

Q7 (a). Do you think these are the right steps under Education?

Yes No Don't Know

Q8 (b) Please tell us why you think this:

Since it was created in 1997, SQA has awarded qualifications for BSL learners, we recognise though that there is scope to expand on our current range of qualifications in this area. The interest and publicity generated by the National Plan should also help draw more attention and interest to qualifications in BSL, for Deaf and Deafblind BSL users and also for hearing learners.

We note step 16 in the draft plan "Discuss with SQA the potential for developing SQA Awards in BSL". We are delighted to report that SQA has already begun initial planning work on the development of new Awards at SCQF levels 3 and 4 over the next 18 months, with the intention to continue thereafter on the development of further Awards at SCQF levels 5 and 6, subject to the availability of appropriate funding. We see Awards as an increasingly important part of the certificated provision available in the senior phase of secondary education in Scotland and we look forward to being able to offer BSL alongside other language options to all pupils.

SQA has been working in close partnership with Heriot Watt University during the planning phase for these new Awards and we hope to continue and build on this partnership as we begin to consult with our centres and enable them to take part in this exciting new development.

Q9 If there are there any additional steps, or potential solutions that you think could be added to the Education section, please tell us.