

# sectarianism

Action Plan on **Tackling Sectarianism in Scotland**



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SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

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Action Plan on **Tackling Sectarianism in Scotland**

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ISBN: 0-7559-4734-7

Scottish Executive  
St Andrew's House  
Edinburgh  
EH1 3DG

Produced for the Scottish Executive by Astron B42030 01/06

Published by the Scottish Executive, January, 2006

Further copies are available from  
Blackwell's Bookshop  
53 South Bridge  
Edinburgh  
EH1 1YS

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## Foreword

The bigoted sectarian attitudes and behaviours of a minority have scarred Scottish life for far too long. I have seen this bigotry throughout my life and I still see it today in some parts of Scotland. Manifestations of sectarian bigotry may change, but the divisions, anger and resentment that they cause remain firmly entrenched in Scottish life. It doesn't have to be like this.



Scotland is a modern multi-faith and multi-cultural society where difference should be a cause for celebration and not a reason for mistrust. The rich and varied traditions that make up 21st-century Scotland are what makes our society so dynamic. Mutual understanding and respect between people of all beliefs, faiths and those of no faith must be one of the fundamental principles that we all live by. While we must respect traditions we must also make it clear that 'tradition' does not excuse abusive behaviour.

At the Summit on Sectarianism, which I held on 14 February 2005, I made it clear that this is a problem that we face as a society, and a problem that we must address as a society. That is why we must take a broad approach if we are to achieve and sustain change.

In this document, my Ministerial colleagues outline some of the work that they have been taking forward since the Summit, and identify the key areas of action which are still to be achieved. The work that is being taken forward is built around the four key themes of education, sport, faith and marches and parades. An additional section covers some of the work which does not fall easily into these themes. Much has already been achieved, and I fully acknowledge the positive contribution that football clubs, faith groups, local authorities and many others have made to this agenda.

The tide of public opinion is turning against the bigoted few and we must let the bigots and bullies know that sectarian behaviour has no place in today's Scotland. I fully recognise that there are no quick fixes or easy solutions here, but I am certainly not pessimistic about our future. I truly believe that through positive action we can put sectarian attitudes into dustbin of history and build a better society. By working together we can all contribute to the one Scotland of many cultures that we aspire to be. The Scotland our children deserve to grow up in.



**Jack McConnell MSP**  
**First Minister**

# Education



**Robert Brown MSP**  
**Deputy Minister for Education and Young People**

Young people are the future of Scotland. We must ensure that they are not held back by bigotry and prejudice. It is important that this process begins in pre-school when a child's view of the world is being formed, and is carried through into school, youth work settings and beyond into Further and Higher Education. While other influences also help to form a young person's outlook on life, the influence of education remains strong and that is why it is so important to ensure that our young people are equipped to challenge the bigoted attitudes that they may encounter as they journey through life.

*Robert Brown*



We have made an excellent start to supporting schools, pre-schools and youth workers in challenging sectarianism with young people by launching the web-based education resource **Sectarianism: Don't Give It, Don't Take It** in March 2005. The resource contains materials which can be used across the curriculum including good practice examples, lesson ideas, group work exercises, quizzes and school assembly ideas.

To support the education resource, we held seminars and a national conference for teachers during 2005. They demonstrated how the resource can be used with pupils to maximise its impact. In addition, 5 days of workshops to support youth workers in using the education resource are planned for 2006. We will also be launching a training DVD for teachers and youth workers, demonstrating how to use the different interactive approaches from the resource, and will continue to publicise the anti-sectarian education resource to teachers, youth workers and young people across Scotland.

In 2006 Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education will establish a multi-agency group to produce a new anti-sectarianism report. The report will identify good practice examples of how the resource and other materials have been used in various settings to address the key themes of anti-sectarian work with young people, and will be of considerable benefit to other education practitioners.

**During 2006 we will provide £100,000 to support anti-sectarian project work in schools, promote use of the anti-sectarian education resource and develop innovative approaches to tackling sectarianism. We will also provide £13,500 to support the use of the resource in youth work. (ACTION 1)**

It is important that we do not rely solely on traditional classroom-based materials when tackling sectarianism. Feedback from practitioners using the resource material indicated that drama is one of the most effective ways to engage young people in discussions about sectarianism. That is why we are working with Sense Over Sectarianism to adapt the powerful anti-sectarian play **'Singing I'm No A Billy, He's A Tim'** for use in schools. Associated learning materials will be incorporated into the resource website to build on the existing drama material.

**We will run seven pilot performances and supporting education workshops of the anti-sectarian play 'Singing I'm No A Billy, He's A Tim', which will involve 700 pupils from across Scotland, by June 2006. (ACTION 2)**

We are also looking at ways to allow children to learn from each other and support them in breaking down the barriers that they may perceive between themselves and other children. One of the ways we are doing this is by promoting opportunities for twinning between denominational and non-denominational schools through working in partnership with local authorities, the Catholic Church and other relevant bodies. This will allow children and young people to get a better understanding of each other's backgrounds and foster friendship between the pupils. To start this process we will hold a seminar on twinning in spring 2006. The seminar will highlight the role twinning can play in tackling sectarianism and in bringing communities together. To demonstrate good practice on how this can be done we will invite those currently involved in twinning arrangements to share their experiences at the seminar.

**Using the seminar outcomes as a basis we will produce an information pack for schools and local authorities, highlighting the principles of twinning, distilling the good practice examples, illustrating ways to overcome potential barriers, and containing a comprehensive list of twinning activities and contacts. This will be published mid-2006. (ACTION 3)**

The actions outlined above will undoubtedly lead to a great deal of activity in our schools. It is important to not only recognise this, but to also recognise the good work that is being taken forward in many schools already.



**To raise the profile of the work that is being taken forward to tackle sectarian bigotry at school level, an anti-sectarianism category will be developed for the Scottish Education Awards 2006. (ACTION 4)**

Of course, tackling sectarianism through education is not confined to school-age children. We can help our children develop positive attitudes towards others right from pre-school. By using the findings of the report **A Curriculum for Excellence** we have the opportunity to develop a single coherent curriculum for 3-18 year olds that will include help to support young people in understanding the rich tapestry of diverse cultures and beliefs that make up modern Scotland. It will also support them in developing concern, tolerance, care and respect for themselves, others and society as a whole.

All students studying in further and higher education institutions in Scotland have a right to a quality learning experience in an environment free from sectarianism, bigotry or any form of discrimination. By working in partnership with the National Union of Students (NUS) Scotland, the Association of Scottish Colleges and Universities Scotland we can communicate that message clearly through Scotland's colleges and universities. With the support of the Executive, NUS Scotland began an anti-sectarian campaign in Scotland to help empower students to stand up to sectarian abuse in November 2005.

**To support the NUS Scotland anti-sectarianism campaign we are providing £10,000 to produce a range of materials that can be used by students' associations to ensure that the anti-sectarian message reaches thousands of students in campuses across Scotland during 2006/07. (ACTION 5)**

# Sport



**Patricia Ferguson MSP**  
**Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport**

Sport exerts a huge influence on society. It is very easy for us to get caught up in the excitement of a major sporting event and to be carried along by the actions of the crowd. In Scotland some of the chanting and singing at football matches is based on sectarian bigotry and fans – and occasionally even players and officials – sometimes go along with these without really considering the effects of what they are saying. Football brings joy to millions and I am pleased that clubs, governing bodies of sport and other organisations are all engaging positively in the anti-sectarian agenda. As a result there are many excellent examples of work being taken forward to tackle sectarianism in sport and I would like to highlight some of these.

A handwritten signature in yellow ink, reading "Patricia Ferguson".



The Scottish Football Association (SFA) has introduced a **National Club Licensing Scheme** which places a responsibility on Scottish Premier League (SPL) and Scottish Football League (SFL) clubs to demonstrate they operate clear policies against sectarianism. It has also re-issued the Lord Advocate's guidelines on behaviour to all member clubs to remind them of their responsibilities for good behaviour on and off the field of play, and that the conduct of participants can have a bearing on the subsequent conduct of those spectating. **sportscotland** also actively promotes ethical participation in sport and has produced an **Ethics in Sport** document providing basic information for sports organisations on ethical issues with a specific section covering Faith, Religion and Sport. **sportscotland** has also launched **Working Towards Diversity and Inclusion** which sets out how it will implement the UK Equity Standard and is supporting key partners to implement this within their own organisations.

**But there is still scope for more positive action by governing bodies and that is why we will work in partnership with the SFA and sportscotland to develop a strategy for tackling sectarianism in football. This will be launched by the end of 2006.**

**(ACTION 6)**

Of course, I fully recognise that both Rangers and Celtic Football Clubs already have a wide range of initiatives to tackle sectarianism in place. Working individually and together the clubs have helped break down barriers and encouraged greater understanding within and across our diverse communities. In April 2005 I supported the launch of the **Old Firm Alliance** project and I believe that it is through tangible, joint ventures such as this that we can make a real difference to the attitudes that young people carry into adulthood. Work with young people can take many different forms which is why we also supported the Strathclyde Police initiative to produce 25,000 blue and green 'Say No To Sectarianism' wristbands to promote the anti-sectarian message among school children in the Glasgow area. The success of the wristbands was so overwhelming that the Executive agreed to provide £12,000 to produce a further 50,000 wristbands and build on the success of this initiative.

Another positive initiative with young people has been taken forward by YouthLink Scotland at their Outlet Youth Centre at Polmont Young Offenders Institute (PYOI). This was the development of the **A Culture of Two Halves** projects which enables young people to explore their heritage and investigate links between sectarianism, football and crime in Scotland. Many of the young people in the project were at Polmont because they had committed crimes influenced by sectarianism and by questioning their own attitudes and behaviours they were able to produce an anti-sectarian training pack and DVD, which is used by peer education groups to tackle sectarian issues amongst their contemporaries at PYOI.

The message of 'Rivals Not Enemies' is at the heart of our work with football supporters' groups. I understand the importance of positive engagement with football supporters to ensure that their views are taken into account as work to tackle sectarian bigotry progresses. Numerous individual football supporters and supporters' groups have already indicated their commitment to the anti-sectarian agenda. By working with football supporters' groups and broader organisations, such as the Federation of Scottish Football Supporters' Associations, we can make sure that responsible fans can play their part in tackling the problem and that their views are fed into the Action Plan to tackle sectarianism in football.

**That is why we have appointed an independent facilitator to work with supporters groups of the SPL and a selection of SFL clubs to identify actions that these groups can recommend or take forward themselves. This work will begin early in 2006 and the facilitator's report will be delivered by mid-2006.**  
**(ACTION 7)**

The street traders who operate outside of sports arenas can both profit from and encourage sectarian attitudes and behaviour if they do not behave responsibly. That is why we wrote to all Scottish local authorities encouraging them to licence street traders and prohibit the sale of sectarian and paramilitary goods as a condition of any licence. In one joint operation with Strathclyde Police, Glasgow City Council's Environmental Protection Services out-of-hours enforcement officers removed materials of a political, racial, religious or sectarian nature from street traders outside Celtic Park and Ibrox Stadium. Of the 150 street traders checked 18 did not have a licence and 40 were warned about contraventions of licensing conditions. One hundred and fifty-six items were removed from licensed traders.

Eleven Street Traders were reported to Glasgow City Council's Licensing (Complaints) Sub-Committee. Ten were given warnings about the licence holders failure to comply with licence conditions.

For some time we have been concerned about continuing sectarian chanting and sectarian-motivated violence at and around football matches, and whether the police have adequate powers to deal with these. Football Banning Orders are one of the tools which we believe the police and courts should be able to use to tackle abusive sectarian behaviour around football matches. A Banning Order will help to ensure that hooligans and those who indulge in the worst bigoted abuse are not able to attend games or visit venues (such as certain bars on match days) for up to 10 years. This will help to remove the worst offenders from the terraces and act as a strong deterrent to others.

**We have therefore introduced Football Banning Orders as part of the Police, Public Order and Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill 2006. The provisions relating to Football Banning Orders will be implemented by autumn 2006.**

**(ACTION 8)**



# Faith



**Johann Lamont MSP**  
**Deputy Minister for Communities**

Church and faith groups play an important role in communities across Scotland and have an influence which guides the moral and ethical views of many people. They play a significant role in building bridges between and within communities. The willingness among church and faith groups to work together is reflected in the positive role these groups have played in helping to build a Scotland of trust and understanding. But we cannot afford to be complacent and need to keep pushing to ensure that we achieve a truly harmonious Scotland of many faiths and beliefs. Within this we must recognise that the tensions that have historically existed between Christian groups in Scotland remain the oldest form of sectarianism our country has experienced and it is right that this should be the main focus of our work to tackle sectarianism.

*Johann M. Lamont*



Charitable and voluntary organisations, such as churches, are important vehicles for tackling sectarianism in communities. One of the key organisations that we work with, and provide core funding for, is the Scottish Inter Faith Council (SIFC). SIFC promotes better understanding across faith communities and help develop links between the Scottish Executive and these communities. Through visits to church and faith communities across Scotland, the SIFC Development and Equalities Officers are supporting the development of better relations, the removal of barriers and the provision of opportunities for faith communities to share experiences and identify common ground.

But it is important to recognise that there are also many other small groups, local organisations and projects that are working to tackle sectarianism and to bridge the divide between disparate Christian communities in Scotland. Many of these groups work in isolation and bringing them together would help them to establish links with each other and develop a network of organisations which will help to ensure that the anti-sectarian message is getting through to communities across Scotland. The network will also help to identify and spread good ideas and initiatives.

**We will work in partnership with the Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations to establish a network of anti-sectarian groups and will host annual meetings which will facilitate information sharing and the promotion of good practice.**

**(ACTION 9)**

At the same time as developing better links between the Executive and faith communities, we also want to see those communities developing better links with local government. That is why we are working in partnership with Glasgow City Council to deliver a three-year inter-faith liaison officer pilot project to find a practical way of achieving this. The officer is based at St Mungo's Museum in Glasgow and aims to develop positive relationships between Glasgow's seven main faith groups, including the Christian churches, and the council. The project began at the end of 2004 and, if successful, this model could provide a template for inter-faith officers in every council area in Scotland.

As well as having a responsibility to link in to the grass roots of faith communities we also have a responsibility to maintain good working relationships with the leadership of those communities. The First Minister's regular meetings with representatives of Action for Churches Together in Scotland (ACTS) provides an opportunity for him to meet with the leaders of the Christian churches in Scotland, including both the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and the Cardinal of the Catholic Church in Scotland, and discuss the ways in which they are working to tackle sectarianism and can help to deliver an inclusive Scotland.

**The meetings with ACTS have proven to be very beneficial for all involved and the First Minister will meet with them on an annual basis to support the development of co-operative partnerships at the highest level. (ACTION 10)**

The Cardinal and the Moderator are both firmly committed to tackling sectarianism and are excellent role models for intra-Christian partnership working. One of the very positive initiatives to which they have both been central is the development of the **Charter on the Principles of Religious Freedom**. The Charter describes how followers of faiths should be able to practise their religious beliefs freely and commits the churches to making a strong statement about their respective rights to follow their own beliefs without discrimination and the rights of others to do the same. The Charter provides a strong anti-sectarian message from the highest levels of both churches and its adoption and implementation by both churches will help to promote respect and understanding.



In February 2005, we published the report **Analysis of Religion in the 2001 Census** which uses the most recent census information to explore the characteristics of each religion in Scotland. While this report does not represent a definitive analysis of religion, it does cover the key policy areas of housing, education, labour market and health to help increase understanding of the different faith communities living in Scotland today. Using comparisons which highlight differences both between and within different religious groups will help to focus our policies on areas where positive interventions will be most beneficial.

Intra-Christian sectarianism must also be placed in the broader context of other religious tensions which exist in Scotland. Breaking down barriers across all religious groups will have a beneficial impact on intra-Christian sectarianism and we are keen to work with young people with a range of different backgrounds and experiences – the world of work, universities, the Youth Parliament, Dialogue Youth, different faith and ethnic communities – to discuss issues around identity, what it means to be Scottish in 21st-century Scotland and how they can influence change through participation and in democratic processes.

**In partnership with the National Union of Students Scotland and the Scottish Trades Union Congress Youth Committee we will hold a conference bringing young people together to discuss breaking down barriers and developing participation in present-day Scotland. Tackling sectarianism will be high on the agenda.**

**(ACTION 11)**

# Marches and Parades



**Cathy Jamieson MSP**  
**Minister for Justice**

Scotland has a rich tradition of marching and parading. Public processions can provide a focal point for community celebration and a spectacle for tourists. They can also be used to make a political protest or commemorate a specific event. But the impact of marches and parades can often cause disruption to local communities and businesses, and this can give rise to the kind of offence and nuisance which has marred some marches and parades in the past. Our work in this area is based around the basic need to strike the right balance between the rights of marchers and the rights of the communities which are affected by marches. It is clear that by working together we can achieve real improvements in the way that processions are organised and run and should have a positive impact on communities.

*Cathy Jamieson*



Work is well under way on modernising the way that local authorities take decisions. The report of Sir John Orr's **Review of Marches and Parades in Scotland** was published in January 2005 and made 38 recommendations for change. Following the publication of the report a public consultation was carried out on the recommendations which required legislative changes and the positive response determined that we would take these forward as part of the Police, Public Order and Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill 2006, which is currently going through the Scottish Parliament. The main changes in the Bill will:

- Increase the minimum amount of notice that organisers are required to give to local authorities of their intention to march from 7 days to 28 days.
- Remove the ability of local authorities to exempt marches and parades in their area from the notification requirements.
- Give local authorities powers to consider a wider range of issues, such as disruption to the life of the community and damage to property, when deciding whether a march should be prohibited or have conditions placed on it.
- Allow local authorities to take account of the impact of a previous march; the extent to which a previous march placed an excessive burden on police; and the extent to which any code of conduct or guidance was adhered to by the march participants.
- Require local authorities to compile a list of processions that have been held in their areas to allow the public to establish which marches happen on a regular basis and which are likely to happen in the future.

**We will ensure that the legislative provisions on marches and parades being taken forward as part of the Bill will be implemented by 1 April 2007.**

**(ACTION 12)**

A Working Group on Marches and Parades has been established to bring local government and police bodies together with the Scottish Executive to support the implementation of the non-legislative recommendations made in the Review. The Working Group has been supporting the development of draft guidance on the implementation of the Review recommendations for Scottish local authorities. The guidance will give local authorities full advice on the new processes to ensure that marches and parades are properly notified, planned, discussed, and carried out in a modern, professional manner. The draft guidance will be issued to key stakeholders by summer 2006. This will include the main procession organisers who have also made a valuable contribution to the Review and have been supportive of the agenda to tackle sectarian bigotry in Scotland. I am pleased that organisers have continued to engage with us in taking forward the recommendations of the Review and am sure that this positive dialogue will help to ensure that real improvements can be achieved.

**We will issue the final guidance on implementing the recommendations of the Review to all 32 Scottish local authorities and other key stakeholders by March 2007.**

**(ACTION 13)**

I am pleased that Glasgow City Council are taking an active lead in supporting the implementation of the Review recommendations by piloting some of them to help identify the best ways for smooth implementation and allow other local authorities to learn from their experiences.

It is important that we ensure that there are effective monitoring arrangements in place to demonstrate that local authorities and the police are implementing the new procedures in a way appropriate to their local circumstances. We have therefore been in discussion with the Accounts Commission and the Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary (HMIC) to decide on the activities that should be monitored and the process for doing this.

**In partnership with the Accounts Commission and HMIC we will develop monitoring arrangements to assess the effectiveness of the implementation of the recommendations of the Review. We will also produce the first report on activity – covering the period 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008 – by July 2008. (ACTION 14)**

It is important that appropriate powers exist to allow the police and march organisers to deal with those people who use marches and parades as an excuse to indulge in bigoted abuse and violent behaviour. While there are already a number of laws which can be applied to deal with inappropriate behaviour around marches and parades, I feel that now is a fitting time to review these to ensure that they are adequate and look at how they are being applied. I would also like to look at the effectiveness of other interventions, such as banning orders, to see whether there is any scope or need for looking at how these could be transferred into the context of marches and parades.

**To do this we will form a working group of key interests to map out the legal interventions that can currently be used to deal with abusive behaviour. The Group will also be asked to assess their effectiveness and make recommendations on whether further interventions are required. The Group should make its initial report to Ministers by December 2006. (ACTION 15)**



# More New Initiatives



**George Lyon MSP**  
**Deputy Minister for Finance, Public Service Reform and Parliamentary Business**

Bigoted sectarian behaviour is not confined to a single area of Scottish life, and, because of this, we must challenge bigotry wherever it is found. The work that the Scottish Executive is taking forward to tackle sectarian bigotry is not limited to the four areas described in the previous chapters, and in this final section I would like to highlight some other areas where positive actions will help to take forward the anti-sectarian agenda.

*George Lyon*



In recognition of the fact that tackling sectarianism cuts across many policy areas we have brought five of the key portfolio Ministers together to form a Ministerial Delivery Group on Tackling Sectarianism. The Group has been established to monitor progress being made on tackling sectarianism in Scotland and provide a clear policy steer on this work to ensure that a joined-up approach is being taken, and that all relevant departments playing an active role in delivering the Executive's objectives. The Group is chaired by Cathy Jamieson, Minister for Justice, and the membership is made up of myself, Patricia Ferguson, Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport, Robert Brown, Deputy Minister for Education and Young People and Johann Lamont, Deputy Minister for Communities.

The Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland (ACPOS) also continues to play a key role in driving forward work to tackle sectarianism and the wider issues of religious hatred in Scotland. In April 2004, ACPOS launched a Diversity Strategy, which provides a framework to tackle, amongst other things, religious prejudice and religious hatred. All police forces in Scotland have been implementing this strategy and work is also being taken forward to provide closer liaison between the Scottish Police Service, key representatives of major religious groups in Scotland, the Executive, Education Services and other agencies with responsibility in this area.

In June 2003 **Section 74 of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2003** came into force allowing for an offence to be proved to have been aggravated by religious prejudice. November 2004 saw the publication of results from a Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) survey of 108 reports of the Section 74 aggravation from the first 6-month period of the new law. The majority of these reports related to intra-Christian sectarianism and by the end of April 2005 over 400 of these aggravated charges had been received from the police. Further analysis of the data held by COPFS will help to build our understanding of sectarian-related offences and we are working with COPFS to provide this.

**In partnership with COPFS we will review the reports received under the Section 74 aggravation for the period 1 January 2004 to 30 June 2005 and provide an in-depth analysis of cases throughout this period by mid-2006.**

**(ACTION 16)**

While legislation enables the authorities to take action, we are conscious that legislation alone will not change attitudes. That is why we particularly value the contribution that all of our partner bodies – regardless of whether they are public, private or voluntary organisations – who are able to reach areas of Scottish society that we may not have easy access to and help to spread the anti-sectarian message as widely as possible.

One of our partner organisations which has embraced the anti-sectarian agenda, and is leading on an initiative to address sectarianism, is the Scottish Trades Union Congress (STUC). We have a history of working in partnership with business organisations and the trade unions to help address discrimination, promote inclusion and lifelong learning, and to deliver sustained economic growth and prosperity for all Scots. As part of this work we want to send a clear message that sectarianism is not acceptable in the workplace, which is why we are joining forces with Sense Over Sectarianism (SOS) to fund the STUC to research the extent of sectarian incidents and behaviours in Scottish workplaces. With the co-operation and support of main business organisations this piece of work will help to identify how we can take positive actions to tackle workplace sectarianism.

**Together with SOS, we will fund the STUC to carry out research into the effect of sectarianism in the workplace and to make recommendations as to how any identified problems might be addressed. The research will be completed by September 2006.**

**(ACTION 17)**



Of course, the Executive is not exempt from considering how to tackle bigotry in the workplace and that is why we published our **Equality Strategy** in 2000. The strategy focuses on three strategic objectives: making better policy and providing better services; promoting equal opportunities and tackling discrimination; and being a good employer. I see it as essential that we continue the work to tackle all forms of discrimination, including sectarianism, and integrate an equality perspective into all areas of our work and we will continue to strive to do this.

We have already recognised that tackling sectarianism is a long-term objective and we need to look at how we can continue to the momentum that has begun. To do this, we will bring together practitioners who are currently involved in taking anti-sectarian initiatives and establish a Task Group on Tackling Sectarianism in Scotland. The Group will map out the work which is currently being taken forward, identify gaps and look at the scope for possible future areas of work. To allow the Group to explore the potential for positive interventions in any area identified, their remit will be kept broad and they will be asked to report back to the Ministerial Delivery Group on Tackling Sectarianism with their recommendations.

**The Task Group will be established early in 2006. The Group will make recommendations on new areas and initiatives where positive action can be taken to tackle sectarianism. The Group will also produce a report on its activities one year after inception.** (ACTION 18)

### SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

1. The Scottish Executive will provide £100,000 during 2006 to support anti-sectarian project work in schools, promote use of the anti-sectarian education resource and develop innovative approaches to tackling sectarianism. The Executive will also provide £13,500 to support the use of the resource in youth work.
2. The Scottish Executive will run seven pilot performances and supporting education workshops of the anti-sectarian play 'Singing I'm No a Billy, He's A Tim', which will involve 700 pupils from across Scotland, by June 2006.
3. The Scottish Executive will produce an information pack for schools and local authorities highlighting the principles of twinning, distilling the good practice examples, illustrating ways to overcome potential barriers, and containing a comprehensive list of twinning activities and contacts. This will be published mid-2006.
4. To raise the profile of the work that is being taken forward to tackle sectarian bigotry at school level, an anti-sectarianism category will be developed for the Scottish Education Awards 2006.
5. To support the National Union of Students Scotland anti-sectarian campaign the Scottish Executive will provide £10,000 to produce a range of materials that can be used by students' associations to ensure that the anti-sectarian message reaches thousands of students in every campus across Scotland during 2006/07.
6. The Scottish Executive will work in partnership with the Scottish Football Association and sportscotland to develop a strategy for tackling sectarianism in football. This will be launched by the end of 2006.
7. The Scottish Executive has appointed an independent facilitator to work with supporters groups of the Scottish Premier League and a selection of Scottish Football League clubs to identify actions that these groups can recommend or take forward to tackle sectarianism. This work will begin early in 2006 and the facilitator will deliver a report on what has been achieved by mid-2006.
8. The Scottish Executive has introduced Football Banning Orders as part of the Police, Public Order and Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill 2006. The provisions relating to Football Banning Orders will be implemented in autumn 2006.
9. The Scottish Executive will work in partnership with the Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations to establish a network of anti-sectarian groups and will host annual meetings to facilitate information sharing and the promotion of good practice.
10. The First Minister will meet with Action for Churches Together in Scotland on an annual basis to support the development of co-operative partnerships at the highest level.

11. The Scottish Executive will work in partnership with the National Union of Students Scotland and the Scottish Trades Union Congress Youth Committee to hold a conference bringing young people together to discuss breaking down barriers and developing participation in present-day Scotland. Tackling sectarianism will be high on the agenda.
12. The Scottish Executive will ensure that the legislative provisions on marches and parades being taken forward as part of the Police, Public Order and Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill 2006 will be implemented by 1 April 2007.
13. Scottish Ministers will issue guidance for local authorities on implementing the recommendations of the Review of Marches and Parades in Scotland to all 32 Scottish local authorities and other key stakeholders by March 2007.
14. The Scottish Executive will work in partnership with the Accounts Commission and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary to develop monitoring arrangements to assess the effectiveness of the implementation of the recommendations of the Review of Marches and Parades in Scotland. The first report on activity – covering the period 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008 – will be produced by July 2008.
15. The Scottish Executive will form a working group of key interests to map out the legal interventions that can currently be used to deal with abusive behaviour at marches and parades. The Group will also be asked to assess the effectiveness of current laws and make recommendations on whether further interventions are required. The Group should make its initial report to Ministers by December 2006.
16. The Scottish Executive will work in partnership with the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service to review the reports received under the Section 74 of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2006 for the period 1 January 2004 to 30 June 2005 and provide an in-depth analysis of cases throughout this period by mid-2006.
17. The Scottish Executive and Sense Over Sectarianism will fund the Scottish Trades Union Congress to carry out research into the effect of sectarianism in the workplace and to make recommendations as to how any identified problems might be addressed. The research will be completed by September 2006.
18. The Scottish Executive will establish a Task Group on Tackling Sectarianism in Scotland in early in 2006 to make recommendations on new areas and initiatives where positive action can be taken to tackle sectarianism in the long term. The Group will also produce a report on its activities one year after inception.

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ISBN 0-7559-4734-7

