



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Committee for Education

Veronica Bintley
Departmental Assembly Liaison Officer
Department of Education
Rathgael House
Balloo Road
Bangor
BT19 7PR

10 January 2014

Our Ref: PMcC/SMcG/1105

Dear Veronica

Education and Training Inspectorate Inquiry

At its meeting on 8 January 2014, the Committee noted your correspondence relating to the inspection of Irish Medium Education schools. The Committee also noted oral evidence from Parents Outloud and CCMS.

The Committee agreed to write to the Department to seek:

- information on the Irish language fluency of its Irish Medium Education inspectors;
- an update on a reported new parental questionnaire process which is said to be under trial by ETI;
- a breakdown of ETI's financial and personnel resources in respect of the sectors which it inspects;
- the number and nature of specialist inspectors in ETI;
- clarity on the information and paperwork requirements that ETI requests from schools prior to an inspection; and
- an estimate of the uptake of self-evaluation among schools.

*Committee for Education
Room 375, Parliament Buildings, Ballymiscaw, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3XX
Tel: (028) 9052 1201 Fax: (028) 9052 21974
E-mail: peter.mccallion@niassembly.gov.uk*

The Committee also agreed to write to the Department to seek its views on the benefits or otherwise of increased independence for ETI from the Department in-line with the practice in other jurisdictions.

A response by 24 January 2014 would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter McCallion', written in a cursive style.

Peter McCallion
Committee Clerk