

## **SUBMISSION FROM SCHOOL LEADERS SCOTLAND**

1. School Leaders Scotland supports the Autism (Scotland) Bill.
2. This Bill will bring Scotland in line with the rest of the UK.
3. The National Audit Office identifies that £2.3b is currently spent on services and support for people with autistic spectrum disorder. The NAO calculates that there will be a substantial saving by issuing guidance.
4. This Bill should result in better outcomes for those with autism.
5. An autism strategy will be helpful for those in educational and health services who are working with young people with autism.
6. The calculation that the Bill will not have any direct financial impact on local authorities is important at a time when local authorities are having to find significant savings.
7. One issue could be the short timescale of 4 months to develop the autism strategy following the Bill becoming statutory.

Ken Cunningham  
General Secretary  
20 September 2010