

## Fiosrachadh Pearsanta / Contact Information

Buidhean Organisation	Youth Link Scotland
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?**

No.

**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?**

The promotion of Gaelic could also be promoted through youth work provision in non-Gaelic speaking communities. YouthLink Scotland could support this work in partnership with Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

**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?**

YouthLink Scotland agrees that education is an effective avenue to promote Gaelic learning. We suggest that consideration is paid to the role of the youth work sector within this. Youth work is a crucial component of young people's education. A significant proportion of young people's learning is done outside of the school gates and much of this through youth work. Through engagement with youth work, young people are more resilient, optimistic for the future, consider risk, make reasoned decisions and take control.

Many youth work organisations and programmes increase literacy and numeracy skills alongside building social skills. Youth work would give young people another forum in which to practice and use their Gaelic skills. The type of communication skills used in a youth work environment would undoubtedly broaden vocabulary and give young people a chance to use their Gaelic skills in a social setting.

By working with the youth work sector, it can be assumed that more young people will be reached and their Gaelic skills consolidated.

Comunn na Gàidhlig have previously said there are very few practitioners able to deliver activities directly in Gaelic. With regards to young people's participation in outdoor activities, "[t]he danger is that young people can then associate 'cool' and exciting activities with English – a real detriment to their Gaelic learning and confidence." [<http://www.cnag.org/index.php/en/news/news-2015/92-plans-announced-for-enhanced-outdoor-activity-provision-in-gaelic>]

The plan should look to build on current Gaelic medium youth work provision such as the John Muir Award/Duais Iain Muir programme run by Comunn na Gàidhlig in Portree and the Fèis Rois Easter holiday residential programme.

This is a clear indication that additional funding should be dedicated to training additional youth work practitioners to deliver in Gaelic. Additionally, resources could be developed in partnership with the youth work sector to increase Gaelic learning in non-Gaelic speaking communities.

**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?**

YouthLink Scotland is particularly supportive of the idea of initiatives which promote the use of Gaelic by young people. We would be interested in working with the Bòrd na Gàidhlig to develop how these might operate.

**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?**

YouthLink Scotland believes the priority areas identified are appropriate to achieving the ambition.

**6. Tha na ceistean co-chomhairleachaidh a nochd na bu tràithe air a bhith rudeigin mionaideach. Ma tha sibh airson puingeann 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.**

YouthLink Scotland is the national agency for youth work. We are a membership organisation, representing over 100 regional and national youth organisations from both the voluntary and statutory sectors. Our vision is of a nation which values its young people and their contribution to society, where young people are supported to achieve their potential. Scotland's youth work sector is as rich and diverse as the nation itself. Our sector has a workforce in excess of 80,000 – including over 70,000 adult volunteers. We reach in excess of 380,000 young people in youth work opportunities each week.

The activity, venue, and approaches utilised to deliver this are varied – and include youth clubs, youth projects, specialist or targeted provision, social activism, outdoor learning, awards programmes, uniformed organisations, and democratic participation.

YouthLink Scotland would support the development of CPD and training for youth work practitioners. It is positive that Sabhal Mòr Ostaig already offers a CPD course in Community Development. In order for Gaelic speakers to have the appropriate skills to offer youth work provision in Gaelic speaking communities, there must be Gaelic medium training available.