

Mr. Camplisson.

Thank you we await a proposal

from ULS U.S.

S. 9/12..

Note for the record

MEETING OF CCRU, DENI AND THE ULSTER-SCOTS LANGUAGE SOCIETY
(U-SLS), 9 DECEMBER 1993

Present: Mr Corbett Dr I Adamson)
Mr Camplisson Dr P Robinson) U-SLS
Mr Scallan Mr J McIntyre)
Mr J Erskine)

The meeting was requested by U-SLS to explore the possibility of Government assistance for the establishment of the Ulster-Scots Language Academy.

Mr Corbett explained CCRU's changing role, and diminishing role as a funding agency, the main constraints on CCRU's funding capacity, and the proposed cultural traditions provisions of PSEP II.

The meeting discussed:

- the nature and linguistic status of Ulster Scots as a language or dialect distinct from (standard) English and Lallans;
- the nature, locations and possible size of the Ulster-Scots language-community;
- the status given to Ulster-Scots in the curriculum: the U-SLS had not contributed to NICC's most recent consultation process because the U-SLS had not yet been formed;
- research already done, in hand and required: by far the largest part of the work done so far has been on vocabulary items, but a draft grammar book (yet to be tested with "native speakers") is nearly complete;
- the aims/objectives of the U-SLS, a major concern being to establish and promote the dignity of Ulster-Scots in the perception of both speakers and non-speakers of Ulster-Scots;
- U-SLS's view that, academically, Ulster-Scots should not, as Lallans has been, be the responsibility of

university English departments.

Parallels with Irish were treated with caution by all sides.

As their first major concrete step, U-SLS were aiming to produce a grammar manual, which they hoped would be ready in 5 years. Mr Corbett explained that CCRU could not normally envisage such a long-term funding commitment, and would in any case be very hard pressed to find resources given its existing commitments, but that activities of the U-SLS or Academy might meet the eligibility criteria for CT funding under PSEP II.

U-SLS will draft an approach for PSEP II funds. Mr Corbett undertook to offer U-SLS advice on their first draft.

SEAMUS CAMPLISSON

9 December 1993