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Future strategy for provision of education in the Western Isles
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: WORKSHOP FEEDBACK

GREATER BROAD BAY (TOWN HALL) – 25 June 2009

ONE WORKSHOP

Gaelic medium provision

1. Gaelic Medium – A total immersion school for primary – parents are willing to travel. Location? Stornoway? Laxdale – 100 pupils Gaelic medium already attending between Stornoway Primary and Laxdale therefore enough to run a viable school.
2. This should be developed through to Secondary school with clear policies to support it.
3. It would be good practice to see case studies /examples of successful schools that have already been through similar changes – invite people from Gaelic schools.

Main Points

1. Transport - that if the new school provision is provided transport provision must be well thought out.
2. Must ensure our children are getting good facilities/activities where they are going - as this is being promoted by the "new" schools having better resources.
3. Transition must be done well so that children that are attending smaller school aren't disadvantaged/traumatised by being sent to a larger school.
4. Secondary – provision for school education with a good vocational range to remain with wide/varied choices.
5. Extra curricular activities important – also after school clubs.
6. Quality teachers are VITAL.
7. Gym facilities and swimming lessons in Sandwick - not in Stornoway primary