



**WRITTEN QUESTION FOR SUBMISSION TO EDUCATION,
CHILDREN'S AND LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY
28 NOVEMBER 2023**

**QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR FERNANDES
DATE SUBMITTED: 19 NOVEMBER 2023**

The University of Aberdeen is currently drawing up plans for consultations which are likely to see the withdrawal of Honours degree in languages (French, German, Spanish, Gaelic).

Should the withdrawal go ahead, students would have to move to the Central Belt or the South of Scotland to study languages.

How many languages teachers employed by the Moray Council are Aberdeen University alumni? How many languages teachers' vacancies are there in the Moray Council?

What would be the impact of the University of Aberdeen's withdrawal of languages degrees on languages teachers' recruitment in Moray?

RESPONSE

Of the 39 modern languages teachers across the secondary school within the authority, 8 qualified at Aberdeen University – figures taken from their GTCS registration.

We currently do not have any vacancies for modern languages teachers across the authority.

If Aberdeen University was to withdraw the options of studying modern languages to Honours degree level, it may have the impact of redirecting students wishing to study modern languages to a university elsewhere in the country. They would still be able to return to the local area as one of their choices for their NQT year. The more concerning issue would be if people initially wishing to study modern languages at a local university chose a different subject area to study, in order to study locally.