

Initial Response to CfSA from the Geographical Association regarding the Rose Interim Report December 2008

- The GA believes that there is a great opportunity to enhance the role of geography within a new framework that Jim Rose states should retain both subject and cross-curricular teaching. The GA supports the strong assertion by Rose that the key ideas underpinning subjects should not be downgraded or lost and take the view that applying key geographical ideas will enable excellent teaching and learning to take place both within the Area of Learning termed Human, Social and Environmental Understanding and through links with other Areas such as Science for example.
- The GA are delighted by Jim Rose's advocacy that pupils need different kinds of literacy to enable them to 'read' and understand the rapidly changing world in which they live: this has positive implications for ensuring that pupils develop core geographical skills such as graphicacy, and the range of visual, spatial and media literacies that underpin this kind of thinking.
- The GA endorse Rose's view that the 'key processes' in the Framework should develop specific skills that 'help children gain a better understanding of the key ideas' (underpinning subjects). From a geographical perspective, such a key process would be fieldwork, so central to powerful, geographical understanding and application and vital to personal development.
- The GA believes that if the full potential of this new Framework is to be realised, it will require substantial and meaningful support for teachers. The GA is ready to work on what we have achieved to date with the APG to provide this support, in partnership with others (and if the funds permit).