Co-chomhairleachadh air am Plana Cànain Nàiseanta Gàidhlig 2017-22 Consultation on the National Gaelic Language Plan 2017-22

Fiosrachadh Pearsanta / Contact Information

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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 plan is wholly lacking in any detail on how the very high-level priority areas and key commitments stated are going to be delivered. There is a complete lack of detail on such things as targets or key performance indicators so it is impossible to objectively assess whether this plan will actually deliver any tangible improvement in the current position. There is a complete lack of detail on the implementation plan – how is any of this going to be delivered? What will success look like? What are the key steps that can be built on incrementally to deliver the "key commitments" over the lifetime of the plan? Without this level of detail, it is impossible to assess what this plan will deliver for Gàidhlig, if anything.

2. Tha sinn dhen bheachd gu bheil e riatanach gum bi deagh ìomhaigh 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?

The key areas selected are appropriate and build on previous work and are therefore a logical extension of previous activities. It is disappointing that greater detail was not given on how any of this was going to be delivered.

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?

The demand for Gaelic Medium Education (GME) is outstripping the supply of newly qualified teachers at primary and secondary levels. The Scottish Government commitment to expanding Early Learning and Childcare provision is an additional challenge to staffing a 3-18 GME provision. There is absolutely no detail in this plan on how any of the challenges of a growing demand for GME are going to be met. We strongly urge the Bord and other bodies in Education delivery to urgently assess the landscape and produce an implementation plan to support the proposed Gaelic Plan. Without this detailed planning and accountability for its delivery, we have no confidence that the proposed Gaelic Plan will deliver on any of the key commitments under Section 7 – Learning Gaelic. The plan is wholly lacking in any detail on how success in any of these priority areas will be measured.

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?

There is again a lack of detail here and it is disappointing that in a time of rapidly changing technology enabling greater reach and connectivity amongst people that there is no clear strategy on how to exploit the significant potential that technology brings. Are there examples from other contexts where technology has been successfully exploited to bring communities together for instance that are relevant to the priority areas? Without detail, it is impossible to see how the plan will be implemented to address the key priorities.

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?

There are two areas we as a Parent Council would like to see greater detail to give us confidence that the key commitments can be delivered:

- a. Gaelic Education Workforce: Detailed work is required to assess the current GME workforce and to plan for the predicted growth in numbers in GME at ELC, Primary and Secondary stages. This is required at both a National level and a Regional level. Our Parent Council would like to see a "National GME Teacher Recruitment and Retention Strategy" to address this. Clear articulation of the demand and opportunities will undoubtedly attract a high- quality workforce in regions where demand is needed. In addition, clear career development pathways for the GME workforce are needed so those with talent and ambition, both entering and currently employed in GME, see clear career development pathways and see opportunities for promoted posts
- b. Gaelic Adult Learning: In some areas, the demand for GME is largely from non-Gaelic speaking families. In other areas, there may be a greater community of Gaelic speakers entering GME. A one-size-fits-all Gaelic adult learning strategy is therefore clearly not appropriate. We wish to see a more localised approach to adult learning so the needs of more local communities can be met. Detailed work to map adult learning needs across Scotland would help target efforts to maximise the return to the adult learning community and also for children of adult learners, where parents become enabled to support their child's learning. We welcome the demand from non-Gaelic speaking families it is a clear endorsement of the success of GME and is necessary to expand the number of Gaelic speakers.
- 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.

No other points.