

From: [DoF Private Office](#)
To: [DFC Private Office](#); [DAERA Private Office](#); [DE Private Office](#); [DoH Private Office](#); [DOJ Minister's Office](#); [DfI Assembly Business](#); [TEO PS Ministers](#); [Private Office Attorney General](#); [TEO excomm secretariat](#); [TEO First Legislative Counsel](#); [DFE Private Office](#); [DOJ Assembly Section](#); [HOCS OFFICE \(JB\)](#); [DoF DSO Outer Office](#); [King, Brenda \(AGNI\)](#); [Crilly, Louise](#)
Cc: [Magee, Joe](#); [Hillis, Lorraine](#); [REDACTED]; [DfC Languages Operations](#); [Greenway, Iain](#); [DfC Permanent Secretary Support](#); [REDACTED]; [DFC Assembly Section](#); [Anderson, Louise](#); [2024 DfC Spad](#); [DFC Language Strategies Team](#); [DfC Culture Support](#); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: DfC EXEC-0043-2025: Version 1: Draft Executive Paper: Development of the Ulster-Scots Language, Heritage & Culture Strategy and the Irish Language Strategy. Update and Request for Decision on Moving Forward.
Date: 30 April 2026 16:19:00
Attachments: [DoF Reply.pdf](#)

DfC,

Please find attached response issued on behalf of Minister O'Dowd.

Regards

-----Original Message-----

From: DfC Private Office [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 April 2025 16:13
To: DAERA Private Office [REDACTED]; DE Private Office [REDACTED]; DoF Private Office [REDACTED]; DoH Private Office [REDACTED]; DOJ Minister's Office [REDACTED]; DfI Assembly Business [REDACTED]; DfC Private Office [REDACTED]; TEO PS Ministers [REDACTED]; Private Office Attorney General [REDACTED]; TEO excomm secretariat [REDACTED]; King, Brenda (Legacy) [REDACTED]; TEO First Legislative Counsel [REDACTED]; DfE Private Office [REDACTED]; King, Brenda (AGNI) [REDACTED]; DOJ Assembly Section [REDACTED]; HOCS OFFICE (JB) [REDACTED]; DoF DSO Outer Office [REDACTED]; King, Brenda (AGNI) [REDACTED]; Crilly, Louise [REDACTED]
Cc: Morelli, Emer [REDACTED]; Magee, Joe [REDACTED]; Hillis, Lorraine [REDACTED]; DfC Languages Operations [REDACTED]; Greenway, Iain [REDACTED]; Boyle, Colum (DfC) [REDACTED]; DfC Permanent Secretary Support [REDACTED]; DfC Assembly Section [REDACTED]; DfC Private Office [REDACTED]; DfC Permanent Secretary Support [REDACTED]; Anderson, Louise [REDACTED]; Boyle, Colum (DfC) [REDACTED]; DfC Assembly Section [REDACTED]; 2024 DfC Spad [REDACTED]; DfC Language Strategies Team [REDACTED]; DfC Culture Support [REDACTED]
Subject: DfC EXEC-0043-2025: Version 1: Draft Executive Paper: Development of the Ulster-Scots Language, Heritage & Culture Strategy and the Irish Language Strategy. Update and Request for Decision on Moving Forward.

Reference: EXEC-0043-2025

Subject: DfC EXEC-0043-2025: Version 1: Draft Executive Paper: Development of the Ulster-Scots Language, Heritage & Culture Strategy and the Irish Language Strategy. Update and Request for Decision on Moving Forward.

Date: 09/04/2025

Please consider the attached draft Executive Paper.

Please note responses are required by 4pm on 23/04/2025.

Minister Lyons would like this paper to be on the agenda on 30 April 2025

For further information etc. contact:

[REDACTED]
Private Office
[REDACTED]

Copied To For Information:

Morelli, Emer; Magee, Joe; Hillis, Lorraine; [REDACTED]; DfC Languages Operations; Greenway, Iain;
Boyle, Colum (DfC); DfC Permanent Secretary Support; [REDACTED]; DfC Assembly Section; Exec Papers
- for info; DfC Language Strategies Team; DfC Culture Support; [REDACTED]

From the Minister of Finance

*Gordon Lyons MLA
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Tel: [REDACTED]

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Via email:
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Your reference: EXEC-0043-2025

Our reference: EXEC-0047-2025

Date: 30 April 2026

Gordon, a chara

DRAFT EXECUTIVE PAPER: DEVELOPMENT OF THE ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE, HERITAGE & CULTURE STRATEGY AND THE IRISH LANGUAGE STRATEGY. UPDATE AND REQUEST FOR DECISION ON MOVING FORWARD

Thank you for your correspondence of 9 April 2025 in respect of the development of the Ulster-Scots Language, Heritage & Culture Strategy and the Irish Language Strategy. I welcome the progress that has been made in these Strategies.

I nominated David Hughes, Director of Corporate Services, to the Cross Departmental Working Group.

David Hughes has represented the Department on this group and has been provided with the authority to consider the actions and agree which can appropriately be included in this phase of consultation, including developing costs.

Departments and public bodies have a role to play in supporting and promoting the use of the Irish language and the development of the Ulster-Scots language, heritage and culture and my Department will continue to do so.

I hope this response is helpful.

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**JOHN O'DOWD MLA
MINISTER OF FINANCE**