**Software Development Forum**

**Successful Futures – Update 1**

In March 2014 Professor Graham Donaldson was asked to conduct a fundamental review of curriculum and assessment arrangements in Wales from Foundation Phase to Key Stage 4. In January 2015 Professor Donaldson reported the findings of his independent review in a report entitled *Successful Futures.* He made 68 recommendations and these were accepted in full by the Minister for Education and Skills on 30 June 2015.

Our ambition is for a new curriculum framework to be available to schools and settings from 2018 and used to support teaching and learning by 2021. Key elements of this new curriculum, the high level timeline for its implementation and further details are given on the link below:

<http://gov.wales/topics/educationandskills/schoolshome/curriculum-for-wales-curriculum-for-life/?lang=en>

Our new curriculum will be developed by the education professionals in Wales through a network of Pioneer Schools:

<http://gov.wales/topics/educationandskills/schoolshome/curriculum-for-wales-curriculum-for-life/designing-the-new-curriculum/?lang=en>

Work on the development of this new curriculum, and the associated assessment arrangements, is in its very early stages. Further details will be added to our website as they unfold. The latest update on progress is attached.

The mechanism that we have in Wales to consult on and discuss proposed future changes to data collections and data transfers is the Software Development Forum. We propose having a main agenda item on this topic for the next meeting on 1st June in Cardiff, and thereafter, if agreed appropriate at the next meeting, to maintain a standing agenda item for as long as needed.

3 May 2016