

## Fiosrachadh Pearsanta / Contact Information

Buidhean Organisation	Moray House School of Education
Baile-mòr/Baile City/Town	Edinburgh
Dùthaich Country	Scotland

## Ceistean | Questions

**1. Tha cumadh a' Phlana a' gabhail a-steach amas, cuspairean, prìomh raointean agus gealltanasan. A bheil beachd agaibh air cumadh a' Phlana agus air an àrd-amas againn? The structure for the Plan consists of an aim, priority areas and commitments. Do you have any comments on how we have structured the Plan and the overall aim we have selected?**

The Moray House School of Education welcomes this Plan. It is presented in a clear and concise way, which carefully outlines the priorities on which to focus, and supports the overall aim to promote the role and status of Gaelic in Scotland. The format and use of language make it accessible to a wide audience and a useful tool for all stake holders..

**2. Tha sinn dhen bheachd gu bheil e riatanach gum bi deagh iomhaigh aig a' Ghàidhlig agus gum bi na raointean shuas a' cur gu mòr ri sin. A bheil beachdan agaibh fhèin air na raointean a thagh sinn no càil eile co-cheangailte ris a' chuspair seo? We believe that the promotion of a positive image for Gaelic is essential and we think that the areas above are the key areas that can make a contribution to this. Do you have any comments on the areas we have selected or alternative suggestions?**

We endorse the desirability of promoting a positive image for the Gaelic language in Scotland and as a School of Education we are committed to promoting the benefits of bilingualism in education, as well as the wealth of Scottish Gaelic cultural heritage. We believe that the document identifies appropriate key areas through which this might be achieved. A key issue here will be the success of strategies to realise these targets. It is important that progress towards the aims of the Plan is monitored through the gathering of rigorous and evidence based information.

**3. Tha sinn dhen bheachd gu bheil foghlam agus ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig aig cridhe a' Phlana seo. Tha sinn air liosta a dhèanamh de na prìomh raointean airson leasachadh san àm ri teachd. A bheil beachdan agaibh air seo, agus air na prìomh raointean a thagh sinn airson ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig? We believe education and Gaelic learning are central to this Plan. We have also listed the priority areas that we believe should be a focus for ongoing activity. Do you have any comments on this emphasis and on the priority areas selected for learning Gaelic?**

As a School of Education delivering bespoke Initial Teacher Education to prepare teachers for careers in Gaelic Medium Education, our comments relate specifically to ITE. It is felt that the Plan could address this area more specifically. Some suggestions are:

- It would be useful to include a reference to creating a national strategy for GME Initial Teacher Education and replace "other staff" with "a wide range of related educational professionals delivering education, including Early Years' Educators, Support Staff, Educational Psychologists and ITE providers" (p14)
- Under International Links – it might be helpful to include a reference to the promotion of international minority language ITE cooperation (p17)
- Under Promoting Gaelic – perhaps include a reference to developing a range of careers in education where the use of the Gaelic language is essential (p20).
- Under Learning Gaelic – the Bord might consider including a specific reference to the development of a national strategy, which ensures that appropriately qualified staff are in place to deliver GME ITE in Scottish Universities (p22).
- Key commitments section – perhaps consider specific reference to a National GME ITE strategy, which ensures ITE providers are enabled to deliver an increasing number of qualified GME teachers each year (p25).

**4. Tha sinn dhen bheachd gu bheil na raointean a chaidh a thaghadh cudromach airson cleachdadh na Gàidhlig a bhrosnachadh. A bheil beachdan agaibh air mar a dh'fhaodamaid piseach a thoirt air ìre cleachdaidh na Gàidhlig? We believe the areas selected are important for promoting the increased use of Gaelic. Do you have any comments or suggestions you would like to make in relation to promoting the increased use of Gaelic?**

The Plan might usefully include strategies for developing a wider range of opportunities to use Gaelic language as the language of learning and teaching within HE and FE educational sectors. This would include the employment of qualified bi-lingual and bi-literate staff and the development of an increasing range of resources to ensure ITE and other under-graduate courses are increasingly delivered through the medium of Gaelic.

**5. Ann an ceistean 2, 3 is 4, chaidh iarraidh oirbh ur beachdan a thoirt air na prìomh raointean a chaidh a chomharrachadh. Anns a' cheist seo, bu mhath leinn ur beachdan fhaighinn air na prìomh ghealltanasan a chomharraich sin agus air gealltanasan a bharrachd a bu chòir a bhith ann gus an dèanar adhartas ann a bhith a' leasachadh na th' ann de dhaoine a tha a' labhairt, cleachdadh is ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig ann an Alba agus ann a bhith a' leudachadh nan suidheachaidhean anns am bi i air a cur gu feum?**

**In questions 2, 3 and 4, you were asked about your views on the priority areas identified. In this question, we would like to hear any views or suggestions you may have on the key commitments we have identified and views on any key commitments you think should be included in order to make progress with the aim of increasing the number of people speaking, using and learning Gaelic in Scotland and the number of situations in which it is used?**

The Plan identifies key areas of work which will go a long way to secure the future vitality of Scottish Gaelic. As outlined in this response, there is a need to specifically identify the development and resourcing of GME ITE as a core target to increase the number of teachers in the GME system within the lifetime of the Plan.

**6. Tha na ceistean co-chomhairleachaidh a nochd na bu tràithe air a bhith rudeigin mionaideach. Ma tha sibh airson puingean eile a thogail, agus mura robh cothrom agaibh sin a dhèanamh thuige seo, nach sgrìobh sibh iad gu h-ìosal.**

**The earlier consultation questions have been fairly specific. If there are any other points you would like to make and feel you have not had the opportunity to do so, please write them below.**

The document offers a targeted, focused plan whilst including key areas of development in sufficient detail. As stated, GME ITE and the current challenges within this area of work (largely due to the difficulty in recruiting appropriately qualified staff in HE) require to be strategically reviewed and a nationally agreed action plan developed.