

**Seirbheis Smàlaidh is Teasairginn na h-Alba - Freagairt Co-chomhairleachaidh
Le Bòrd na Gàidhlig
14 Ògmhios 2021**

**Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Consultation Response
Le/by Bòrd na Gàidhlig
14 June 2021**

Ro-ràdh

Is e Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' phrìomh bhuidheann phoblach ann an Alba a tha an urra ri a bhith a' cur air adhart leasachadh na Gàidhlig agus a bhith a' toirt comhairle do Mhinistearan na h-Alba air cùisean Gàidhlig a' gabhail a-steach foghlam. Tha sinn a' cur fàilte air a' chothrom freagairt a thoirt dhan cho-chomhairle seo air Dreach Lèirsinn Fhad-ùine Seirbheis Smàlaidh is Teasairginn na h-Alba (SFRS).

Tha sinn a' cur fàilte air comas na Lèirsinn cur ri amas iomlan Bòrd na Gàidhlig - a rèir Plana Nàiseanta Gàidhlig 2018-2023 - "Gun tèid Gàidhlig a chleachdadh nas trice, le barrachd dhaoine agus ann am barrachd shuidheachaidhean". Cuidichidh Lèirsinn SFRS gus na Planaichean Gàidhlig aca aig an àm seo agus san àm ri teachd a lìbhrigeadh - agus mar sin cuiridh seo ris a' phlana Nàiseanta.

Nì i cinnteach cuideachd gun lean dealas SFRS a thaobh cleachdadh na Gàidhlig, an dà chuid taobh a-staigh na buidhne, agus barrachd is barrachd, ann a bhith a' com-pàirteachadh le coimhearsnachdan Gàidhlig air feadh na h-Alba. Cuiridh seo conaltradh nas èifeachdaiche an comas le coimhearsnachdan a tha airson a bhith a' conaltradh/a' gabhail pàirt ann an co-chomhairleachadh tron Ghàidhlig agus mar sin bidh toraidhean nas fheàrr ann bhon lèirsinn.

Ar Misean

Tha e na adhbhar toileachais dhuinn gu bheil seo a' gabhail a-steach SFRS a bhith "Ag Obair Còmhla", a' gabhail ris gu bheil seo a' gabhail a-steach coimhearsnachdan Gàidhlig agus buidhnean Gàidhlig leithid Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

Introduction

Bòrd na Gàidhlig is the principal public body in Scotland responsible for promoting Gaelic development and providing advice to the Scottish Ministers on Gaelic issues. We welcome the opportunity to respond to this consultation on the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Draft Long-Term Vision.

We welcome the potential of the Vision to contribute to Bòrd na Gàidhlig's overall aims as per the National Gaelic Language Plan 2018-2023 -that "Gaelic is used more often, by more people and in a wider range of situations". The Vision will help SFRS to deliver their current and future Gaelic Language Plans-and thus contribute to the National plan.

It will also ensure SFRS's ongoing commitment to the use of Gaelic language. That is both internally and, increasingly, in engaging with Gaelic speaking communities across Scotland. This will allow more effective engagement with communities that prefer to be consulted/engaged with in Gaelic and thus achieve better outcomes from the vision.

Our Mission

We welcome that this includes SFRS "Working Together", assuming it includes Gaelic speaking communities and Gaelic organisations such as Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

Thug sinn fa-near dhan iomradh air “Seirbheis aig a bheil dealas làidir do na coimhearsnachdan aice...as urrainn a bhith cinnteach gum bi càch airson èisteachd ris na h-againn ri ràdh a thaobh cùisean co-cheangailte ris an roinn againn agus ri co-teacs na roinne poblach san fharsaingeachd”. Mar phàirt de seo, bu chòir SFRS sanasachd a dhèanamh air mar a chleachd e a’ Ghàidhlig gu ruige seo - rud a chuidicheas gus ìomhaigh agus ìre cleachdaidh na Gàidhlig àrdachadh taobh a-staigh buidhnean poblach eile.

Ar n-Adhbhar

Tha sinn a’ cur fàilte air a’ ghealltanais “a bhith a’ coileanadh feumalachdan atharrachail nan coimhearsnachdan againn”. Gus seo a dhèanamh, bidh aig SFRS ri barrachd Gàidhlig a chleachdadh gus com-pàirteachadh leis na coimhearsnachdan Gàidhlig a tha a’ fàs air feadh na h-Alba.

Tha sinn cuideachd a’ cur fàilte air a’ ghealltanais a bhith ag obair ann an com-pàirteachas le coimhearsnachdan - rud a chuidicheas gus na beachdan aca a thuigsinn nas fheàrr - agus “le daoine eile sna roinnean poblach, prìobhaideach agus san treas roinn”, a bhios a’ gabhail a-steach Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

Na h-Amasan Ro-innleachdail againn

Tha sinn a’ cur fàilte air an amas gum bi “farsaingeachd agus doimhneachd na tha sinn a’ cur ri Alba agus ris na coimhearsnachdan air a làn aithneachadh”. Mholamaid gu làidir gun dèan SFRS sanasachd air mar a tha e air Gàidhlig a chleachdadh gu soirbheachail gu ruige seo.

Mholamaid gu làidir gun cùm SFRS taic ris a’ phròiseas seo le bhith a’ cur cruth dà-chànanach air branndadh is suaicheantas na buidhne mar a tha buidhnean poblach eile air dèanamh (ag aithneachadh gu bheil an suaicheantas làithreach na earraid le dìon laghail).

Ar Prionnsabalan

Tha sinn a’ cur fàilte air a’ ghealltanais gum bi SFRS na “bhuidheann adhartach”. Tha seo air an tuigse gu

We note the reference to “a Service that is strong in its commitment to its communities...can be confident that others will wish to hear what we have to say regarding issues relevant to our sector and to the wider public service context”. This should include SFRS publicising its successful use of Gaelic to date which will help increase the profile and uptake of Gaelic among other public organisations.

Our Purpose

We welcome the commitment to “meet the changing needs of our communities”. This will require greater use of Gaelic by SFRS to engage with growing Gaelic speaking communities across Scotland.

We also welcome the commitment to work in partnership with communities-which will help better understand their needs-and “with others in the public, private and third sectors” which will include Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

Our Strategic Intentions

We welcome the intention that “The breadth and depth of the contribution we make to Scotland and our communities is fully recognised”. We strongly advocate that this includes SFRS publicising its successful use of the Gaelic language to date.

We also strongly advocate that this process is supported by SFRS branding and logo being made bilingual like other national public bodies (recognising that the existing logo is a legally protected herald).

Our Principles

We welcome that SFRS “will be a progressive organisation”. That is on the



bheil “co-ionannachd airson... an fheadhainn dham bi sinn ag obair” a’ gabhail a-steach a bhith a’ conaltradh le coimhearsnachdan Gàidhlig tron Ghàidhlig. Tha seo co-cheangailte ri prionnsabal eile: le bhith “a’ cur daoine aig cridhe gach rud a nì sinn”, gun dèan SRFS cinnteach “gum bi e comasach dhaibhsan a tha airson cur ris an obair a nì sinn agus mar a nì sinn e, gus sin a dhèanamh”. Anns an t-suidheachadh seo, bhiomaid an dùil gun cleachdadh SRFS a’ Ghàidhlig far a bheil seo a rèir feumalachdan coimhearsnachd, a’ dèanamh cinnteach gu bheil spèis cho-ionnan aig a’ Ghàidhlig agus a’ Bheurla.

Tha sinn a’ cur fàilte air an amas gum bi SRFS “na bhuidheann a tha a’ gabhail ri in-ghabhaltas agus ri eadar-dhealachaidhean”. Tha seo a’ gabhail a-steach “gum bi na nì sinn a rèir feumalachdan nan coimhearsnachdan againn agus gun cuir sinn luach anns na feartan air leth anns gach coimhearsnachd” - a bhios a’ gabhail a-steach cleachdadh na Gàidhlig.

Tha sinn a’ cur fàilte cuideachd air an amas gum bi SRFS “cuideachd a’ sìor-obrachadh nas dlùithe ris na com-pàirtichean làithreach againn”. Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig am measg nan com-pàirtichean sin.

Tha sin a’ cur fàilte air an amas gum bi SRFS “mothachail fhathast air mar a tha na coimhearsnachdan againn ag atharrachadh”. Bidh seo a’ gabhail a-steach a bhith ag aithneachadh fàs ann an cleachdadh na Gàidhlig ann an coimhearsnachdan sònraichte. Mar eisimpleir, tro bhith a’ toirt seachad goireasan foghlaim Gàidhlig airson sgoiltean ann an Glaschu agus Dùn Èideann agus sgìrean ùghdarras ionadail eile ann an Alba far a bheil Foghlam tro Mheadhan na Gàidhlig a’ fàs gu math luath. Mholamaid gu làidir gum bi tursan gu, agus tachartasan ann an, suidheachaidhean tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig daonnan air an cumail tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig.

Le bhith a’ dèanamh seo, bithear ag aithneachadh gu bheil a’ Ghàidhlig ga cleachdadh air feadh na h-Alba. Rachadh taic a chumail ri seo cuideachd tro iomairtean nàiseanta aig SRFS a bhith air an dèanamh tron Ghàidhlig a bharrachd air a’ Bheurla. Mholamaid gu làidir gun tèid lèirmheas a dhèanamh air iomairtean nàiseanta a-nis is gun tèid planadh

basis that “equality for...those that we serve” includes engaging with Gaelic speaking communities via the Gaelic language. This relates to another principle: that in being “people centred in all that we do” SFRS will ensure that “those who wish to contribute to what we do and how we do it are enabled to do so”. In this case we would expect this to include SFRS using Gaelic where this reflects the needs of a community, ensuring equal respect for Gaelic and English.

We welcome the intention that SFRS will be “an organisation that embraces inclusiveness and difference”. That includes “we will reflect the needs of our communities in what we do and we will value the unique characteristics within each of them”-which will include use of the Gaelic language.

We also welcome the intention that SFRS “will also work ever more closely with our existing partners”, of which Bòrd na Gàidhlig is one.

We welcome the intention that SFRS will “remain vigilant to how our communities are changing”. This will include recognising growth in the use of Gaelic in specific communities. For example, through providing Gaelic language educational resources for schools in Glasgow and Edinburgh and other local authority areas across Scotland where Gaelic Medium Education is expanding very quickly. We strongly advocate that visits and events in Gaelic medium settings are always provided through the medium of Gaelic.

That will serve to acknowledge that use of Gaelic is Scotland-wide. This would also be supported by SFRS national campaigns being undertaken through Gaelic as well as English. We strongly advocate that a review of national campaigns is now undertaken and that annual planning is put in place to deliver identified national campaigns bilingually.



bliadhna a chur air dòigh gus iomairtean nàiseanta comharraichte a libhrigeadh gu dà-chànanach.

Ar Prìomhachasan

A' leantainn air na beachdan againn gu h-àrd, tha sinn a' cur fàilte air na prìomhachasan a leanas:

- “Bidh obair com-pàirteachais aig cridhe na dòigh-obrach againn.”
- “Gun tèid ar brosnachadh le tuigse nas doimhne air feumalachdan nan coimhearsnachdan againn”.

Na h-Ath-cheuman

Tha an Lèirsinn aig àrd ìre. Mar sin, tha sinn toilichte fhaicinn gu bheil SFRS cuideachd “gu mòr airson cur an cèill de an uiread de dh'obair a bhios a dhìth agus de seòrsa planaidh a bhios a dhìth gus na h-amasan seo a thoirt gu buil. Togaidh sinn am mion-fhiosrachadh seo còmhla ri ar luchd-obrach, co-obraichean agus coimhearsnachdan.”

Nì seo cinnteach an dà chuid gum bi follaiseachd ann agus gum bi cleachdadh na Gàidhlig na phàirt mar as còir ann an raon farsaing de dh'obair SFRS.

Our Priorities

Reflecting our comments above we welcome the following priorities, that:

- “Partnership working will be at the core of how we work.”
- “We will be driven by a deeper understanding of the needs of our communities”.

Next Steps

The Vision is at a high level. Thus, we welcome that SFRS are “further committed to setting out the depth of the work and the detail of the planning that will be required in demonstrating how we will fulfil these ambitions. We will build this detail together with our staff, partners and communities.”

This will both ensure transparency and that use of Gaelic is properly incorporated across a wide range of SFRS's activities.

