

PE1813/PE1814/D

Andrew Strachan submission of 28 October 2020

Further to the Scottish Government's submission of 14th August, my submission of 20th August and the Scottish Government's submission of 22nd October I make the following comment for the committee's consideration:

Why are campaigners for BAME inclusive education being treated less favourably by the Scottish Government than campaigners for LGBT inclusive education?

The Scottish Government set up a formal Working Group for LGBT Inclusive Education but they are fobbing off BAME campaigners with informal conversation groups, discussion groups and vague references to experiences and outcomes or curriculum mapping. It is obvious from the Scottish Government's initial statement and the SPICe briefing that they regard BAME inclusion in Scottish education as less important than LGBT inclusion. This should not be the case.

I accept that the direction of travel appears more positive in their submission of 22nd October and the anticipated completion date of March 2021 is positive. However, it still falls a long way short of establishing a formal Working Group.

Does your committee think it is acceptable for one section of one protected characteristic to be treated less favourably than another?