

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL DRAFT GAELIC LANGUAGE PLAN

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The council approved a draft Gaelic Language Plan for consultation in March 2013.
- 1.2 The plan sets out the commitments by the council for developing and supporting the Gaelic Language in line with the National Plan for Gaelic 2012-2017.
- 1.3 The council is seeking views on the draft plan prior to submitting in final format to Bòrd na Gàidhlig in July 2013.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Area Community Planning Group consider the draft plan and give comments to council representatives.

3 DETAIL

- 3.1 The council has a duty Section 2 of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 requires Bòrd na Gàidhlig to “prepare and submit to the Scottish Ministers a national Gaelic language plan”, and revised versions thereof “no later than 5 years after the date on which the most recent plan is published”.
- 3.2 Bòrd na Gàidhlig published the national Gaelic Language Plan, which sets out the priorities for local plans to cover.
- 3.3 The national plan has 3 overarching aims:
 - Arresting the decline in the overall number of Gaelic speakers in Scotland by increasing the number acquiring the language;
 - Expanding the range of situations in which Gaelic is used, in line with the Gaelic Language Act’s key principle of equal respect for Gaelic and English; and
 - Helping speakers of Gaelic, both learners and native speakers, to develop their competence and their confidence in using it, and ensuring that the language itself continues to be healthy and vibrant.
- 3.4 It seeks to do this by supporting Gaelic in the following areas:
 - Gaelic in the home
 - Gaelic in the community

- Gaelic in education
- Gaelic in the workplace
- Gaelic in the arts, heritage, media and tourism
- Gaelic in economic development

The council's draft plan identifies actions under each of these themes and seeks feedback from the Area Community Planning Group on the proposals.

The consultation process will also include use of the council's website, social media where appropriate and the network of Gaelic interest organisations to ensure that there is wide coverage of the proposals and that feedback is gathered.

4 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The council's draft Gaelic Language Plan is presented to the Area Community Planning Group for comment and feedback as part of the consultation process.

5 IMPLICATIONS

Policy	The draft Plan contains a policy statement on the council's use of Gaelic
Financial	None
Personnel	Opportunities for expanding council employees' knowledge and use of Gaelic will be encouraged through training.
Legal	The draft plan complies with the Council's obligations under the 2005 Gaelic Language Act.
Equal Opportunities	The draft plan is compliant with the council's equalities policy

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