

National Standardised Assessments

I attended the Quarterly Update Meeting for Professional Associations on National Improvement Framework at which the majority of the meeting was given over to an update on National Standardised Assessment. David Leng who leads on this for Scottish Government addressed the meeting and has agreed to come to Council on 21 October to brief us on the current position. In the meanwhile, please find attached for your information my notes from the meeting

The programme for the introduction of the Tests is well under way and progressing within the planned timetable.

The contract for the Test Programme has been won by The Australian Council for Educational Research who have extensive experience in this area.

Tests will be online and adaptive.

Trials are currently being carried out in five volunteer Authorities across Scotland to ensure that the tests reflect the Scottish curriculum and are based in a Scottish context

Trials will also involve technical testing of the system.

Scholar have been contracted to provide an on line training programme for teachers

Twig have been contracted to provide an on line support package

Work is being done to ensure that the Tests will be available on all IT platforms

Following the trialling there will be a piloting of the system before its launch

J Thewliss February 2017