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Air post-dealain gu: [EducationReform@gov.scot](mailto:EducationReform@gov.scot)

For English version, see below :

A chàirdean

**Freagairt bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig mun Ath-leasachadh air ÙTA agus Foghlam Alba: Dreachd Raon-ùghdarrais Comhairliche.**

Tha sinn a’ cur fàilte dha-rìribh air suidheachadh an Ollaimh Coinneach Muir mar am prìomh Chomhairliche do Riaghaltas na h-Alba air ath-leasachadh Ùghdarras Theisteanas na h-Alba (ÙTA) agus Foghlam Alba (FA). Tha tuigse dhomhainn aig an Ollamh Muir air ceistean an lùib Foghlam tron Ghàidhlig (FtG) agus Foghlam Luchd-ionnsachaidh (FLI) agus tha fiughair againn ri bhith ag obair leis fhèin agus le luchd-obrach eile gus na molaidhean lèirsinneach am broinn aithisg OECD a thoirt gu buil.

Tha sinn air caochladh chùisean a mhìneachadh mar thoiseach-tòiseachaidh, a chuidicheas gus cruth a chur air gnothaichean, gus an tèid an dà chuid FtG agus Foghlam tro Bheurla (FtB) a sgrùdadh mar as iomchaidh agus gun tèid aonta a chur ri ro-innleachdan gus an dà thaobh de dh’Fhoghlam na h-Alba a leasachadh.

**Panail-taice agus Com-pàirteachadh.**

Tha sinn a’ cur taic ris a’ bheachd panail-taice a chruthachadh gus cuideachadh ris an Ollamh Muir agus mholamaid gum biodh riochdachadh bho roinn FtG air a’ bhuidhinn gus am faodar aghaidh a chur air ceistean a’ buntainn ri Foghlam Gàidhlig bho thùs.

Mholamaid gu làidir cuideachd nuair a bhios beachdan “cloinne, daoine òga, theaghlaichean agus luchd-cleachdaidh” gan trusadh agus gan cur san àireamh gun tèid FtG a riochdachadh mar as iomchaidh anns na ceithir roinnean uile.

Thug sinn fa-near cuideachd gun tèid fiosrachadh a thrusadh agus a-rithist mholamaid gu làidir gun gabh seo a-steach fiosrachadh sònraichte a’ buntainn ri roinn FtG. Bidh sinn gu math deònach barrachd fiosrachaidh shònraichte a thoirt seachad, nam biodh sin a dhìth.

Tha sinn a’ cur fàilte air na geallaidhean mu eugsamhlachd sa chiad earrann de Dhreachd an Raoin-ùghdarrais agus mholamaid gun gabhadh seo a-steach gealladh beachdan air FtG agus FLI a chur rithe.

**Gnìomhan**

Anns an fharsaingeachd tha sinn a’ cur fàilte air frèam leudaichte nan gnìomhan ann an Dreachd an Raoin-ùghdarrais ach fhuair sinn briseadh-dùil nach eil aithneachadh sam bith air FtG no FLI mar



chùisean a tha gan gabhail a-steach gu sònraichte. Tha seo gu sònraichte na bhriseadh-dùil seach gu bheil buidheann fharsaing de shuidheachaidhean eile ann am Foghlam na h-Alba ann.

Mholamaid mar a leanas:

- Bu chòir gun gabha Uidheamachadh a-steach an dà Uidheamachadh a thathar a’ gabhail ann an Gàidhlig agus an fheadhainn ann am Beurla.
- Bu chòir gun gabhadh measadh a-steach structaran mu mheasadh a’ bualadh air siostaman FtG agus FtB le chèile (eisimpleir is e am frèam a tha stèidhichte mar-thà airson Measaidhean Coitcheann Nàiseanta Gàidhlig airson FtG).
- Bu chòir gum biodh ceistean a’ bualadh air FtG agus FtB air a’ chlàr-oideachaidh (mar eisimpleir na structaran sa chlàr ann am TtG agus ceistean a’ buntainn ri foghlam-bogaidh).
- Bu chòir gun nochdadh modh an sgrùdaidh agus Ionnsachadh Dreuchdail na suidheachaidhean ann an siostaman na Gàidhlig agus na Beurla le chèile gu soilleir.
- Tha sinn a’ cur fàilte air an iomradh air seallaidhean eadar-nàiseanta mu chruthachadh clàir-oideachaidh agus buidhinn-mheasaidh ùir. Ann an Aithisg OECD tha eisimpleirean à British Columbia agus à Èirinn, a chruthaich le chèile stuth sònraichte mun ìre de dh’fhoghlam-bogaidh sna dùthchannan seo agus mholamaid gu làidir gun gabhadh seallaidhean eadar-nàiseanta a-steach ath-bhreithneachadh air cleachdadh foghlaim-bhogaidh (tro mheadhan na Gaeilge ann an Èirinn agus tro mheadhan na Fraingise ann am British Columbia).
- Ged a thathar a’ toirt tarraing air “roinnean eadar-dhealaichte” ann an roinn nan Gnìomhan, chan eil iomradh sam bith air FtG agus mholamaid gu làidir gun tèid FtG a chur ri liosta nan roinnean.
- Tha caochladh bheachdan ann air co-ionannachd, còraichean na cloinne agus atharrachaidhean reachdail a dh’fhaodadh èirigh. Mholamaid gun gabh seo a-steach iomradh air FtG is FLI. Ghabhadh seo a-steach beachdachadh air an Stiùireadh Reachdail Airson Foghlam Gàidhlig (Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig an sàs an-dràsta ann an ath-bhreithneachadh air a’ bhuidheann) agus an sgrìobhainn le Comhairle mu Foghlam Gàidhlig. A bharrachd air seo, tha gealladh ann am manifesto a’ phàrtaidh-riaghlaidh Bile Cànanan na h-Alba a thoirt a-steach ann an rèis na Pàrlamaid seo, a dh’fhaodadh bualadh air ceistean mu sholar FtG is FLI. Bhòt Pàrlamaid na h-Alba o chionn ghoirid gus Cunradh nan Dùthchannan Aonaichte air Còraichean na Cloinne a chorpachadh ann an lagh na h-Alba agus bu chòir gun nochdadh seo mar lagh air a’ cheann thall; dh’fhaodadh seo buaidh a thoirt air còraichean a thaobh cànan cuideachd.
- Tha sinn a’ cur fàilte air a’ ghealladh mu thachartasan chom-pàirteachaidh phoblaich agus mholamaid gun rachadh ullachadh a dhèanamh beagan a libhrigeadh ann an Gàidhlig.
- Tha an dreachd cuideachd mothachail air obair nan Caidreachasan Leasachaidh Roinneil (CLR) agus tha sinn a’ toirt fa-near gu bheil ullachadh Gàidhlig aca uile mar phàirt den libhrigeadh aca agus mholamaid gun rachadh FtG a thoirt a-steach san ath-bhreithneachadh air buaidh tionnsgnadh nan Caidreachasan.

Anns an fharsaingeachd tha sinn a’ cur fàilte air a’ chothrom barrachd ceangail a dhèanamh ri obair an Ollaimh Muir a’ buntainn ri Foghlam Alba agus ÙTA. Mholamaid gun toireadh Plana Gàidhlig Riaghaltas na h-Alba agus tionnsgnadh nam Ministearan, Adhartas nas Luaithe, barrachd



soilleireachaidh gus poileasaidh is leasachadh FtG àbhaisteachadh ann an Riaghaltas na h-Alba. Tha fiughair againn ri bhith ag obair gu dlùth le sgioba Roinn Luchd-obrach, Bun-structair agus Ath-leasachaidh aig Riaghaltas na h-Alba agus bhitheamaid gu math deònach barrachd fios a thoirt air gin de na ceistean san fhreagairt seo.

Deagh dhùrachd



Shona C NicIllinnein

Ceannard

Airson fios a bharrachd :

Jim Whannel

Stiùiriche Foghlaim

Bòrd na Gàidhlig

[seumas@gaidhlig.scot](mailto:seumas@gaidhlig.scot)



Bòrd na Gàidhlig,  
Taigh a' Ghlinne Mhòir, Rathad na Leacainn,  
Inbhir Nis, IV3 8NW

Bòrd na Gàidhlig,  
Great Glen House, Leachkin Road,  
Inverness, IV3 8NW

+44 [0] 1463 225454  
oifis@gaidhlig.scot  
www.gaidhlig.scot



## **Response from Bòrd na Gàidhlig regarding the Reform of the SQA and Education Scotland: Advisor Draft Remit.**

We very much welcome the appointment of Professor Ken Muir as the lead Advisor to the Scottish Government on the reform of The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) and Education Scotland (ES). Professor Muir has an in-depth understanding of issues relating to Gaelic-medium Education (GME) and Gaelic-learners' Education (GLE) and we look forward to working with him and other colleagues to realise the visionary proposals contained in the OECD Report.

We have outlined a range of initial considerations, which will help to frame developments, so that the interests of both GME and English-medium Education (EME) are appropriately examined and strategies agreed to develop both aspects of Scottish Education.

### **Supporting Panel and Engagement.**

We support the concept of creating a supporting panel to assist Professor Muir and would propose that the panel includes representation from the GME sector so that issues relating to Gaelic Education can be addressed from the outset.

Furthermore, we would strongly advocate that when the views of “children, young people, families and practitioners” are being gathered and taken into account, that GME is appropriately represented across all four constituencies.

We note also that data and information will be gathered and we again would strongly recommend this include specific data and information relating to the GME sector. We will be happy to provide further information on specific sources of information, should that be required.

We welcome the commitment to diversity in the initial section of the Draft Remit and would propose that this should include a commitment to including perspectives pertaining to GME and GLE.

### **Activities**

Overall, we welcome the extended framework of activity in the Draft Remit but are disappointed to note the absence of any recognition of GME or GLE as matters which are specifically included. This is particularly disappointing given the inclusion of a diverse set of other contexts within Scottish Education.

We would propose the following:

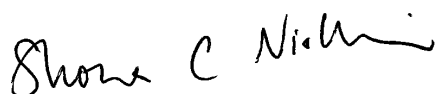
- Qualifications should include both Qualifications undertaken through Gaelic and those undertaken through English.
- Assessment should likewise include assessment structures pertaining to both the GM and EM systems (an example would be the framework already established for the GME Scottish National Standardised Assessments).
- Curriculum should include issues relating to GME and EM (for example the structures of the curriculum in GME and issues relating to immersion education).
- The inspection process and Professional Learning should reflect clearly on the contexts within both the GM and EM systems.



- We welcome the mention of international perspectives relating to the creation of a new curriculum and assessment body. The OECD Report includes exemplars from British Columbia and Ireland, both of which have produced specific material relating to immersion education provision in these countries and we would strongly recommend that international perspectives includes review of immersion practice (Irish-medium in Ireland and French-medium in British Columbia).
- Although “different sectors” are noted in the Actions section there is no mention of GME and we would recommend strongly that GME is added to the list of sectors.
- There are a series of comments regarding equalities, children’s rights and potential legislative changes. We would recommend that this include reference to GME and GLE. This may include for instance reflection on the Statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education (Bòrd na Gàidhlig is currently engaged in a review of impact) and the Advice on Gaelic Education document. In addition there is a commitment in the governing party’s manifesto to introducing a Scottish Languages Bill in the lifetime of this parliament, which may impact on a range of issues relating to the provision of GME and GLE. The Scottish Parliament has recently voted to incorporate the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child as part of Scots Law and should this ultimately become law; there are also potential implications for linguistic rights.
- We welcome the commitment to public engagement events and would suggest that some provision is made for some delivery through Gaelic.
- The draft also identifies the work of the Regional Improvement Collaboratives (RIC) and we note that all RICs have GME provision as part of their delivery and consequently we would propose that GME is included in the review of the impact of the RIC initiative.

Overall we welcome the opportunity to engage further with Professor Muir’s work relating to Education Scotland and the SQA. We would suggest that the Scottish Government’s own Gaelic Language Plan, and the Ministerial initiative, A Faster Rate of Progress, provides further context for normalising GM policy and development in Scottish Government. We look forward to working closely with the Workforce, Infrastructure and Reform Division team at the Scottish Government and would be very happy to supply any additional information on any of the issues raised in this submission.

Deagh dhùrachd



Shona C MacLennan  
CEO

For further information:

Jim Whannel  
Director of Education  
Bòrd na Gàidhlig  
[seumas@gaidhlig.scot](mailto:seumas@gaidhlig.scot)



Bòrd na Gàidhlig,  
Taigh a' Ghlinne Mhòir, Rathad na Leacainn,  
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+44 [0] 1463 225454  
[oifis@gaidhlig.scot](mailto:oifis@gaidhlig.scot)  
[www.gaidhlig.scot](http://www.gaidhlig.scot)

