



## Marlyn Glen

Scottish Labour MSP for North East Scotland

news release

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### Class sizes : Dundee MSP's plea to Education Minister

Marlyn Glen has written to Education Secretary Fiona Hyslop saying that the Scottish Government should fund the employment of more of the Dundee primary school teachers who have completed their probationary year but have not yet found permanent jobs.

Her move comes as it emerges that Dundee has less than half the percentage that Glasgow has of classes in Primary 1-3 with 18 or less pupils.

Ms. Glen said that the Scottish Government's own figures, published in April, showed that the percentage of classes in Dundee in primary 1-3 that had a maximum of 18 pupils was 5 per cent.

The figure for Glasgow, by comparison, was 11 per cent.

The Scottish Government has set a target that all primary 1-3 classes in Scotland would have no more than 18 pupils by 2011.

Ms. Glen said,

"Alex Salmond has already promised that all class sizes in primary 1 to 3 will have a maximum number of 18 by 2011.

"However, no council in Scotland, including Dundee, has been given enough money by the Scottish Government to keep that promise."

Ms. Glen said that Freedom of Information documents released showed that the SNP Government had been advised by educational experts that it would take between 8 and 10 years to reduce class sizes to a maximum class size of 18 in primary 1 to 3 classes across Scotland

"So it is essential that the Scottish Government funds the employment of more of the primary probationary teachers in Dundee from last session.

"Only just over a quarter of them have permanent jobs."

"Parents, pupils and teachers in Dundee deserve that extra investment in education."

WEBSITE LINK

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