Stellies language policy

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STELLENBOSCH University says its new language policy is still being reviewed despite counter-claims from AfriForum’s youth wing over a high court settlement.

On Saturday the university’s council debated the language policy, formulating several principles through consensus or a majority of votes. These principles would later be presented at a “language revision work group”.

A final decision would then be taken on June 22.

Stellenbosch University spokesman Martin Viljoen said: “There’s no final decision. The council is giving input to the review process.”

Yesterday the university said its language policy, which black students charged was used to exclude them, was “complex with several points of view”.

At the weekend the university council accepted that its English offering should be expanded so that no student would be excluded from any academic programme.

AfriForum Youth’s co-ordinator at Stellenbosch University Bernard Pieters said it would continue to challenge the university’s council after the decision, claiming that it was “unconstitutional”. He said their lawyers would look into the case today.