ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL **COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

COMMUNITY SERVICES **15 MARCH 2018**

GAELIC LANGUAGE PLAN 2018-22

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Community Services Committee on the Public Consultation responses to the Argyll and Bute Council Gaelic Language Plan 2018 – 2022.

1.2 The draft Plan was prepared following guidance set out by Bòrd na Gàidhlig and so meets with their requirements.

1.3 The consultation period ended on 19th February 2018 and received a good response.

1.4 This paper includes a summary of the consultation responses, with recommendations and an amended version of the Gaelic Language Plan 2018-22 for approval.

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2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Community Services Committee:

2.1 Notes the responses made to the Public Consultation of the Argyll and Bute Council Gaelic Language Plan 2018 – 2022.

2.2 Agrees with the recommendations contained in Appendix 1 in terms of amending the final Plan as a result of consultation.

2.3 Recommends the finalised Plan at Appendix 2 to Council for formal approval.

2.4 Recommend to Council that the plan is submitted to Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

3. DETAIL

3.1 Argyll and Bute Council has a duty under the Statutory Notice by Bòrd na Gàidhlig to produce a Gaelic Language Plan. The Council approved its previous Gaelic Language Plan in 2014 following consultation and sign off by Bòrd na Gàidhlig. The new plan is required to be produced by April 2018.

3.2 A public consultation on a new draft plan, prepared by officer in accordance with guidance from Bòrd na Gàidhlig was carried out. Promotion of the

consultation was achieved using a range of media including the Council's website, the Council's Facebook page, the Argyll Gaelic Forum Facebook Page, the Council's newsletter and the Gaelic gathering distribution list was also emailed for their views. In addition, a Newsflash was sent to all employees. The Public Consultation on the Council's Gaelic Language Plan was completed on Monday 19th February 2018.

3.3 During the consultation period Councillor Currie, Policy Lead for Gaelic, held face to face consultations in various areas around Argyll and Bute. The first public consultation was via Video Conferencing from Kilmory to Mull, Tiree, Dunoon, Campbeltown and Helensburgh. Councillor Currie then held consultation gatherings in the Ionad Chaluim Chille Ìle in Islay and in the Furan Centre in Oban, which attracted over 30 people all together including community groups and stakeholders.

3.4 We received 26 email responses to the Gaelic inbox. We have reviewed each of the comments submitted and made some recommendations for amendments to the action plan within the Gaelic Language Plan as a result of this. These are set out in Appendix 1 for members' consideration.

3.5 Following the Committee's agreement on the recommendations, the Plan will be finalised, forwarded to the Council for adoption and sent to Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 The Council has carried out a consultation exercise on the draft Gaelic Plan. This included online and face to face consultation, and resulted in a good response.

4.2 Following consideration of the consultation responses by the Community Services Committee, the Plan will be finalised and will go forward for submission to Bòrd na Gàidhlig for final approval.

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 **Policy** This proposal is compliant with the Council's policies and procedures.

5.2 **Financial** There are no financial implications from this report.

5.3 **Legal** The Council has a duty under a statutory notice to produce a Gaelic Language Plan

5.4 **HR** None

5.5 Equalities The Plan has been Equality Impact assessed and there are no negative impacts.

5.6 Risk None

5.7 **Customer Services** None

Executive Director of Customer Services
Policy lead – Robin Currie

February 2018
For further information contact: Jane Fowler, Head of Improvement and HR

APPENDICES
Appendix 1 – Draft Gaelic Language Plan Consultation Responses and Recommendations

Appendix 2 – Argyll and Bute Gaelic Language Plan 2018-22