

GAELIC LANGUAGE ACT IMPLEMENTATION FUND (GLAIF)

1. SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to highlight to the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) the Gaelic Language project that has been awarded funding through the Gaelic Language Act Implementation Fund. This project aims to provide Gaelic language learning for Community Planning Partners who are developing Gaelic Language Plans.

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Community Planning Partnership:

- note the content of this report
- lodge an initial expression of interest with a contact name for each organisation and numbers of interested individuals to Stephen Colligan by Friday 14th August 2009.

3. DETAIL

Following on from the paper that was submitted to the CPP Management Committee in March 2009 which highlighted the opportunity for partners to apply for funding for Gaelic projects, a bid was submitted in May 2009 to Bòrd na Gàidhlig for GLAIF funding by Argyll and Bute Council for Ùlpan language courses.

As a result of the bid having been approved by Bòrd na Gaidhlig, the Council on behalf of the CPP has been awarded funding on a 2 year basis, 2009-10 - £14,760 and 2010-11 - £18,450.

The project will deliver Gaelic language learning courses to employees from the various organisations within the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership CPP that have been issued a statutory notice to produce a Gaelic Language Plan. The courses will be based on the successful Ùlpan method of learning that has previously been delivered for employees at Argyll and Bute Council. The project will demonstrate the efficient partnership working within Argyll and Bute CPP.

The Ùlpan programme is split into 3 modules and it is the intention to deliver at least the first part of the course (72 units). The cost of delivering 72 units is £369 per student. Each unit runs for 90 minutes equating to 108 hours of learning. It is anticipated that 1 or 2 units will run each week. Community

Planning Partners will be expected to make a contribution of approximately £80 for each member of staff within their organisation that attends the language learning course.

The course will take place from autumn 2009 with venues and locations for the classes subject to demand.

A target has been set to have 50 participants by the end of 2009/10 and to increase this to 100 participants by the end of the following year, 2010/11.

Elements of the course will be contracted to third party organisations, such as Ionad Chaluim Chille Ìle (ICCI) based on Islay.

The administration of the course has still to be finalised with news of any further developments on this front communicated to the lead contact identified within each organisation.

Partners are invited to identify suitable candidates to undertake Gaelic language learning. Candidates that will benefit from the training include public facing staff and officers that undertake work in Gaelic communities in Argyll and Bute. Within the Council employees that have participated in the Ùlpan course include Admin Officers, Planning and Performance Manager, Road Engineers, Classroom Assistants etc.

The course is designed for individuals who have an interest in learning Gaelic with no previous level of the language required.

4. CONCLUSION

This report summarises the language learning project that Argyll and Bute Council have been awarded funding through GLAIF for 2009/10 which will demonstrate partnership working with CPP.

Further details:

Stephen Colligan, Policy Assistant, Policy and Strategy, Chief Executive's Unit,
Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead PA31 8RT
Tel. 01546 604472 stephen.colligan@argyll-bute.gov.uk