

PE1530/QQ

Keith R Cook Email of 28 December 2014

Dear Sirs,

Briefly,

As a lover of science and humanity I am dismayed at the stance taken by Tim Simmons, Head of Curriculum Unit at the Scottish Government's Learning Directorate.

I have Scottish connections via my wife's parents who hail from Glasgow and have family (albeit by marriage) living at multiple locations throughout Scotland.

Because Scotland has always punched above its weight, like New Zealand I might add, it reinforces the connection I have for Scotland.

This may not give me rights to interfere with Scottish policy towards the teaching of creationism as science but I am proud of and for the Scottish history in science and literature and its contribution to these disciplines.

Unfortunately by the following, Mr Simmons [sic] said: "I can (therefore) confirm that there are no plans to issue guidance to schools or education authorities to prevent the presentation of creationism, intelligent design or similar doctrines by teachers or school visitors.

"The evidence available suggests that guidance on these matters is unnecessary."

Scotland would be taking a retrograde step if it wishes to stay at the forefront in education of its young minds by not issuing clear guidelines, as creationism, ID and the like are clearly not science and have no place within the education curriculum of any country let alone Scotland.

Therefore I urge the Scottish government and appropriate bodies to reconsider, the future generations of young science lovers of Scotland depend on it,

With regards,

Keith R Cook