht Chadjin Ghaelgagh (TCG) - is a GCSE equivalent course run by the Department of Education, which first became available in September 1997. This modular course is available to all pupils taking their GCSE's as well as adult learners.

Presently every child from the age of eight has the chance to learn Manx and they can carry it on to A-level if they wish. Last year saw one pupil pass the A-level equivalent Manx course.

The Education Act 2001 provides that the school curriculum shall include the teaching of Manx Gaelic and the culture and history of the Island. This Act was brought into force during 2004 and Manx aspects of the school curriculum are presently being developed and expanded.

For pre-school children, Mooinjer Veggey provides the opportunity to learn about the Manx language and culture through structured play, language games, songs, stories and craft activities. Mooinjer Veggey has over 60 children registered at its 4 groups situated across the Island.

Mooinjer Veggey was founded in 1996 and last year became a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. All Mooinjer Veggey groups are registered with the Department of Health and Social Security (DHSS) and are regularly inspected by that Department's officers.

Mooinjer Veggey groups offer children the opportunity to learn about the Manx language and culture through structured play, language games, songs, stories and craft activities. Mooinjer Veggey has over 60 children registered at its 4 groups situated across the Island.

Mooinjer Veggey receives substantial funding from Manx Heritage Foundation and the Department of Education.

The Isle of Man College continues to offer Manx Gaelic as a subject for evening classes to both young people and adult learners. There is one weekly official class held in Douglas. There are several voluntary society evening classes in other parts of the Island.

Manx National Heritage offers facilities for a 2 week Manx Gaelic Summer School, held by Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh for adult learners.

Welsh

As outlined in the answer to Article 7.1(a) above, the statutory programmes of study for Welsh make provision for the language to be studied either as a first language or as a second language according to pupils' linguistic backgrounds.

Welsh medium schools exist at both primary and secondary level and there is provision in both Further and Higher Education. 3% of students undertook part of their degrees through the medium of Welsh in 1999-2000.

General measures in England

Schools in England may decide to offer language learning programmes in regional languages which are spoken within their community, thereby raising pupils' awareness of that language and its relevance to their local community. It is entirely up to schools themselves to decide what programmes they should offer and which meet the specific needs of their pupils.

g) The provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn if they so desire

Scots Gaelic

Gaelic can be learned in schools in many areas of Scotland. There are also opportunities to learn about Scots language and literature in schools throughout Scotland. Adults may also learn Gaelic in a number of settings; university, local authority, and voluntary classes. Scots language groups also promote a range of events and activities throughout Scotland which provide opportunities to use, appreciate or learn about Scots.

Irish and Ulster Scots

The education system provides adult education classes in the Irish language in most parts of Northern Ireland. The Northern Ireland Administration provides, through the North South Language Body, support for organisations, which offer classes in Irish and Ulster-Scots.

The two universities in Northern Ireland have facilities for studying Irish at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Queens University in Belfast offers undergraduates studying for a degree in English the opportunity to study the Ulster-Scots language as part of a module in Irish/English.

The Linenhall Library in Belfast has run a number of Ulster-Scots language courses.

The Ulster-Scots Language Society has organised a number of Ulster-Scots language classes and the Ulster-Scots Academy Company has produced an Ulster-Scots dictionary and a grammar, as well as various publications in Ulster-Scots.

The Ulster Scots Agency currently funds a Curriculum Development Unit at Stranmillis University College where primary and secondary schools materials as well as an adult language course are being developed.

Cornish

There is general provision made for adult education classes with Government funding allocated by the Learning and Skills Council. A minimum number is needed for a Government funded class provided by a college or other adult education centre. Nearly all of the 36 formally organised adult education classes in Cornwall found by the academic study in the year 2000 with an estimated enrolment of 365 were privately-run and of mixed levels because they fell below the number required. The academic study found further informal and self-help learning groups totalling around 80 people.

Implementing Vision 1 of the Strategy for Cornish will include actions to develop more effective promotion for adult learning opportunities, address the issues of cost and standard of adult education classes whether formal or voluntary, and investigate and assess the range of methods available for teaching the language including the potential of distance learning. Central Government and Cornwall County Council as the Local Education Authority will be involved in developing and supporting these actions.

Manx Gaelic

As stated in section f) above, children of school age have the option of learning the Manx language and there are both Government run and voluntary organisation led evening classes for adult learners.

Welsh

The Welsh Assembly Government has been keen to develop lifelong learning structures and policies that reflect Wales' specific needs and priorities. These include having regard to Wales as a bilingual nation.

In April 2001, the National Council for Education and Training for Wales took over the role of the Further Education Funding Council for Wales (FEFCW) and the four Welsh Training and Enterprise Councils (TECs) in relation to the planning and funding of all post-16 learning in Wales, in addition to

funding all community learning. In April 2002, the National Council assumed responsibility for funding all community learning. In April 2002, the National Council assumed responsibility for funding sixth form provision in Wales. The National Council is known under the brand name 'ELWa'. In setting ELWa's remit, the Welsh Assembly Government has indicated that it is to respond to the need for post-16 Welsh-medium and bilingual education and training and Welsh for Adults.

In order to meet the Assembly's requirements, ELWa has made a decision to restructure Welsh for Adults in order to mainstream and professionalise provision. This will involve the establishment of six dedicated language centers in Wales that will become flagships for the teaching of the Welsh language to adults. The centres will bring about radical change in the way in which the Welsh for Adults programme is planned by replacing the 8 Welsh for Adults consortia currently responsible for planning. Planning by the centre will be done across an ELWa region or subregion. Restructuring is due to be implemented in 2006.

ELWa is supporting developments in Welsh language provisions for workplace staff, parents and people who relocate to Welsh-speaking areas through the Learning Challenge Fund Cyfrwng Iaith Gwaith project. During the first year of the project, 14 tutors were appointed in 9 institutions to develop and deliver provision for the identified target audiences. ELWa has contracted with the Welsh Joint Education Committee for the organisation and delivery of the suite of Welsh for Adults examinations for a period of three years. ELWa is also supporting service for Welsh language learners at the National Eisteddfod. The Welsh for Adults programme has been enhanced by continuous partnership with the BBC in the development of the Learn Welsh Online website and the innovative Colin & Cumberland campaign to attract adult learners. In 2004, ELWa worked with the National Museums and Galleries of Wales to produce a resource for tutors of Welsh for Adults.

To take forward its commitment to increasing the provision of Higher Education through the medium of Welsh, the Higher Education Funding Council established a Steering Group on the Provision of HE through the Medium of Welsh. That draft Strategy made a number of recommendations including the establishment of Post Graduate teaching and Research Fellowships which were approved immediately in order to secure provision at the next academic year.

h) The promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions

Scots Gaelic

Three Scottish Universities (Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen) have Departments of Celtic Studies with undergraduate and post-graduate students. The colleges of the UHI Millennium Institute promote the study of and research into Gaelic. The Scots language and literature may also be studied at a number of Universities in Scotland.

Irish and Ulster Scots

Opportunities are available at both local universities for the study of and research into Irish and Ulster-Scots.

Foras na Gaeilge has provided funding for a scholarship scheme on the Irish translation course at Queen's University Belfast.

Cornish

It is for Universities to decide which courses to offer. The Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) allocates funding to each University according to the number of students at an institution and the types of courses they are taking.

A number of Universities in the UK have Departments of Celtic Studies with undergraduate and post-graduate students. The Institute of Cornish Studies, part of the University of Exeter and the Combined Universities in Cornwall, offers higher degree studies in Cornish Studies and Celtic Studies which may

include language studies. The Combined Universities in Cornwall was one of the organisations involved by Cornwall County Council in the education Focus Group to inform the language Strategy.

Implementing Vision 1 of the Strategy for Cornish includes a target of research programmes that inform both the resource base and the process of language planning. Central Government and Cornwall County Council as the Local Education Authority will be involved in developing and supporting actions towards this target, which might include an initiative to coordinate an online register and library of research undertaken and of areas of research that would be useful for the future.

Manx Gaelic

Founded in 1992, the Centre for Manx Studies is an academic unit of the University of Liverpool managed by a committee with representatives of the three partner organisations Manx National Heritage, the University of Liverpool and the Isle of Man Department of Education.

Its primary functions are to teach students, to carry out research in Manx archaeological, cultural, environmental and historical studies and to further the international recognition of the Isle of Man in these areas.

Welsh

The Welsh Assembly, via the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW), funds the Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies and the University of Wales Board of Celtic Studies. Among its other research work, the University of Wales Board of Celtic Studies produced in 2002 the first standardised historical Welsh language dictionary. Work is on-going to revise the earlier parts of the dictionary. In addition, HEFCW also supports research into Celtic studies at the University of Wales in Aberystwyth, the University of Wales in Bangor, Cardiff University and the University of Wales in Swansea. Finally the Assembly via HEFCW supports the University of Wales Press, which publishes academic works on the Welsh language, history and literature - including some works in the medium of Welsh. The University of Wales also funds the post of Welsh Medium Development Officer to increase Welsh medium teaching provision at the constituent institutions of the University.

i) The promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used in identical or similar form in two or more States

Scots Gaelic

Iomairt Chaluum Cille, the Columba Initiative has been a successful transfrontier initiative involving the Scottish Executive, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. The initiative embraces and celebrates the similarities between the two languages (Irish or Gaeilge, and Scottish Gaelic or Gàidhlig) and cultures and provides a channel for interaction, cultural exchange and relationship building.

Highland Council have established a Memorandum of Understanding with Nova Scotia which has already seen cultural exchanges at many different levels of contact.

Irish and Ulster Scots

Transnational co-operation is most evident in the North/South Language Implementation Body whose two Agencies promote Irish and Ulster-Scots throughout the island of Ireland. In the furtherance of their statutory remit, both Agencies will engage with similar language organisations and groups overseas. The North/South Language Body is funded jointly by the Northern Ireland Administration/UK Government and the Republic of Ireland Government.

Cornish

Vision 5 of the Strategy (“Where the Cornish language enjoys respect alongside the other regional or minority languages in the UK such that its standing is enhanced”) includes as a target the development and maintenance of links with other European language communities.

Manx Gaelic

Whilst Manx Gaelic is not used beyond the Isle of Man, local organisations do have links with organisations involved with similar Gaelic regional or minority language throughout the British Isles and further afield.

As a part of the British-Irish Council, the Isle of Man Government participates fully in the sectoral group that has a focus on minority languages, including Gaelic.

Welsh

The Welsh Assembly Government continues to fund the teaching of Welsh in the Chubut province of Argentina. The project involves the secondment of Welsh teachers to Patagonia and the training of local Welsh tutors. From 2000-2003, the term of the current project, annual funding provides for teachers from Wales to live and teach Welsh in the province and for students from Chubut to visit Wales for an intensive summer school. It also provides training for native teachers to increase the capacity to teach the language within the resident population.

The British Council is responsible for a project known as Dolen Ysgolion, which links Welsh medium schools in Wales and schools in Chubut via the internet.

2. The Parties undertake to eliminate, if they have not already done so, any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of a regional or minority languages and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and rest if the population or which take due account of their specific conditions is not considered to be an act of discrimination against the users of more widely used languages.

Scots Gaelic

There is no legislation or public administration rule/practice in Scotland that supports any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of regional or minority languages and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of such languages.

The Scottish Executive is committed to promoting equality of opportunity for all people.

Irish and Ulster Scots

There is no legislation or public administrative body in Northern Ireland that supports any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of regional or minority languages and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of such languages.

Cornish

The UK Government is committed to seeking a society in which every individual is able to fulfil his or her potential through the enjoyment of equal rights, opportunities and responsibilities. The Human Rights Act 1998, which came into force in October 2000, incorporates the European Convention on Human Rights into UK law, and includes the provision that individuals shall enjoy the rights and freedoms set out in the ECHR without discrimination.

Manx Gaelic

The Isle of Man Government believes that it is doing as much as possible to eliminate any unjustified distinction, exclusion or restriction on the use of Manx Gaelic. Rather than discouraging the development of the Manx language the Isle of Man Government is interested in promoting it.

The Isle of Man Government would however note that it does not believe that, given the current number of users of the Manx language, it is able at present to justify the additional administrative and financial resources that would be required to allow it to extend Part III of the Charter protection to Manx Gaelic.

A thorough review of all the paragraphs and sub-paragraphs showed that in respect of several Articles from Part III the Isle of Man was already achieving more than the minimum standard. However, the Isle of Man Government did not believe it was possible at this stage to accept the necessary number of commitments from all the required Articles. The Isle of Man Government will keep this matter under review in light of the further development of the Manx language.

Welsh

The Welsh Assembly Government is committed to promoting equality of opportunity for all people.

3. The parties undertake to promote by appropriate measures, mutual understanding between all the linguistic groups of the country and in particular the inclusion of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to regional or minority languages among the objectives of education and training provided within their countries and encouragement of the mass media to pursue the same objective.

Scots Gaelic

The Scottish Executive's National Cultural Strategy states that: "A wide range of languages other than English, Scots and Gaelic is spoken in Scotland, representing the culturally diverse nature of the population and recent patterns of settlement. It is important that there are opportunities for all Scots to celebrate their language and traditions and to participate fully in the cultural life of their own community and of Scotland. The different language and dialects spoken in Scotland provide clear links with the family and community traditions which enrich our culture."

The Scottish Executive is committed to promoting multi-culturalism and eliminating discrimination by means of its "One Scotland. Many Cultures" campaign. This was launched in September 2002 (with a re-launch in March 2003) and aims to celebrate Scotland's cultural diversity as well as urging everyone in Scotland to pull together to oppose racism. While the media campaign has now ended, the Executive will continue to promote the Campaign's messages and brand.

Irish and Ulster Scots

This is underpinned in the Belfast Agreement, as the UK Government and Northern Ireland Administration are committed to recognising the importance of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to linguistic diversity including in Northern Ireland the Irish language and Ulster-Scots.

Cornish

The Government believes that an underlying sense of cohesion within society is essential if people are to come together to make progress across a range of social and economic challenges. In January 2005, the Government therefore launched a strategy to increase race equality and community cohesion, called *Improving Opportunity, Strengthening Society*. The Strategy acknowledges the importance of valuing local cultures within an inclusive British society, and of helping people from all sections of society to understand and celebrate the contribution made by a range of cultures to Britain.

The Citizenship section of the National Curriculum emphasises that pupils should be taught about the diverse national, regional, religious and ethnic identities in the United Kingdom and the need for mutual respect and understanding.

Manx Gaelic

Whilst the Isle of Man Government is actively promoting greater knowledge of Manx Gaelic, it is mindful that at present the number of users of the language represent a small percentage of the Island's population. It is therefore careful when promoting the language to ensure that the policy is not pursued at such a pace or in such a way as to cause difficulties for, or resentment among, the majority of Isle of Man residents who presently have little or no knowledge of Manx and who perhaps do not wish to learn it.

The Isle of Man Government believes that promoting a ground up approach of introducing children to the Manx language and culture at school, together with providing opportunities for those adults who wish to learn about the Manx language, to be the best approach.

Welsh

The Welsh Assembly Government recognises that the good will towards the language of the majority of the population of Wales which does not speak Welsh is necessary to its future well being. Full regard is given to this in the development of policy on the language.

4. In determining their policy with regard to regional or minority languages, the Parties shall take into consideration the needs and wishes expressed by the groups which use such languages. They are encouraged to establish bodies, if necessary, for the purpose of advising the authorities on all matters pertaining to regional or minority languages.

Scots Gaelic

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 establishes Bòrd na Gàidhlig with the statutory duty of advising the Scottish Ministers and others on matters relating to the Gaelic language, culture and education. The Act also gives the Bòrd the specific function of reporting to Ministers on implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. The Bòrd's views are sought as the Scottish Executive develops Gaelic policies.

In the Policy Document *Partnership Agreement for a Better Scotland*, the Scottish Executive agreed to develop a new focus on Scotland's Languages, recognising both our Heritage and Diversity, to guide and develop Scotland's languages and give Local Authorities a responsibility to draw up a Language Plan that reflects the communities they serve. Work has commenced on this Language Initiative and the views of Scots organisations and other relevant bodies will be sought.

Irish and Ulster Scots

The UK Government and the Irish Government established the North/South Language Body. The functions of its two agencies include advising administrations, public bodies and other groups in the private and voluntary sectors. The North/South Language Body have made presentations to public bodies and other groups advising them on linguistic diversity issues.

Linguistic Operations Branch is responsible for providing policy advice, support and guidance to Ministers, colleagues and others on linguistic diversity, which includes Irish and Ulster-Scots. The Branch works closely with the North/South Language Body and with Irish and Ulster-Scots groups.

Cornish

The public consultations held to inform the development of the Strategy for Cornish has enabled the needs and wishes of Cornish speakers and those wishing to learn the language to be captured at an early stage. The Strategy will be the subject of annual review and consultation will be an ongoing process.

The UK Government has agreed in principle to recognise as an advisory body one being proposed in Cornwall, based on the public and voluntary sector Advisory Group that commissioned the Cornish Language Society.

Manx Gaelic

The Isle of Man Government, and in particular Manx National Heritage and the Department of Education, takes into account the views of those groups outside Government which use and promote Manx Gaelic when formulating policy for the development of the language.

Welsh

The Welsh Language Board gives advice to the Assembly on Welsh language issues when requested to do so and has a statutory duty under Section 3 of the Welsh Language Act 1993 to do so. The Welsh Language Board's views are sought on policies as they develop. The Welsh Language Board presents policy documents to the Welsh Assembly Government and has made formal submissions and given advice to the Assembly's policy reviews of the Welsh language and the Welsh Language in Education. The Welsh Language Board also has a monitoring role in relation to the Welsh Assembly Government's own Welsh Language Scheme, and that of other public and Crown Bodies.

5. The parties undertake to apply, mutandis mutandis, the principles listed in paragraphs 1 to 4 above to non-territorial languages. However, as far as these languages are concerned, the nature and scope of the measures to be taken to give effect to this Charter shall be determined in a lexible manner, bearing in mind the needs and wishes, and respecting the traditions and characteristics, of the groups which use the languages concerned.

Not applicable.

PART III

Measures to promote the use of regional or minority languages in public life in accordance with the undertakings entered into under Article 2, paragraph 2.

Article 8 – Education

Scots Gaelic

Scottish Executive General Policy Position on Gaelic Education

The Education (Scotland) Act 1980 states that 'school education' includes 'the teaching of Gaelic in Gaelic-speaking areas' and that education authorities should have regard to the principle that 'pupils are to be educated in accordance with the wishes of their parents.'

In 1986 the Scottish Office established a scheme of specific grants to assist with the teaching of the Gaelic language or the teaching in that language of other subjects and this system remains in place.

Central funding is provided to support Stòrlann Naisenta na Gàidhlig, the National Gaelic Resource Centre. Stòrlann produces Gaelic books and other learning and teaching materials for pre-school, primary and secondary.

The Executive's current high-level policy document, 'Partnership Agreement for a Better Scotland' states that the Executive will 'continue to invest in Gaelic Medium Education including the provision of more teacher training places'.

The Scottish Executive has a Spending Review target of increasing the number of pupils in Gaelic medium primary education by 20% by 2009.

In the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000, there is a duty on all education authorities in Scotland to publish an annual statement of improvement objectives which must include an account of the ways in which or the circumstances in which they will provide GME.

Gaelic is listed as a national priority in the Education (National Priorities)(Scotland) Order 2000

New Gaelic education provision has been introduced through the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 – Bòrd na Gàidhlig is able to offer advice or to issue guidance in relation to Gaelic education; the Bòrd must include in its National Gaelic Language Plan a strategy for developing Gaelic education; and the Bòrd is able to request the development of Gaelic language plans by individual education authorities.

1a(i) To make available pre-school education in Scottish Gaelic

- Pre- school education in Gaelic is available in the following Council areas: Aberdeen, Angus Council, Argyll and Bute, Clackmannanshire, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, East Ayrshire, East Dunbartonshire Council, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Highland, Inverclyde, North Ayrshire, North Lanarkshire Council, Perth and Kinross, South Lanarkshire, Stirling
- Gaelic pre-school pupil numbers for 2003-04 are 1236 pupils in 54 pre-school centres throughout Scotland.
- Gaelic specific grant is available to education authorities from the Scottish Executive to support the development of Gaelic pre-school in Scotland.
- The Gaelic Pre-School Agency (Comhairle nan Sgoiltean Araich) receives central funding to promote Gaelic pre-school throughout Scotland.
- Draft Guidance issued to local authorities in September 2004 asked them to promote and publicise Gaelic medium education within their areas, describe their commitment to develop Gaelic medium provision at pre-school and to deliver Gaelic medium education as an entitlement at pre-school wherever reasonable demand exists. This should include an explanation of how the authority has chosen to define reasonable demand, in terms of numbers of pupils, availability and travel to schools, school stages and any other factors.
- Examples of local initiatives are:
 - Comhairle nan Eilean Siar has published a Gaelic Policy covering pre-school, primary and secondary education issues.
 - Highland Council has published a Gaelic Education and Early Years Strategy to describe how Gaelic Education will be provided within the Council area.
 - Argyll and Bute Council have published a policy paper on the Development of Gaelic Education. This covers all stages of school education and support for pupils and teachers.
 - Glasgow City Council will be opening a Gaelic school for pupils aged 3-18 in summer 2006

1b(i) To make available primary education in Scottish Gaelic

- Primary education in Gaelic is available in the following Council areas: Aberdeen, Angus Council, Argyll and Bute, Clackmannanshire, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, East Ayrshire, East Dunbartonshire Council, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Highland, Inverclyde, North Ayrshire, North Lanarkshire Council, Perth and Kinross, South Lanarkshire, Stirling
- Gaelic primary numbers for 2004-05 are 2008 in 61 centres throughout Scotland.
- Gaelic specific grant is available to local authorities from the Scottish Executive to support the development of Gaelic primary education in Scotland.

- Grant is also available from the Scottish Executive to support Gaelic for learners in primary schools (the Gaelic Language in the Primary School Programme (GLPS)).
- Central funding is provided to support Stòrlann Naiseanta na Gàidhlig, the National Gaelic Resource Centre. Stòrlann produces Gaelic books and other learning and teaching materials for pre-school, primary and secondary.
- On 17th September 2004 the Scottish Executive issued draft guidance to strengthen Gaelic primary education. Local authorities were asked to describe their commitment to promote and publicise Gaelic medium education within their areas, to deliver Gaelic medium education as an entitlement at primary wherever reasonable demand exists and to provide an explanation of how the authority has chosen to define reasonable demand.
- Examples of local initiatives are:
 - Highland Council has published a Gaelic Education and Early Years Strategy to describe how Gaelic Education will be provided within the Council area.
 - Comhairle nan Eilean Siar has published a Gaelic Policy covering pre-school, primary and secondary education issues.
 - A number of local authorities have established procedures to access Gaelic education provision in a neighbouring authority.
 - Argyll and Bute Council have published a policy paper on the Development of Gaelic Education. This covers all stages of school education and support for pupils and teachers.

1c(i) To make available secondary education in Scottish Gaelic

- Gaelic secondary numbers for 2004-05 are 2583 pupils taking learners courses and 307 pupils taking courses for fluent speakers.
- Thirty four secondary schools offered Gaelic for fluent speakers and 15 secondary schools offered subject through the medium of Gaelic
- Gaelic grant is available to support the development of Gaelic secondary education in Scotland. The amount of grant available was increased in 2005 for secondary developments.
- The Executive has contributed £2.75m towards Glasgow City Council's £3.5m capital costs for a new Gaelic secondary school which is expected to open in 2006.

The Scottish Executive has established a working group to look at the need for Gaelic subject delivery at secondary level by ICT. All key interests are represented. The aim is to extend the Gaelic medium secondary curriculum.

- In draft Education Guidance issued in September 2004 by the Executive, local authorities were asked to describe present ICT Gaelic provision and their commitment to make use of ICT in the delivery of secondary Gaelic courses. They were also asked to describe current secondary provision and their commitment to provide a minimum of two secondary subjects in Gaelic for pupils that have gone through Gaelic medium primary education.

Examples of specific local initiatives are:

- Highland Council has published a Gaelic Education and Early Years Strategy to describe how Gaelic secondary education will be provided within the Council area.
- Argyll and Bute Council have published a policy paper on the Development of Gaelic Education. This covers all stages of school education and support for pupils and teachers.

- Comhairle nan Eilean Siar has published a Gaelic Policy covering pre-school, primary and secondary education issues.
- Glasgow City Council will be opening a Gaelic school for pupils aged 3-18 years in summer 2006
- Gaelic for fluent speakers at secondary is available in the following Council areas: Aberdeen, Angus Council, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, East Ayrshire, East Dunbartonshire, Edinburgh, Glasgow Council, Highland Council, North Lanarkshire Council, Perth and Kinross, Stirling, Scottish Borders, South Lanarkshire.

1d(iv) To apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient.

- Technical and vocational training in Gaelic is made available at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic College on Skye, and at Lews Castle College in Stornoway.

1e(iii) if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and iii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in relevant regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study relevant regional or minority languages as university or higher education subjects.

- Guidance issued on 16 December 2004 from the Scottish Executive to the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council. The guidance stated that "The supply of teachers able to teach in the medium of Gaelic continues to be a priority for Scottish education Ministers. The Executive would like the Council to continue to assist in promoting provision in this area."
- Three universities in Scotland (Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow) have departments of Celtic Studies where undergraduate and postgraduate students may study Gaelic.
- The colleges of the University of the Highlands and Islands, particularly Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Lews Castle College and Inverness College offer courses in Gaelic and promote the study of and research into Gaelic.
- Highland Council has taken steps to address the difficulties it is experiencing recruiting primary teachers, which includes Gaelic teachers. From session 2003-2004, in partnership with Aberdeen University it is supporting a 2 year part-time distance learning course where students who gain entry to the course must be resident in Highland.

1 f iii. If the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education.

- There are Gaelic courses available at Argyll, Clydebank, Falkirk, Lews Castle College, Lochaber, Telford, Stow, Perth and Inverness colleges.
- Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic college and Lews Castle College offers Gaelic courses for adults, both in college and by distance learning.
- Central funding is provided to Cli – Gaidhlig, the Gaelic learners association. They maintain a register of learners and advanced courses throughout Scotland
- Learn Direct Scotland have prepared adult Gaelic learning materials for a range of vocational areas.
- Adult Gaelic education classes are available in the following Council areas: Aberdeen, Argyll and Bute, Clackmannanshire, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Dundee, East Ayrshire, East Renfrew,

Edinburgh, Fife, Glasgow, Highland, Inverclyde, Moray, North Ayrshire, Perth and Kinross, Renfrewshire Council, Stirling, Scottish Borders, West Lothian

Highland Council have published a Gaelic Plan for their Community Learning and Culture Services (2005). This Plan is closely linked to the Council's Gaelic education and Early Years Strategy and contains a clear list of objectives and actions.

1g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language.

The 'Curriculum and Assessment in Scotland National Guidelines – Gaelic 5-14' recommend that as well as developing language skills it is "equally necessary to develop a parallel awareness and grasp of the richness and diversity of the culture and its significance to the pupils' own lives". The guidelines also stress that culture is more than language and literature, but "also, for example, history, music, the visual arts, dance, legend, drama, the mass media, architecture, ways of work, habits of thought and feeling and human relationships."

The Scottish Curriculum provides opportunities for the history and culture which relates to the traditional Gaelic speaking areas of Scotland to be included. Opportunities are available either in the 5-14 curriculum or in the National Qualifications offered by the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

1h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party

- A Teachers' Action Group has been established by Scottish Ministers to consider the recruitment, training and supply issues of Gaelic medium education. This Group will report in Summer 2005.
- With funding from the Scottish Executive, Comunn na Gàidhlig has produced teacher recruitment materials for Gaelic education. *Thig a Theagasg* is used in their campaign to encourage senior pupils and others to consider a career in Gaelic education.
- Guidance issued on 16 December 2004 from the Scottish Executive to SHEFC. It stated that 'The supply of teachers able to teach in the medium of Gaelic continues to be a priority for Scottish education ministers. The Executive would like the Council to continue to assist in promoting provision in this area.'
- Highland Council has taken steps to address the difficulties it is experiencing recruiting primary teachers, which includes Gaelic teachers. From session 2003-2004, in partnership with Aberdeen University it is supporting a 2 year part-time distance learning course where students who gain entry to the course must be resident in the Highland Council area.
- A number of initiatives have been taken forward to develop courses in Gaelic Medium Education and to improve access to teacher training:
 - Aberdeen University two year part-time opening learning version of its PGDE in collaboration with Highland Council.
 - Strathclyde University in association with UHIMI (specifically Lews Castle College) and local authorities have developed a GME version of their PGDE – this course operates on a one-year full-time basis.
 - SHEFC provides additional funding to Strathclyde University which guarantees a total of twenty places for Gaelic speakers under its PGDE (Primary) course.

1i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of Scottish Gaelic and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 establishes Bòrd na Gàidhlig with the specific function of reporting to the Scottish Ministers each year on progress being made to implement the undertakings of the Charter, including the relevant education undertakings. The Bord also has the power to advise Ministers and public bodies on matters relating to Gaelic education.

As part of its supervisory responsibility, Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education monitor the provision and development of Gaelic-medium education. Inspection reports of Gaelic medium education units are made public. HMIE have just published a report on Gaelic education across Scotland.

Under the provisions of the Standards in Scotland Schools etc Act 2000, all education authorities are statutorily required to report to the Scottish Ministers on the conditions in which, or the circumstances in which, they will make GME provision available.

2 with regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the Scottish Gaelic are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a Scottish Gaelic justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the Scottish Gaelic at all the appropriate stages of education

- The Standards in Scotland's Schools etc. Act 2000 requires all education authorities across Scotland to set out the ways in which, or the circumstances in which, they will provide Gaelic-medium education, enabling education authorities to respond to reasonable demand in their area.
- All education authorities across Scotland are able to bid for funding from the Scottish Executive's Specific Grant scheme to develop Gaelic medium education.
- Gaelic medium education is available in Aberdeen, Angus Council, Clackmannanshire, East Ayrshire, East Dunbartonshire Council, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverclyde, North Ayrshire, North Lanarkshire Council, Perth and Kinross, South Lanarkshire, Stirling
- The new education provision of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act provides for the development of a National Gaelic Language Plan, and within that plan a national strategy for the development of Gaelic education across Scotland.
- The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act empowers Bòrd na Gàidhlig to offer guidance or advice on Gaelic education matters to all public bodies across Scotland and to request local authorities to develop Gaelic language plans.

Article 9 - Judicial Authorities

Scots Gaelic

1b (iii) In civil proceedings to allow documents and evidence to be produced in Scottish Gaelic

- Provision has been made for the use of Gaelic in the civil courts, in Lochmaddy, Portree and Stornoway. Explanatory leaflets (in Gaelic and English) are available from the sheriff clerks office and local solicitors have been informed of this provision.
- The provisions of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act would enable Bòrd na Gaidhlig to ask the relevant judicial authorities to develop a Gaelic language plan setting out how they will make provision in the Gaelic language.

Article 10 – Administrative Authorities and public services

Scots Gaelic

Ic to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in Scottish Gaelic

- The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act recognises Gaelic as an official language of Scotland commanding equal respect to the English language. The Act enables Bòrd na Gàidhlig request local authorities to develop Gaelic language plans which will set out how they will make provision in the Gaelic language.
- The Scottish Executive and the Scottish Parliament publish bilingual versions of a range of publications. The Scottish Executive is currently preparing a draft Gaelic language Plan looking at ways in which the organisation can provide a range of services through the medium of Gaelic and how it can increase the number of Gaelic speakers in the organisation. The Scottish Executive has an established Gaelic Unit and the Scottish Parliament employs two Gaelic Officers.
- Scottish Natural Heritage is a non-departmental public body with 40 offices throughout Scotland. They promote Gaelic in publications, bilingual signage, correspondence and news media. They have a Gaelic language policy and have appointed a Gaelic Public Relations Officer.
- The Scottish Funding Council for Further and Higher Education is a non departmental public body. They support the use of Gaelic in official correspondence, office signage is in Gaelic and English and they will make available publications in Gaelic on request.
- The National Library of Scotland has made a commitment in their latest Corporate Plan to review the bibliography of Scottish Gaelic and establish a Gaelic language plan. The NLS acknowledges they have a clear and active role in preservation of Gaelic materials and widening access to these collections.
- The Crofter's Commission is a non departmental public body. The Commission uses bilingual signage and stationery. The Commission adopted a Gaelic policy in 2002 and are developing a Gaelic language plan in the spirit of the Gaelic Language Act 2005. The Commission has a number of leaflets available in Gaelic and they have produced an education pack for school in Gaelic (along with other bodies). Where appropriate the Commission use Gaelic in external communication, in meetings and with media. They advertise in Gaelic, have a Gaelic web site and offer Gaelic training for staff.
- The Cairngorm National Parks Authority has an interim policy on Gaelic and will seek to develop a Gaelic Plan in association with Bòrd na Gàidhlig.
- The National Museums of Scotland has adopted a Gaelic Policy which refers to the possible uses of Gaelic in the work of the Museums.
- The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland have consulted recently on what information groups would like to have available in Gaelic. RCAHMS has made available in Gaelic and English information on the collections which they have. RCAHMS will also be providing information for the Gaelic/English website – Am Baile.
- The General Teaching Council for Scotland has been active in ensuring that Gaelic education is at the centre of the Scottish education system. The Chief Executive contributes on Gaelic radio on education issues, is chairing a Ministerial Group on Gaelic teachers and has written in Gaelic and English in the GTC magazine.
- Learning and Teaching Scotland is a non departmental public body. They have a range of products available in Gaelic, support Gaelic-on-line website for Gaelic teachers and they have issued a number of publications in Gaelic and English.

- Sport Scotland is a non departmental public body. They are currently drafting a Gaelic policy which will be endorsed by their board this year.
- The Scottish Qualifications Authority is a non departmental public body. SQA makes examinations available for Gaelic learners and fluent speakers, SQA makes available standard grade question papers in geography, history, mathematics and modern studies, SQA is responsible for the publication Gaelic Orthographic Conventions and maintains a Gaelic Assessment Panel.. SQA will be content to work with Bord na Gàidhlig in developing a Gaelic language plan.
- Highlands and Islands Enterprise has had a formal policy on Gaelic for some years. This is presently being reviewed. HIE funds Comunn na Gaidhlig, the Gaelic development agency and other Gaelic initiatives. HIE supports the Gaelic college, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig and cultural festivals such as the Mod.

2a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority

- The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act recognises Gaelic as an official language of Scotland commanding equal respect to the English language. The Act enables Bòrd na Gàidhlig request local authorities to develop Gaelic language plans which will set out how they will make provision in the Gaelic language.
- Examples of local initiatives are:
 - Comhairle nan Eilean Siar has published a Gaelic Policy covering education, social services, transportation, environment and communities.
 - Highland Council published a Gaelic plan on 30 May 2005. Highland Council has agreed that all appropriate signs and corporate identity to be bilingual and that any public documents, the Council website and agendas would have a visible element of the Gaelic language. This will include Community Plans, Service Plans, Committee Agendas, Brochures and Pamphlets, letterheads, vehicle logos, road signs, street signs, council buildings, public advertisements and web site.
 - Argyll and Bute Council have published a Gaelic Development Strategy which lists priorities for the Council and main points of action. Argyll and Bute will seek to promote the use of Gaelic within the various Council departments.
 - Angus Council has a Policy Statement and Policy Guidelines on Gaelic within the Council area.

2b the possibility for users of Scottish Gaelic to submit oral or written applications in these languages

- The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act recognises Gaelic as an official language of Scotland commanding equal respect to the English language. The Act enables Bòrd na Gàidhlig request local authorities to develop Gaelic language plans which will set out how they will make provision in the Gaelic language.

Specific initiatives are as follows:

- Scottish Executive is presently preparing a Gaelic language plan which will deal with these issues. At present written applications and correspondence can be submitted in Gaelic. Oral and written evidence has also been accepted on an ad hoc basis.
- Scottish Parliament will receive oral and written evidence, applications, petitions or correspondence in Gaelic.
- Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, (Western Isles Council), will receive oral and written evidence, applications, petitions or correspondence in Gaelic.

- Highland Council, will receive oral and written evidence, applications, petitions or correspondence in Gaelic and will seek to respond to members of the public who wish to conduct their business through the medium of Gaelic.
- Argyll and Bute Council will encourage public correspondence and other communication in Gaelic and endeavour to respond to such communication in Gaelic.

2d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in Scottish Gaelic

- The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act recognises Gaelic as an official language of Scotland commanding equal respect to the English language. The Act enables Bòrd na Gàidhlig request local authorities to develop Gaelic language plans which will set out how they will make provision in the Gaelic language.

Specific initiatives are as follows:

- Comhairle nan Eilean Siar have stated in their Gaelic policy that all Council papers will be bilingual and all major reports and policy documents will be bilingual.
- Highland Council will seek to ensure that all public documents, the Council website and agendas will have a visible element of Gaelic.

Argyll and Bute have a commitment to encourage communication in Gaelic

2e the use by regional authorities of Scottish Gaelic in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State

- The Scottish Parliament encourages the use of Gaelic in debate and in Committee meetings without excluding the use of the predominant language of the state. Most notably a number of members of the Scottish Parliament used the Gaelic language in debates on the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Bill.

2f the use by local authorities of Scottish Gaelic in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State

- The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act recognises Gaelic as an official language of Scotland commanding equal respect to the English language. The Act enables Bòrd na Gàidhlig request local authorities to develop Gaelic language plans which will set out how they will make provision in the Gaelic language.
- As a specific example, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, seeks to encourage the use of Gaelic in formal and informal settings, members and officials are encouraged to use Gaelic in Committee business where simultaneous translation is available.

2g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s) of traditional and correct forms of place-names in Scottish Gaelic

- Comhairle nan Eilean Siar has stated its policy in the following terms: All Council signs, directional signs and street names will be bilingual with the Gaelic name first. Place names will mostly appear in Gaelic only
- Highland Council has stated its policy in the following terms: Gaelic will be included on road signs at the point of replacement. The Council has agreed that all appropriate signs and corporate identity should be bilingual and that any public documents, the Council website and agendas would have a visible element of the Gaelic language.

- The Ordnance Survey has a Gaelic names policy that sets out how Ordnance Survey shows Gaelic names and bilingual English/Gaelic names on its paper maps and digital products.
- The Gaelic Names Liaison Committee also advises Ordnance Survey – its members are drawn from a range of backgrounds and different institutions, including Comunn na Gàidhlig, The Highland Council, Argyll and Bute Council, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Scottish Place-Name Society, University of St Andrews, Cll Gàidhlig and the Scottish Parliament.

5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the Scottish Gaelic , at the request of those concerned

There is no restriction on the use or adoption of family names in Scottish Gaelic at the request of those concerned.

Article 11 – Media

Scots Gaelic

1a(ii) to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in Scottish Gaelic

- Broadcasting is a matter reserved to the UK Government, and is the responsibility of the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). Broadcasting plays an important role in supporting the Scottish Executive’s aims for the Gaelic language. The Scottish Executive considers the best way forward for Gaelic broadcasting would be the establishment of a Gaelic digital television channel and is actively engaged in discussions with key interests, including DCMS, to try to establish a Gaelic television channel that will properly serve the Gaelic audience.

BBC Scotland operates a Gaelic radio station, Radio nan Gaidheal.

1b(ii) to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in Scottish Gaelic

- BBC Scotland operates a Gaelic radio station, Radio nan Gaidheal.
- The Scottish Executive provides annual funding to the Gaelic Media Service (GMS) which is tasked with securing the delivery of a wide range of high quality television and radio programmes in Gaelic. GMS continues to provide funding for Gaelic radio productions.

1c(ii) to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in the Scottish Gaelic on a regular basis

- The Scottish Executive provides annual funding to the Gaelic Media Service (GMS) which is tasked with securing the delivery of a wide range of high quality television and radio programmes in Gaelic.
- Gaelic television programmes are currently broadcast on four television stations – STV, Grampian, the BBC and TeleG.
- The Scottish Media Group (SMG) produces 52 hours per annum of its own Gaelic programming for broadcast on STV and Grampian TV. In addition, SMG are required by legislation to carry programmes funded by GMS. The legislation also requires that a “suitable proportion” of GMS funded programming must be transmitted by SMG in peak times.
- BBC Scotland transmitted 30 hrs of their own Gaelic television programming in 2002/3. They also carry GMS funded programmes.

- The multiplex provider, SDN, is obliged to broadcast some Gaelic programming. They carry a daily half hour of Gaelic programming in the form of the Tele-G channel on multiplex A.

1d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in Scottish Gaelic

The Scottish Executive provides annual funding to the Gaelic Media Service (GMS) which is tasked with securing the delivery of a wide range of high quality television and radio programmes in Gaelic.

Proiseact nan Ealan, funded through the Scottish Arts Council, is an arts development agency promoting Gaelic music, theatre and visual arts through initiatives such as exhibitions, publications, festivals, TV programmes, CDs and training courses.

1e(ii) to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in Scottish Gaelic on a regular basis

- There are regular Gaelic columns in The Scotsman, The Press and Journal, the Inverness Courier, The West Highland Free Press, the Oban Times and the Stornoway Gazette.
- The Gaelic newspaper An Gaidheal Ur receives central funding from Bòrd na Gàidhlig,
- The BBC carries news in Gaelic on its web site.
- Central funding is provided for the magazine Cothrom, a bilingual magazine Gaelic speakers and learners and for the magazine Gath.

1f(ii) to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in Scottish Gaelic

The Scottish Executive provides funding for the Gaelic Media Service of £8.5m per year.

1g) support the training of journalists and other staff for media using Scottish Gaelic

- Sabhal Mor Ostaig (Gaelic College), which receives central funding, provides media courses in Gaelic. (Gaelic and Communications and Diploma in Television and Multimedia)

2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and no to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to Scottish Gaelic .

There are no restrictions throughout the UK.

Article 12 – cultural activities and facilities

Scots Gaelic

1a to encourage types of expression and initiatives specific to Scottish Gaelic and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages

A number of organisations have been set up with responsibility to promote and develop cultural activities and facilities in Gaelic, below is a selection of key bodies:

- Pròiseact nan Ealan, (PnE) the Gaelic Arts Agency, works to develop and promote Gaelic music, theatre and visual arts through such initiatives as exhibitions, publications, festivals, installations. PnE receives funding from Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the Scottish Arts Council.
- Fèisean nan Gàidheal organises fèisean, Gaelic arts tuitions festivals aimed primarily at young people. These take place throughout Gaelic speaking areas as well as other areas of Scotland. Fèisean nan Gaidheal receives funding from Bòrd na Gaidhlig, the Scottish Arts Council and Highlands and Islands Enterprise.
- An Comunn Gàidhealach organises the annual Royal National Mod, an internationally renowned competitive festival of Gaelic music, song, sport and drama.
- Comhairle nan Leabhraichean, the Gaelic Books Council, funded by the Scottish Arts Council and Bòrd na Gàidhlig, encourages the publication of works in Gaelic. They have the 'Ùr-Sgeul' imprint, to encourage the writing of novel-length prose in Gaelic.
- Gaelic Theatre is promoted by TOSG, the Gaelic theatre company and Comunn na Drama, who provide support for the large number of Gaelic Community Amateur Drama groups. Comunn na Drama work in collaboration with An Comunn Gàidhealach to run the Mod Drama Competitions.
- Seirbheis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig support Gaelic language programming, much of which is culturally based, promoting Gaelic singing and music as well as programmes dealing with issues of Gaelic history and culture.

1d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of Scottish Gaelic and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing

- The Scottish Arts Council contribute to the Gaelic Arts Strategic Development (GASD) Fund with the balance coming from the Scottish Executive's language development agency, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, marking a major new alliance between key players in Scotland's cultural and linguistic sectors.
- The Fund will be co-ordinated by Pròiseact nan Ealan/The Gaelic Arts Agency and implemented through the Gaelic Arts Strategic Development Forum (GASD)
- SAC – Gaelic Arts Policy. This Policy contains a policy statement on Gaelic language and culture and specific recommendations for future policy actions in the field of Gaelic arts
- The Scottish Arts Council's Literature Department's support to Writers, Publishers and Readership embraces all of the languages of Scotland, both historical and contemporary.
- The SAC's portfolio of ten national core-funded organisations includes **Comhairle nan Leabhraichean**, the Gaelic Books Council, Scotland's principal agency for the support and development of Gaelic literature and publishing. SAC Writing Fellowships scheme supports Gaelic Writers in Residence at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, Skye, and in the Highlands (the Iain Crichton Smith Fellowship).
- New writing in Gaelic is published and promoted through the magazine *Gath*, supported through SAC Literary Magazines fund.

1e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of Scottish Gaelic concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population

The Chief Executives/Directors of the organisations listed in (1a) are all fluent Gaelic speakers. As a matter of course the organisations employ staff who are Gaelic speakers, although in cases when this is not possible, consideration is taken as to an individuals willingness to learn Gaelic.

1f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given Scottish Gaelic in providing facilities and planning cultural activities

- The Gaelic Arts Strategic Development group (GASD), which is a collaboration between Pròiseact nan Ealan, An Comunn Gàidhealach, TOSG, Seirbhis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig and Comhairle nan Leabhraichean have contributed to the development of the Scottish Arts Council's Gaelic Strategy.
- Fèisean nan Gaidheal regard meaningful collaboration as the most effective way of maximising Gaelic development, and regard their collaboration with other groups as essential.
- Comunn na Gàidhlig run Sradagan groups for Gaelic speaking school children, these are often run with support from Comann nam Pàrant (the Parents association) and local fèisean, mainly due to a commonality of parents and participants.
- TOSG have recently appointed a development officer to work specifically with community groups and youths.
- An Comunn Gàidhealach employ 3 local development officers to assist local branches across Scotland in their activities and to liaise with other groups in the field of Gaelic music and culture.
- Comunn na Drama is the support network for the various Gaelic amateur dramatic community groups. Bòrd na Gàidhlig are currently conducting research on the needs and demands of Gaelic Drama Groups.

1g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in Scottish Gaelic

- Comhairle nan Leabhraichean, the Gaelic Books Council, have in stock every Gaelic or Gaelic-related book in print, and make these available for sale to the general public.
- Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic College, has three special book collections. The Celtica Collection and the MacCormick Collection bring together over 3000 rare and unique publications, whilst the Record Collection is an archive of rare vinyl recordings of Gaelic song and music, which will eventually be preserved digitally.

1h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each Scottish Gaelic

There are several projects in place to maintain Gaelic's terminology:

- Faclair na Pàrlamaid, a dictionary of parliamentary and administrative terms in Gaelic, was developed in 2000. There is also an on-line site available, which allows for new words to be developed by a committee of experts
- Fosglan, the translation and terminology unit based in Lews Castle College is widely used for the purposes described. There are also several freelance translators available.
- The Celtic departments of the Universities assist with research and developing terminology.
- The Gaelic Orthographic Conventions (GOC), are produced by the Scottish Qualifications Authority to regulate written Gaelic, especially within in the context of academic examinations.
- The Gaelic Place Names Liaison committee, in conjunction with, amongst others, the Ordnance Survey, work towards ensuring that Gaelic place names are correctly spelt and etymologically correct.

2 In respect of territories other than those in which Scottish Gaelic are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of Scottish Gaelic justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph

Gaelic cultural activities and facilities can be found taking place throughout most of Scotland outside the traditional:

- An Comunn Gàidhealach run local mods throughout Scotland and frequently takes the Royal National Mod to less traditionally Gaelic areas. An Comunn receives funding from Bòrd na Gàidhlig and also receives sponsorship from the Royal Mail.
- Fèisean nan Gaidheal support fèisean across Scotland and there are now fèisean in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Ayrshire and the Forth Valley.
- Cli Gàidhlig, the learners organisation, support Gaelic learners throughout Scotland and beyond, via language courses and the Cothrom periodical.
- An Lochran is the planned Glasgow Gaelic cultural centre, which it is hoped will be housed within the new Glasgow Gaelic School. They recently ran a large concert in the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall to celebrate the song writing of the MacDonald brothers. They also provide a source of co-ordination for the numerous Glasgow Highlands and Islands Cultural Associations, who run events throughout the year.
- Scottish Borders Council organises Gaelic language classes, 'Gaelic in the Borders', in association with Cli Gàidhlig, run monthly cultural events, throughout the area.

In May 2005, Aberdeen University played host to the literary Word Festival, which had a special day for Gaelic for the very first time. This saw the launch of *Leabhar Beag na Gàidhlig*, (the Wee Book of Gaelic), with poetry from children at the Gaelic Medium Education units in the city.

3 The parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad for Scottish Gaelic and the cultures they reflect

- Cultural links have been established through Iomairt Chaluim Cille, the Columba initiative, with the Irish Gaelic speaking communities in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, and through the Nova Scotia Initiative with that area of Canada. The Highland Council have a memorandum of understanding with the Nova Scotia provincial government, encouraging Gaelic cultural links between the two regions.
- The Royal National Mod continually attracts competitors and visitors from many countries. Scottish Executive also provided funding for North Lanarkshire Gaelic pupils to attend the Vancouver Mod 2005.
- Iomairt Chaluim Chille have, amongst many other projects, successfully run an annual Youth Parliament, bringing together higher and further education students from the three partner administrations.
- Comunn na Gàidhlig represents Gaelic on the UK sub-committee of EBLUL, network of European Minority Languages.
- Pròiseact nan Ealan, the Gaelic Arts Agency, have forged links with other minority language communities as well as with other Gaelic communities in Ireland and North America. The *An Leabhar Mòr* exhibition was taken on a tour of Ireland and North America.
- As a part of the British-Irish Council, the Scottish Executive participates in the sectoral group that has a focus on minority languages.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Scots Gaelic

1a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of Scottish Gaelic in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations

There are no provisions prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of Scottish Gaelic in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations.

1c to oppose practises designed to discourage the use of Scottish Gaelic in connection with economic or social activities

There are no practises designed to discourage the use of Scottish Gaelic in connection with economic or social activities.

Article 14 – Transfrontier exchanges

Scots Gaelic

a) to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information vocational training and permanent education.

Iomairt Chalum Cille, the Columba Initiative has been a successful transfrontier initiative involving the Scottish Executive, the Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Highland Council have established a Memorandum of Understanding with Nova Scotia which has already seen cultural exchanges at many different levels of contact.

As a part of the British-Irish Council, the Scottish Executive participates in the sectoral group that has a focus on minority languages.

b) for the benefit of regional or minority languages to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between Scottish Gaelic in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.

Iomairt Chalum Cille, the Columba Initiative has been a successful transfrontier initiative involving the Scottish Executive, the Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Highland Council have established a Memorandum of Understanding with Nova Scotia which has already seen cultural exchanges at many different levels of contact.

As a part of the British-Irish Council, the Scottish Executive participates in the sectoral group that has a focus on minority languages.

Article 8 – Education

With regard to education, the parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State.

(i) To make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages.

ii) To make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages.

Article 8 1(a) (iii)

To apply one of the measures provided for under (i) and (ii) above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient.

Irish-medium pre-school settings are eligible for funding under the Pre-school Education Expansion Programme in the same way as other voluntary and private pre-school playgroups that meet the requirements of the programme. 522 places were funded including 104 places in the statutory sector in 2004/05.

Irish-medium nursery units are eligible for full grant-aided nursery status where there is evidence of sufficient demand to ensure the viability and effectiveness of the unit.

Foras na Gaeilge has provided core funding for Altram (voluntary Irish-medium pre-school organizations) and for Forbairt Naonrai Teo.

(i) To make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages.

(ii) To make available a substantial part of primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages.

iii) To provide, within primary education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum.

Article 8 1(b) (iv)

To apply one of the measures provided for i to iii above at least to those pupils whose families so request and whose number is considered sufficient.

Grant-aided status has been approved for 19 Irish-medium primary schools. In addition there are 10 funded Irish-medium primary units attached to existing primary schools. In 2004/05 there were 2,199 pupils in primary Irish-medium education. To qualify for Grant-maintained status a school must meet certain viability criteria (**see Annex C**) and other criteria applicable to all new schools.

Foras na Gaeilge has provided grant-in-aid to Gaeloiliúint (voluntary support organisation for Irish-medium primary education), interim grant-in-aid to Irish medium primary schools awaiting departmental recognition and grant-in-aid to Irish medium teaching/learning resources for Irish medium primary schools.

Schools can choose to make provision for the teaching of Irish as a second language if they so wish. In Irish-Medium schools, this is a statutory requirement. An Irish-medium unit has been set up in the

Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA) with a remit to translate and provide curriculum support, examination and assessment materials and they are trying to extend their role. An Irish-Medium Curriculum Materials Unit has also been established at St Mary's University College, Belfast.

(i) To make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages.

ii) To make available a substantial part of secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages.

(iii) To provide, within secondary education, for the reaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum.

Article 8 1(c) (iv)

To apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient.

Meanscoil Feirste (Irish-medium secondary school based in Belfast) is a grant-maintained Irish-medium school. In addition, there are 2 Irish-medium secondary units Coláiste Bhríde, attached to St Brigid's High School, Carnhill, and Meanscoil Chaitriona, attached to St Catherine's College, Armagh. Both of these are grant-aided. In 2004/05 there are 521 pupils in these schools.

Foras na Gaeilge has provided grant-in aid to Gaeloiliúint and grant-in-aid to Gael Eagrais Um Shainriachtanais Oideachais (GESO) (voluntary organisation for special needs in Irish-medium education) to develop special education resources for Irish medium secondary schools. The agency has also provided grant-in-aid to Áisaonad (resource centre for teaching materials in Irish-medium education) for provision of Irish medium teaching/learning resources for Irish medium post primary schools.

Schools can choose to make provision for the teaching of Irish as a way of fulfilling the requirement for pupils in secondary education to study a modern language. An Irish-medium unit has been set up in The Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA) with a remit to translate and provide curriculum support, examination and assessment materials and they are trying to extend their role. An Irish-Medium Curriculum Materials Unit has also been established at St Mary's University College.

The Irish Medium Sector have a Programme for Government Target of growth of the number of pupils in the sector by 5% year on year.

The number of pupils studying the Irish Language at Secondary School level has increased.

In 2000/2001 2452 pupils studied Irish Language at GCSE level (General Certificate of Secondary Education.)

In 2001/02 2670 pupils studied Irish language at GCSE level.

In 2002/03 2,689 pupils studied Irish Language at GCSE level.

(i) To make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages.

ii) To make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages.

(iii) To provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum.

Article 8 1(d) (iv)

To apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient.

In Northern Ireland the Further Education (FE) colleges are key players in the delivery of vocational training. The FE colleges offer Irish language courses at various levels.

Since the 2001/02 academic year the Department for Employment and Learning (DEL) has provided funding for a pilot *Jobskills*-based Irish language vocational training programme delivered by Forbairt Feirste and funded through the Belfast Institute of Further and Higher Education (BIFHE). The aim is to address the training needs of pupils who leave Irish-medium secondary schools at age 16. Funding for this pilot will continue until June 2005. From September 2005, BIFHE will deliver a similar programme through the medium of Irish, as an integral part of its mainstream provision. Subject to evaluation, and local demand, DEL will support Irish medium vocational programmes throughout the FE Sector.

In seeking a more co-ordinated approach to Irish language provision, the Department for Employment and Learning has entered into discussions with Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta (CnaG) in relation to that organisations capacity to provide the Department with advice on aspects of vocational education and training, in the medium of Irish.

- (i) To make available university and other higher education in the relevant regional or minority languages.**
- (ii) To provide facilities for the study of these languages as university and higher education subjects.**
- (iii) To provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum.**

Section 8 1(e) (iii)

If, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, sub-paragraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university of higher education subjects.

The Department for Employment and Learning (DEL) provides targeted financial support to students in higher and further education, including students of Irish. In addition, students from NI who wish to be educated in the medium of Irish, could attend courses in the Republic of Ireland and have their fees paid.

- (i) To arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages.**

Article 8 1(f) (ii)

To offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education.

Irish language classes are delivered at two levels (Beginners and Intermediate) in the Ulster People's College (a voluntary and community education and training provider established in 1982 as a residential cross community education centre).

The Workers' Education Association (also a voluntary and community adult education provider) offers an Irish language course for beginners.

Foras na Gaeilge provides grant aid for adult education initiatives, eg Ogmios, An Gaeláras, Comhaltas Uladh etc (voluntary organisations).

Article 8 1(g)

To make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and culture which is reflected by the regional or minority languages.

The statutory N.I. Curriculum includes the cross-curricular scheme of cultural heritage and a common programme of study for the teaching of History. Cultural heritage is concerned with enabling young people to understand the common, diverse and distinctive aspects of their culture.

A more holistic revised statutory curriculum will be introduced from September 2006. It aims to enable young people to develop as contributors to society by focussing on themes such as citizenship, cultural and mutual understanding across the whole curriculum.

Article 8 1(h)

To provide basic and further training of the teachers

Initial training is provided for aspiring teachers of the Irish language and for those who will be employed in schools, which teach through the medium of Irish. DE and DEL are working jointly to take forward the further development of Irish Medium primary and post primary Initial Teacher Education in the Higher Education Institutions. DEL currently funds Irish Medium Education in St Mary's University College to the tune of £100,000 per annum. All teacher training is inspected by the Education and Training Inspectorate.

The Northern Ireland Education and Library Boards in conjunction with Gael Linn offers in-service training courses during the summer to teachers of Irish in mainstream and teachers in Irish medium schools.

Currently within the Education and library Board system there is an adviser, an advisory teacher for literacy and a seconded teacher developing work on phonics, for Irish-medium Education all of whom have a five Board remit.

Fit for purpose professional development for teachers in Irish-medium education is beginning to be made available on a cross-phase/5 ELB (Education and Library Board) basis.

Foras na Gaeilge has funded a language laboratory for Coláiste Mhuire (St Mary's University College, Queen's University, Belfast).

Article 8 2

With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority languages justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all appropriate stages of education.

The Irish language is included in the National Curriculum in England. Irish is available as an optional GCSE subject and Irish exams are available to be taken at GCSE and "A" level. Irish is available as a subject at University level in Britain.

Article 9 1 – Judicial Authorities

The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justified the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice.

Article 9 3

The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.

The following national statutory texts have been translated and are available in Irish:

The Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 No 1759
The North South Co-operation (Implementation Bodies) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 No 589 (Part)
The Northern Ireland Act 1998 – Chapter 47

The Human Rights Act 1998 is currently being translated into Irish, by DCAL.

Article 10 1

Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible.

Article 10 1(a)(iv)

To ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications in these languages.

Government Departments and their associated bodies facilitate customers who wish to conduct their business in Irish either orally or in writing. A telephone voicemail facility has been set up for members of the public who wish to conduct their business in Irish.

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) has identified a number of staff who speak Irish and are willing to accept telephone calls in Irish on behalf of their Department.

Foras na Gaeilge provided financial support to Craigavon Health Trust to translate a document into Irish.

The Council for the Curriculum and Examinations and Assessment (CCEA), the Western Education and Library Board (WELB) and the Youth Council for Northern Ireland (YCNl) facilitate clients who wish to submit documents in Irish.

Article 10 1(c)

To allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.

Government Departments and their associated bodies have produced a range of key documents in Irish.

The Department of Culture Arts and Leisure (DCAL) translated Policy on Provision of Financial Support for Irish Language Film & Television in Northern Ireland (including the Equality Impact Assessment -EQIA), and its related Summary of Responses; the Dutton Report on the Gaeltacht Quarter (Ceathru Gaeltachta) into Irish.

The Department of Finance and Personnel (DFP) pro-actively translated into Irish an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA), Executive Summary and advice on the Reform of the Domestic rating system into Irish.

The Department for Regional Development (DRD) translated the Water Reform Information Leaflet into Irish.

The Department of Education produces a range of key documents in Irish ranging from press releases, inspection reports, advertisements and key documents which would be of interest to Irish speakers.

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development produced an executive summary of the first Rural Proofing Report for 2003/4 in Irish.

CCEA translate all examination and assessment material into Irish on request and a number of support packages have also been translated. The YCNI and the Belfast Education and Library Board translate documents, if requested, into Irish.

The Interdepartmental Charter Implementation Group (ICIG) pro-actively translated 'Guidance on Meeting UK Government Commitments in Respect of Irish and Ulster-Scots' into Irish and Ulster-Scots.

Irish is the working language of Foras na Gaeilge and all their documents and correspondence is in Irish or bilingual (Irish/English).

Article 10 2

In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:

Article 10 2(b)

The possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages.

Government policy does not prohibit local (District Councils) or Regional authorities accepting oral or written applications in Irish. The Department of Environment (DOE) issued initial guidance on the Charter to District Councils in July 2002.

Two District Councils have Language Policies and there is ongoing contact with other Local Councils.

The Local Government Staff Commission and NI Local Government Superannuation Committee have received Irish language awareness training.

The ICIG has established contact with the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) to discuss local councils obligations in relation to the Charter.

Article 10 2(e)

The use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official languages of the State.

The regional authority in this case is the Northern Ireland Assembly (currently suspended). It has made provision for the use of Irish in debates. An Irish language speaker is employed as a full-time official in the Assembly for Irish language translation and interpretation.

Article 10 2(f)

The use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official languages of the State

Newry & Mourne District Council provide a bi-lingual translation system for use by all members in Council Committees and has appointed a Development Officer to promote its policy of using Irish

Language in internal administration. We are aware that some other Councils have allowed the use of Irish and have Irish Language policies, although we are not in possession of information for all councils. It is hoped that recently initiated discussions between ICIG and SOLACE will clarify the picture.

Article 10 2(g)

The use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place-names in regional or minority languages.

District Councils have the power under Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) (NI) (Order) 1995 to erect street names in English and in any other language. In doing so Councils must have regard to the views of the residents living in the premises of that street. There are no restrictions on using Irish versions of other parts of an address, eg townland, town, county.

Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland's (OSNI) cultural map and gazetteer of Ireland North includes settlement names in English and the authenticated Irish form. OSNI's POINTER address database includes the Irish version of approved street names where these have been supplied by the District Council concerned. POINTER is an address database used by many public authorities.

The Driver & Vehicle Licensing Agency (Northern Ireland) are currently considering the issuing of driving licences in Irish and Ulster-Scots to drivers on request. A number of practical and technical problems need to be addressed.

The NI Place Names Project in Queens University provides traditional and concrete forms of place-names. It is also focussed on preserving the Townland Heritage and re-instating townlands in the Post Office address database, it is supported by Foras na Gaeilge.

Article 10

With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably

Article 10 3(c)

To allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.

The administrative authorities accept requests in Irish. A telephone voicemail facility has been set up for members of the public who wish to conduct their business in Irish.

The Northern Ireland Museum's Council's Business Plan 2005/6 includes a target to provide guidelines on the use of minority languages, including Irish, to Northern Ireland's museums by end March 2006. Relevant guidance will also be featured in its Cultural Diversity Guidelines to be issued in 2005.

Article 10 4

With a view to putting into effect those provision of paragraphs 1,2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures

Article 10 4 (a)

Translation or interpretation as may be required.

The Linguistic Operations Branch in the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL) facilitates translation and interpretation requests for Government Departments and their associated bodies.

DCAL has established a call-off list of Irish Language Translators, a sample of each organisation's work is quality assured at least every quarter.

An Advisory Committee of language experts comprising academics, officials and experienced translators has been set up to develop a house style for use in public sector translations in Northern Ireland. They are developing guidelines and have provided a TRADOS term database to approved translators.

Article 10 5

The Parties undertake to allow the use of adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned

There is no statutory prohibition on a person's use of the Irish or Ulster-Scots version of their name. The Code of Courtesy for Irish (Annex C of the 'Guidance on meeting UK Government Commitments in Respect of Irish and Ulster-Scots' for public servants) states that '*staff must respect the wishes of anyone who wants to be known by the Irish version of their name*'.

Article 11- Media

The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media: to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission.

Article 11 1(a) (iii)

To make adequate provision so that broadcasters offer programmes in the regional or minority languages.

BBC Northern Ireland offers regular programmes in Irish on Radio Ulster and occasional programmes on TV. In 02/03 Financial Year 3.5 hours of Irish language television output was transmitted. The hours relate to 7 episodes of a music series transmitted between 01/02 and 03/04. In 03/04 the BBC continued the music performance series, CEOL I gCUIDEACHTA, produced a 4-part ob-doc on a GAA club, GAELIC PASSIONS and began the current magazine programme SRL. In 04/05 the BBC produced a second series of SRL and developed with BBC Scotland and Wales a language learning multi-media project, Colin & Cumberland which will be delivered through high-quality TV animations, radio programming but mostly through a highly interactive website.

Article 11 1b(ii):

To encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in the regional or minority languages on a regular basis;

BBC Radio Ulster transmits Irish programmes on a daily basis: 256.04 hrs in financial year 2003/2004.

Article 11 1(d)

To encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audio-visual works in the regional or minority languages.

An Irish Language Broadcast Fund of £12m over four years was approved by the EU Commission on 8 June 2005. The Fund will co-finance a wide range of moving image products in Irish in Northern Ireland.

Foras na Gaeilge funded Súil Aduaidh, to conduct a training course in film and television production over a three year period (2001-2003).

Article 11 1(e) (i)

To encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages.

Foras na Gaeilge funds Lá (daily newspaper), Foinse (Sunday paper) and several periodicals.

Article 11 1(f) (ii)

To apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audio-visual productions in the regional or minority languages.

The principle source of production funding is the Northern Ireland Film and Television Commission (NIFTC). The NIFTC has been delegated responsibility by the Arts Council for the distribution of the film and moving image element of Northern Ireland's share of National Lottery proceeds for the Arts. The NIFTC is administering the Irish Language Broadcast Fund.

Article 11 1(g)

To support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.

The Irish Language Broadcast Fund is committed to developing the level of skills within the Irish Language production sector and has devised a training scheme which includes provision for attachment of trainees to productions it is funding

Article 11 2

The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.

Republic of Ireland radio and television broadcasts in Irish (RTE and TG4) are widely available in Northern Ireland.

At the British Irish Intergovernmental Conference on 2 March 2005 the two joint chairs signed an Intergovernmental Agreement granting authority for TG4 to use a UK frequency to broadcast in Northern Ireland.

TG4 has now been up and running in Northern Ireland since 4 March 2005.

Article 12 – Cultural Activities and Facilities

With regard to cultural activities and facilities - especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinema, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals, and the culture industries, including inter alia the use of new technology in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have a power or play a role.

Article 12 1(a)

To encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages.

Belfast Education and Library Board

Belfast Central Library has a substantial collection of Irish language material. A range of periodicals, books and tapes is also held at selected libraries in the Belfast area. Irish stock is selected either in response to direct contact with teaching staff from local schools or on the basis of knowledge of the Irish language publications. All selection is made using the expertise of Irish-speaking library staff, Irish speakers in local bookshops and bilingual bibliographical information. Foras na Gaeilge has been in contact with Belfast Central Library in relation to the provision of services for Irish speakers- it is intended to have an ongoing working relationship with the Belfast Central Library. A visit was conducted in the Irish language with an Irish Language speaking school during the past year.

North Eastern Education and Library Board (NEELB)

Multi-lingual “welcome” posters are displayed in all libraries. The Director of Libraries met with representatives of Foras na Gaeilge to discuss promotion of the Irish Language in libraries. Foras na Gaeilge has been in contact with the Chief Librarian of NEELB in relation to the provision of services for Irish speakers –it is intended to have an ongoing working relationship with Foras na Gaeilge.

South Eastern Education and Library Board (SEELB)

The South Eastern Education & Library Board has just completed the consultation process on its draft Community Languages Policy which includes provision for the Irish language. In 2004-2005, under the draft policy the SEELB purchased adult fiction to strengthen Irish language collections in Castlewellan, Colin Glen and Downpatrick libraries. Colin Glen Library has storytelling sessions in Irish for classes from Scoil na Fuiseoige.

Southern Education and Library Board

The Southern Board’s Library Service, as part of its Service Development Plan for 2005-2006, will produce a draft policy on the provision of services to minority language groups. Following on from this ways of improving future provision will be investigated.

Arts Council

The Arts Council has encouraged writing in Irish by funding a twice-weekly literary supplement in *Lá*; enhancing funding to the magazine *An tUlltach*; funding a year-long NI-wide Irish arts roadshow with POBAL (03-04) instituting the first Writer-in-Residency in Irish in the island, supporting the Irish language arts centres in Derry and Belfast; and promoting literary readings with traditional music. It completed an extensive analysis and needs analysis of the arts of Irish (June 04), completed sectoral consultation on that report (March 05) and is preparing policy responses for decision in autumn 05.

Museum’s ,Arts ,Galleries, Northern Ireland (MAGNI).

The sound archive at the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum has significant Irish content. The archive is open to the public five days a week during office hours. Most of the material is available on demand. The Ulster Folk and Transport Museum also has a copy of the RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta sound archive, which contains Irish language material from thirty years of broadcasting at the Doirí Beaga studios in County Donegal. Access is granted to researchers and interested members of the public for reference and research purposes only, by prior appointment.

As well as sound archive provision, the Library at the Ulster Folk & Transport Museum is the repository for material of linguistic interest in documentary and literary form. Its Ulster Dialect Archive, containing

several collections and much additional documentation, provides anyone interested in loan-words from Irish, with a rich source of information.

Armagh Planetarium

Armagh Planetarium has run very successful Irish language science events in the past with assistance from Foras na Gaeilge and the Ultach Trust.

Article 12 1(d)

To ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowances for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing.

The Arts Council has established administrative and decision making structures that enables it to work in tandem with such bodies as the Ultach Trust, POBAL, Tí Chulainn, Conradh na Gaeilge (Derry) and Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich. (DCAL)

The Public Records Office of Northern Ireland welcomes documentary/historical material relating to the use of Irish or material in Irish.

Foras na Gaeilge funded an Environmental education programme for the Palace Stables in Armagh entailing translation, design and publication to enable the Museum to provide a service for Irish-medium schools and for Irish speakers.

Foras na Gaeilge has conducted a survey of all museums in Northern Ireland.

Foras na Gaeilge has been in contact with the Executive and Policy Officer of MAGNI in relation to the provision of services for Irish-medium schools and Irish speakers – it is intended to have an ongoing working relationship with MAGNI.

Article 12 1(e)

To promote measures to ensure the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population.

Belfast Education and Library Service.

Belfast Central Library has fluent Irish speaking staff and some of the community libraries have fluent Irish language speakers on their establishment. Bilingual reading lists are produced for schools.

South Eastern Education and Library Board (SEELB).

The SEELB draft Community Languages Policy contains a commitment to 'Provide opportunities for frontline Library staff to acquire basic skills in specified community languages'.

In Colin Glen Library, there are two fluent Irish speaking members of staff others have been trained in basic Irish to enable them to greet Irish speakers.

Arts Council

The Arts Council employs an officer responsible for the language arts, including the arts in Irish. The Council has procured a redesigned corporate brand using Irish on all stationery, publications, business cards, signage, etc; conducted training for all staff in the use of simple greetings, the elements of pronunciation, etc.; conducted a benchmarking exercise with respect to POBAL's Cairt na Gaeilge with a view to adopting its action guidelines with respect to publications, publicity correspondence, public presentations, administrative practice, etc.

Northern Ireland Museums Council

The Northern Ireland Museums Council can access through the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure translation facilities and is able to receive communications, and where practicable respond, in minority languages.

Museum's ,Arts ,Galleries, Northern Ireland (MAGNI)

The Ulster Folk and Transport Museum is in the fortunate position of having one member of staff who is fully conversant in Irish.

Public Record Office Northern Ireland (PRONI)

PRONI has at its disposal a senior member of staff fluent in Irish.

The ICIG established a subgroup (in May 2004) to look at staff training issues arising from the implementation of the Charter across Government Departments. The training subgroup intends to commission a survey of training needs with regard to Irish across all the Government Departments, which operate in Northern Ireland.

Article 12 1(f)

To encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities

The Arts Council's grant support programmes have assisted the development of facilities and artistic programmes: Cultúrlann McAdam-O Fiaich, Conradh na Gaeilge (Derry), literary supplement to *Lá*, Comchoiste Na Gaeilge, Aisling Ghéar, *An tUltach*. Funded projects include: education programmes and outreach, workshops, performances, script development and the construction of facilities. It completed an extensive analysis and needs analysis of the arts of Irish (June 04), completed sectoral consultation on that report (March 05) and is preparing policy responses for decision in autumn 05.

Government departments and public bodies across Northern Ireland are working together to develop a policy and guidance framework for the funding of festivals. Foras na Gaeilge provides funding for Féile an Phobail and a range of other events.

Article 12 1(h)

If necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.

Coiste Tearmaíochta (Terminology Committee) is funded by Foras na Gaeilge, the Irish Language Agency of the NS Language Body. The work of the Coiste Tearmaíochta is ongoing and it is working with experts from all over Ireland.

Foras na Gaeilge has provided funding for a scholarship scheme on the Irish translation course at Queen's University Belfast.

Article 12 2

In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.

An Gúm, (Irish language publisher) recently published Taisce Téarmaíochta containing nine dictionaries.

A range of dictionaries are available from An Gúm.

The Department of Culture Arts and Leisure supports the Translation Advisory Committee (TAC).

The TAC provides technical linguistic support for official translators in Northern Ireland.

Article 12 3

The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

The Department of Culture Arts and Leisure has created a Cultural Affairs Desk in the Northern Ireland Bureau in Washington DC to promote Northern Ireland arts and cultural issues in the United States.

The NI Administration is represented at meetings of the British Irish Council. The British Irish Council was created under the Agreement reached in the Multi-Party Negotiations in Belfast in 1998 to promote positive, practical relationships among its Members, which are the British and Irish Governments, the devolved administrations of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man.

Article 13 – Economic and Social Life

With regards to economic and social activities, the parties undertake, within the whole country.

Article 13 1(d)

To facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.

Throughout the UK, the use of Irish in the private/non-Governmental sector is facilitated on the same basis as any English-using private sector enterprise or non-Governmental organisation, and such enterprises/NGOs are open to apply for public sector support .

Foras na Gaeilge has established an Advisory Panel in relation to the use of Irish in the Private/non-Governmental Sector.

The Northern Ireland Administration is currently working on a partnership with the private, voluntary and community sectors to develop a Gaeltacht Quarter in West Belfast.

Article 14 – Trans-Frontier

The Parties undertake:

B

For the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders in particular between regional or local authorities whose territory the same language(s) used in identical or similar form.

The Department of Education funds through the British Council, the East-West pilot project which aims to link schools in Northern Ireland (NI), Republic of Ireland (ROI) and Great Britain with a view to breaking down barriers and fostering understanding and respect. One of the partnerships brings together 2 Irish-medium schools, one in NI and one in ROI and a Welsh medium school. The 3 schools are currently putting together a project around languages and heritage which will take place in 2006.

Welsh

Article 8 - Education

1a (i) to make available pre-school education in Welsh;

Pre-school education is available to all parents/guardians through the medium of Welsh: there is a statutory entitlement to at least half-time provision from the child's 3rd birthday. Voluntary sector provision for under-threes is available in 448 nursery groups throughout Wales and for 3+ age group in 580 groups. Local Education Authorities co-ordinate pre-school provision on a County Basis via Early Years Education and Childcare Partnerships.

1b (i) to make available primary education in Welsh;

Primary Welsh medium and bilingual models of provision are available to all parents or guardians who so desire it for their children in all 22 Local Authority Areas. Welsh medium provision is available in 448 schools where Welsh is the sole/main medium of instruction, and bilingual provision in 58 schools where Welsh medium provision is used for part of the curriculum Welsh as a second language taught in the remainder of schools.

1c (i) to make available secondary education in Welsh;

Bilingual/Welsh medium secondary education is available throughout Wales to varying degrees. There are 54 "Welsh speaking Schools" in the secondary sector in Wales, but Local Authorities who do not provide such a school ensure provision via cross-county agreements and by paying transportation costs for pupils who desire Welsh medium/bilingual provision. Defining categories of bilingual provision is complex and considerable local variation exists in percentages of subjects delivered through the medium of Welsh. Welsh as a subject has been compulsory for all pupils up to the age of 16 since 1999.

1d (iv) Technical and vocational education:

to apply one of the measures provided for under (i) to (iii) above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;

Some technical and vocational qualifications may be delivered and assessed through the medium of Welsh by Welsh-medium and bilingual schools and by further education colleges. Responsibility for the development of provision for post-16 vocational provision has now been passed to ELWa (Education and Learning Wales), which has now developed a vocational strategy to increase the opportunities for Welsh-medium vocational training. Key areas of this strategy in partnership with

other bodies such as AACAC, the Sector Skills Council, and, through ACCAC, the examining bodies, are:

- Identifying needs and research
- Prioritising and targeting sectors and strategic planning
- Developing provision through the medium of Welsh
- Developing Welsh-medium qualifications, work-based learning frameworks and their assessment
- Developing student and teaching resource materials to support delivery.

1e (iii) if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs (i) and (ii) cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in Welsh or of facilities for the study of Welsh as university or higher education subjects;

Welsh medium provision is allowed in Higher Education. It accounts for around 1.5% of the total provision. In 1999-2000 3% of students undertook at least part of their degree through the medium of Welsh.

1f (ii) to offer Welsh as a subject of adult and continuing education;

ELWa funds the Welsh for Adults programme, which is a national programme for the teaching of Welsh to adult learners.

The programme is offered by HEIs, FEIs, LEAs and other educational organisations, and courses are available throughout Wales at all levels. These include bespoke courses for workplace staff, parents and non-Welsh speakers who relocate to Welsh-speaking areas.

Apart from Welsh as a subject area, ELWa also funds and supports the development of Welsh-medium and bilingual education and training in Wales.

ELWa has established a Welsh-medium Vocational training Panel to work with Sector Skills Development Agency. This Panel meets twice a year to discuss the way forward for prioritising training and qualifications in key sectors through the medium of Welsh or bilingually.

The ELWa Learning Challenge Fund Fforwm (Sgiliaith/Cydag) project has provided training on language awareness, bilingualism and Estyn requirements, bilingual teaching methodologies and video-conferencing advice to 25 FE institutions in Wales. The ELWa Learning Challenge Fund Cydag project funded the installation of video-conferencing equipment in six bilingual and Welsh-medium schools across Wales to enable the schools to offer a greater choice of subjects through the medium of Welsh, and to share expertise and good practice.

A number of other pilot projects planned by ELWa will try out methods of expanding Welsh-medium or bilingual post-16 provision by working in partnership with schools, further education colleges and work-based learning providers.

In addition to resources for the Welsh for Adults sector outlined above, ELWa collaborates with a number of agencies to develop classroom resources through the medium of Welsh in the following subjects: Business Administration and IT, Tourism and Leisure, Media, Early Year and Agriculture.

1g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by Welsh;

Welsh history and culture is reflected in the Curriculum for Wales at all levels via the "Cwricwlwm Cymreig", which ensures a Welsh dimension and ethos for the National Programmes of Study. This includes other subject areas such as Music, Art and Design, Geography and Anglo-Welsh text in English as a taught subject.

1h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement paragraphs a to g;

ELWa supports national training for Welsh for Adults tutors. This training will be one of the functions of the new dedicated language centres. ELWa has funded the production of FENTO occupational standards that will form the basis of a national qualification for Welsh for Adults tutors. ELWa will commission this qualification in 2005.

ELWa is developing a National Practitioners' Training programme that will provide for the delivery of a national training programme for FE lecturers and private training providers in the post-16 sector. The programme will provide practitioners with immersion training in Welsh-language skills and Welsh-medium and bilingual methodological training, thus enabling them subsequently to teach their specialist subjects through the medium of Welsh. This programme, with its supporting Sabbaticals Scheme, will begin to address the shortage of Welsh-medium lecturers and trainers in the post-16 FE and work-based learning sector by ensuring that there is an increase in their numbers able to train or teach through the medium of Welsh or bilingually. The programme will include participation by schoolteachers, by arrangement with the Welsh Assembly Government. It is anticipated that the first course will start in January 2006.

1i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of Welsh and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

The Welsh Language Board oversees the development of Welsh Language Schemes under the Welsh Language Act 1993. These strategy documents are produced by public bodies and outline steps to be taken to develop Welsh medium and bilingual provision. Local Education Authorities and the further and higher education system produce Schemes for approval by the Welsh Language Board. Scheme targets operate within three year implementation timescales. Other bodies have statutory roles in this context, including ELWA (Education and Learning Wales), ACCAC (the Curriculum and Qualifications Authority for Wales – Awdurdod Cymwysterau, Cwricwlwm ac Asesu Cymru), GTCW (General Teaching Council for Wales), WJEC (Welsh Joint Education Committee) and the Welsh Assembly Government.

Article 9 - Judicial authorities

1a in criminal proceedings:

ii. to guarantee the accused the right to use Welsh;

The right to speak Welsh in any criminal proceedings in Wales is given by Section 22(i) of the Welsh Language Act 1993. Documents in Welsh are permitted by rules of Court.

iii. to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in Welsh;

Sections 22-24 of the Welsh Language Act guarantee the use of Welsh in courts in Wales. The use of Welsh in courts elsewhere in the UK is discretionary.

Responsibility for criminal proceedings is split. The Crown and Appeals Courts are covered by the Court Service's Welsh Language Scheme. This provides that in the administration of justice in Wales the English and Welsh languages should be treated on the basis of equality. Magistrates Courts in Wales are the responsibility of four Magistrates Courts Committees, all of which have their own Welsh Language Scheme in place.

1b in civil proceedings:

ii. to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use Welsh without thereby incurring additional expense;

The right to speak Welsh in any civil proceedings in Wales is given by Section 22(i) of the Welsh Language Act 1993. Documents in Welsh are permitted by rules of Court.

- iii. **to allow documents and evidence to be produced in Welsh, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;**

Civil Courts are covered by the Court Service's Welsh Language Scheme. As stated above, this provides that in the administration of justice in Wales the English and Welsh languages should be treated on the basis of equality. The Court Service's Welsh Language Unit will meet the cost of translating documents from or to Welsh. If it is possible that the Welsh language may be used by any party or witness, the parties or their legal representatives must inform the court of the fact so that appropriate arrangements can be made for the management and listing of the case. If costs are incurred as a result of a party failing to comply with this direction, a costs order may be made against him or his legal representative. Hearings may be conducted entirely in Welsh on an ad hoc basis and without notice when all parties and witnesses directly involved at the time consent.

1c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:

- ii. **to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use Welsh without thereby incurring additional expense;**
- iii. **to allow documents and evidence to be produced in Welsh, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;**

The cost of translating documents and evidence for Court and Tribunal proceedings that come within the Lord Chancellor's Department and the Court Service's responsibility, is met through the Department's Welsh Language Unit. As explained above, a litigant may use Welsh at a hearing in Wales, but if costs are incurred as a result of insufficient notice, a costs order may be made.

1d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs (i) and (iii) of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.

As explained above, by virtue of the Welsh Language Schemes of the criminal courts, translation of oral evidence is provided at no extra expense to those giving evidence. Documents are also translated free of charge.

The budgets of the Civil Courts include provisions for translation. The Welsh Language Schemes of Tribunals and other legal proceedings require the provision of translation facilities at no extra cost to the persons concerned.

2b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in Welsh, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of Welsh on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the persons) who invokes) it;

Invoking a legal document against a third party would be covered by the Court Service's Welsh Language Scheme as referred to in relation to civil proceedings.

Subordinate Legislation drafted by the National Assembly for Wales is in bilingual form.

Article 10 - Administrative authorities and public services

1a (i) to ensure that the administrative authorities use Welsh;

The Welsh Language Act 1993 includes provisions requiring public bodies [but not voluntary and private bodies] to prepare and implement Welsh Language Schemes. These Schemes need to set out what services and activities are to be provided in Welsh, how they are to be provided, and by when. They also need to set out how the body concerned will ensure the Scheme is being implemented.

The process of preparing and implementing Schemes is overseen by the Welsh Language Board, a statutory body. The Board ensures Schemes comply with the Act. Where disputes occur between the Board and individual bodies, they may be referred to the National Assembly for Wales, who can give directions - empowered by court order if necessary.

The Welsh Assembly Government has developed a Welsh Language Scheme which was approved by the Welsh Language Board in October 2002. The Scheme is subject to an Annual Report on performance and progress against the commitments made in the Scheme.

Some of the bodies are also regulators or supervisors of services which are provided by others, for example the Audit Commission, The Commission for Health Improvement, and ESTYN (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education and Training in Wales), who monitor the quality of services in particular areas of public service. In their Schemes, these regulatory bodies need to set out how they will monitor the quality of service in Welsh as part of their function. In this manner, the provision of public services in Welsh, and the regulation of those services, is being normalised and integrated into orthodox administrative processes.

Although central government departments are not defined as public bodies for the purpose of the Welsh Language Act, the UK government gave an undertaking that departments who provide services to the public in Wales will prepare schemes and comply with the provisions of the Act. If a Crown body decides to develop a Welsh Language Scheme, the Welsh Language Board must approve it in the same way as for public bodies. Many central government departments and agencies do have an approved scheme (a list is at Annex A).

To date over 200 Schemes have been approved, and more are in the course of preparation. The National Assembly for Wales has powers to name further public bodies, thus ensuring the Act applies to new or reorganised administrative authorities.

The Board has introduced methods to measure whether bodies are complying with their Schemes. The Board reports considerable progress since the introduction of the Act, though not all bodies are performing to the same level.

1b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in Welsh or in bilingual versions;

This is a requirement of individual Welsh Language Schemes - see 1 a(i) above. Items such as forms are of high priority within language schemes.

1c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in ' Welsh.

This is a requirement of individual Welsh Language Schemes - see a(i) above. Where previous legislation or regulation creates a barrier to the issuing of documents in Welsh, new legislation or regulation can correct this. The Regulatory Reform Act 2001 provides a mechanism to deal with areas which are otherwise unlikely to be given Parliamentary time. The areas where barriers remain are now very limited, and of those, some stem from European law, not UK law.

2a the use of Welsh within the framework of the regional or local authority;

This is a requirement of individual Welsh Language Schemes.

2b the possibility for users of Welsh to submit oral or written applications in Welsh;

This is a requirement of individual Welsh Language Schemes.

2c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in Welsh;

This is a requirement of individual Welsh Language Schemes.

2d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in Welsh;

This is a requirement of individual Welsh Language Schemes.

- 2e** the use by regional authorities of Welsh in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;

This is a requirement of individual Welsh Language Schemes.

- 2f** the use by local authorities of Welsh in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;

This is a requirement of individual Welsh Language Schemes.

- 2g** the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place-names in Welsh;

This is a requirement of those Welsh Language Schemes where the body concerned is responsible for or uses place names in its work.

- 3a** to ensure that Welsh is used in the provision of the service;

This is a requirement of individual Welsh Language Schemes. The requirement to provide services in Welsh needs to be passed on to any contractor or agent or partner who delivers the service on the administrative bodies' behalf.

- 4a** translation or interpretation as may be required;

This is a requirement of individual Welsh Language Schemes.

- 4b** recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;

This is a requirement of individual Welsh Language Schemes. This is a sensitive area, which needs to be taken forward gradually and strategically, avoiding discrimination.

- 5** to allow the use or adoption of family names in Welsh, at the request of those concerned.

This has long been the practice. The Registration of Births and Deaths Regulations 1987 enabled parents to specify a surname which was not necessarily the same as their own, in line with the customs of their own culture.

Article 11- Media

- 1a** to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:

- i.** to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages;

BBC Radio Cymru started broadcasting as an entirely Welsh language Radio station on 1 January 1977. Other regional and commercial stations also broadcast certain amounts of Welsh language programming, notably Radio Ceredigion, based in Aberystwyth and Champion FM which serves north west Wales. Radio Cymru broadcasts around 100 hours of Welsh language programming per week.

S4C (Sianel Pedwar Cymru), the Welsh language fourth television channel in Wales first broadcast on 1 November 1982. S4C has created 2 digital television channels, the first of which broadcasts around 80 hours of Welsh language programming per week, and the second, which provides coverage of the deliberations of the National Assembly for Wales, and certain Welsh cultural festivals. Viewers possessing correct digital reception apparatus may choose the language of soundtrack whilst viewing this second S4C channel.

1d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in Welsh;

Sgrin, the Media Agency for Wales, is the primary organisation for film, television and new media in Wales, and is funded jointly by the Arts Council of Wales, BBC Wales, British Film Institute, Film Council, S4C, TAC (Teledwyr Annibynol Cymru-Welsh Independent Television Producers) and the Welsh Development Agency. It is responsible for the formulation of a strategic vision for the development of the industrial and cultural aspects of these industries to their full potential. It is responsible for awarding National Lottery film production funding for works which may be in Welsh or English. It also awards exhibition grant aid which is used to support or assist in exhibiting both Welsh and English-language films.

1e (i) to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in Welsh;

There are a large number of news publications available in Welsh. 'Y Cymro' and 'Golwg' appear weekly, 'Barn' a current affairs magazine, monthly, and 61 local [mostly monthly] regional papers, or *Papurau Bro*.

1f (ii) to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in Welsh;

Sgrin, the Media Agency for Wales, administers funding for audio-visual productions in Welsh and English. This includes the core funding from its funding bodies, and, in co-operation with Media Antenna Cymru Wales and the European Commission, the MEDIA programme, which has been used to support the development and distribution of audio-visual works in Welsh.

2 to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to Welsh, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language; and to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to Welsh.

All these criteria are current practice. No legal obstructions exist to prevent reception of Welsh language media programming from neighbouring countries. In practice, in many areas, Welsh language programming can be heard and viewed in England and abroad. Radio Cymru is now streamed live on the internet and digital satellite, and S4C 1 & 2 are available in Wales and outside on digital satellite. BBC Wales provides an extensive interactive Welsh Language service on the internet, which contains many streaming audio and video broadcasts in Welsh.

3 to ensure that the interests of the users of Welsh are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.

Many bodies undertake pertinent activities in this field. Amongst them, the Press Complaints Commission and OFCOM (Office of Communications), OFCOM has established an office in Wales and there is a Welsh representative on Ofcom's Content Board. There is also an Ofcom advisory committee for Wales created so that Wales will have a say in the field of broadcasting, telecommunications and wireless communications

Article 12 - Cultural activities and facilities

- 1a** to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to Welsh and foster the different means of access to works produced in Welsh;

The Welsh Arts Council provides direct grant aid to many Welsh language cultural activities. The Welsh Books Council funds much of the Welsh language publishing industry, and independent publishing houses frequently publish works in Welsh on paper, and CD Rom. All public bodies mentioned in this paragraph are sponsored bodies of the National Assembly for Wales. Another Assembly project, *Cymru'n Creu, do* provide a bilingual portal site for all cultural activities in Wales.

- 1b** to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in Welsh by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

The EU-funded Mercator Minority Language Network based in Aberystwyth, hosts the Welsh Literature Abroad project, which promotes literature produced in Welsh into other languages. Several publishing houses have also translated works composed in Welsh into English, for example *Pestilence* (William Owen Roberts, translation of Y Pla. S4C subtitles a large proportion of its Welsh language programming in English, and in simplified Welsh (for those learning Welsh) as a matter of course. S4C International exists to promote the Welsh language produce of S4C abroad.

- 1c** to foster access in Welsh to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

The Mercator Project in Aberystwyth mentioned above carries out translation work. Many classic works of French Literature have been translated into Welsh. S4C regularly airs programmes dubbed from other languages into Welsh.

- 1d** to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of Welsh and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;

When organising or supporting cultural activities, public bodies should comply with their statutory Welsh Language Schemes. When public bodies such as the Arts Council Wales provide financial backing or a grant for cultural activities, the applicants are asked how they will reflect the bilingual nature of the community in the event they wish to hold, thus forming part of the selection criteria.

- 1e** to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of Welsh, as well as of the languages) of the rest of the population;

Public bodies and third party contractors are bound by the staffing sections of the organisations' Welsh Language Schemes and therefore, must have an overview of their linguistic skills capacity to ensure that the service can be delivered in the service users preferred language. Linguistic capacity would also be a consideration within the grants allocation criteria of public bodies such as Arts Council Wales.

- 1f** to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of Welsh in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;

When organising public activities (including public meetings, conferences and cultural activities), Public bodies with language schemes are required to offer, establish and act upon the service user's language choice. Direct participation by representatives of minority language users can be encouraged by ensuring a bilingual culture to the event in terms of the visual displays and by providing simultaneous translation facilities.

1g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in Welsh;

The National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth, one of 6 Copyright libraries in the UK, holds a copy of every book published in the UK. It also houses copies of all University Theses (of Research Masters and Doctorate Level), and copies of taught Masters' theses relating to Wales in any way. The National Library also has an extensive collection of works in other Celtic languages, notably Breton. A high proportion of the Library's staff speaks English and Welsh, and it is a thoroughly bilingual institution.

1h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in Welsh.

The Welsh Language Board has been at the forefront of Corpus planning activities and terminological standardisation since its inception. It has coordinated the production of a number of Welsh - English dictionaries.

It also convenes a panel of academic experts and practitioners for the standardisation of terms and place names. A data base of standardised place names will shortly be available on the internet and the Welsh Language Board plans to establish a national database of standardised terms which will include terms standardised by the Board and others. The Board has also completed a feasibility study into machine translation and work will be undertaken to take forward the recommendations of that report. A draft translation strategy which will include proposals to regulate the translation industry has been published by the Board which will be implemented following consultation.

The University of Wales, Bangor, also has a pioneering terminological standardisation unit, within the Canolfan Bedwyr Centre. The Board has given substantial grant and project aid to the Centre to produce spellchecking and grammar checking software for Welsh, and a computerised dictionary, CySill, which serves as a plug-in to Word processing programs. Another similar CD Rom dictionary, the *Terwiadur* Ysgol, was commissioned by ACCAC, the Curriculum and Qualifications Authority for Wales.

The Board is also active in the field of translation, and gives substantial funding to Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru/The Association of Welsh Translators, and its website includes a list of accredited translators.

Modern legal dictionaries of Welsh also exist, and the University of Wales has funded an undergraduate Welsh-medium module textbook ('Cymraeg a'r Gyfraith' - Welsh and the Law) to teach law students Law terminology and procedures through the medium of Welsh.

2 In respect of territories other than those in which Welsh is traditionally used, if the number of users of Welsh justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.

The Welsh Language Board will provide £25,000 in grant aid to the London Welsh Medium primary school during the 2005-06 financial year. The Assembly continues to fund, and the British Council and Cardiff University jointly oversee and manage a project to teach Welsh in Chubut, Argentina, where a substantial Welsh-speaking community exists.

There are several active Welsh language societies and networks in cities in the UK outside Wales, and the National Eisteddfod of Wales network Cymru a'r Byd (Wales and the World) is also relevant in this respect.

3 to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for Welsh and the cultures it reflects.

The Welsh language is acknowledged as a marketing tool as well as a medium within the tourism industry in Wales. The Welsh language is recognised as a distinctive 'raw material' within the Welsh Tourist Board's Cultural Tourism Strategy and its 'Sense of Place Toolkit'. The Welsh Assembly

Government continues to support the teaching of Welsh in Patagonia. The project which involves the secondment of Welsh teachers to Patagonia and the training of local Welsh tutors, will receive funding of £105,000 between 2005-2008.

Article 13 - Economic and social life

- 1a** to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of Welsh in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;

There are no legislative provisions preventing the use of Welsh in economic or social life other than a few outstanding areas where steps have yet to be taken to remove barriers stemming from historical legislation. [See 10 Lc above]. Barriers still remain in practice, however, because for instance, contracts of employment are provided in Welsh at the discretion of employers. Instructions for the use of products or installations, or information about them, also are rarely provided in Welsh - while there are no legislative barriers, there is no obligation on companies to do so.

- 1c** to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of Welsh in connection with economic or social activities;

The main economic agencies in Wales, such as the Welsh Development Agency operate under a Welsh Language Scheme.

- 2b** in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of Welsh;

There are examples of such activities, such as the Wales Tourist Board's Cultural Tourism Strategy (supported in some localities by a small grants scheme) and the Welsh Development Agency's Taste of Wales project, where the use of Welsh is encouraged as part of a broader economic objective. The Welsh Language Board's Bilingual Design awards are a further example.

Indirectly, the provision of services in Welsh by bodies in the economic and social sectors is a form of passive promotion of the language.

- 2c** to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using Welsh who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;

To help improve the provision of Welsh language services in the NHS and partnership organisations in Wales, and thus increase the ability within the health and care sector in Wales to provide services in the language choice of patients the Assembly Government formed the All-Wales Task Group for Welsh Language Services in August 2001.

The Task Group includes influential and senior representatives from across the Health and Social Care services in Wales, along with the Welsh Language Board, Higher Education Institutions and the Assembly itself.

One of the Task Group's main achievements has been the commissioning of a language awareness training pack, *Iechyd Da!* to be used in the health sector. Response to the training pack has been positive, and feedback indicates that it has been widely used.

In 2004 the Task Group also commissioned a Study of Welsh Language Awareness in Healthcare Provision in Wales. The research was conducted by the University of Wales, Bangor and provides evidence that language awareness is improving significantly across the sector. As a result of the research, the implementation of Welsh language awareness training is an element of the balanced scorecard performance management system within the NHS in Wales, and its use is being broadened to include the Primary Care sector.

In 2003, the Assembly Government held the first annual Welsh Language in Healthcare Conference which provides a national focus to raise awareness of the language in the NHS. The third annual conference held in May 2005 was attended by 150 delegates. The conference provided an opportunity to build on the momentum of the last two years. Along with several workshops ranging from Speech & Language Therapy to Mental health, the conference also enables the sharing of good practice and an opportunity for networking.

In 2004, the inaugural Welsh Language in Healthcare Awards were presented by the National Assembly. These Awards are linked to the Conference and provide an opportunity to recognise the progress made in broadening and improving Welsh language provision across the NHS in Wales.

The Trusts and Local Health Boards in Wales have representatives on a 6-monthly 'Welsh Language Champions Group'. These are senior management staff who are expected to take new initiatives and best practice back to their management teams for dissemination and implementation in their areas. There is also a 6 monthly meeting of a 'Contact Group' which consists of Welsh Language Officers, or those responsible for the implementation of Welsh Language Schemes within the NHS Trusts, where there is an opportunity to share best practice and discuss challenges faced in implementing schemes.

All Trusts and Local Health Boards in Wales now have Welsh Language Schemes and these are monitored annually; compliance reports are sent to the Welsh Language Board and copied to the Assembly Government's NHS Welsh Language Unit.

In the field of social care the Assembly provides a range of mechanisms to promote and monitor the achievement of best practice by public, private and voluntary providers of social care, including in respect of Welsh language services. In 2004-05 the Assembly Government / Care Council for Wales worked on a toolkit which provides guidance on Welsh language issues including recruitment and retention strategies, to address the needs of Welsh-speaking service users. The Assembly's Social Care Workforce Development Programme grant has provided matched funding to local authorities to increase the proportion of staff with the requisite skills, knowledge and qualifications.

In May 2005, a National Liaison Officer for Welsh Medium Speech and Language Services was seconded to the Assembly Government. Part of the officer's remit will be to consider the training requirements of speech and language therapists. The officer will work with the stakeholders in speech and language services to provide a model of good practice. Developing Welsh medium training for speech and language therapists is a primary goal for improved bilingual services.

2e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in Welsh.

This is a requirement of individual Welsh Language Schemes (such as that of the Welsh Consumer's Council).