

**Maoineachadh airson Cultar
Freagairt Cho-chomhairle
Le Bòrd na Gàidhlig
07 Sultain 2021**

**Funding for Culture
Consultation Response
By Bòrd na Gàidhlig
07 September 2021**

1. Dè na poileasaidhean geàrr-ama a bu chòir a bhith aig Riaghaltas na h-Alba sa Bhuidseat 2022-23 a thaobh taic do ath-bheothachadh roinn a' chultair?

Mu dheidhinn Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Is e Bòrd na Gàidhlig (BnG) 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.

Is e amas a' Phlana Nàiseanta Gàidhlig 2018-23¹ "gum bi Gàidhlig air a chleachdadh nas trice, le barrachd dhaoine agus ann an raon nas fharsainge de shuidheachaidhean". Thèid seo a choileanadh le bhith a' cuimseachadh air:

- Cur ri cleachdadh na Gàidhlig.
- Cur ri ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig.
- Ìomhaigh fhàbharach a chur air adhart den Ghàidhlig.

Tha am Plana ag ràdh às dèidh sin, "Mas e cur ri cleachdadh na Gàidhlig ar n-amas, tha na h-ealainean aig teis-meadhan an amais sin". Mar thoradh air sin, am measg a phrìomhachasan tha:

- Gàidhlig anns na h-ealainean, foillseachadh agus sna gnìomhachasan cruthachail.
- Cleachdadh na Gàidhlig ann an dualchas, turasachd, biadh is deoch, an àrainneachd agus gnìomhachasan cur-seachad.

Tha seo a' nochdadh **Poileasaidh Riaghaltas na h-Alba** – mar a chaidh a shònrachadh ann an A Culture Strategy

1. What should be the Scottish Government's immediate priorities in supporting the culture sector's recovery through Budget 2022-23?

About Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Bòrd na Gàidhlig (BnG) is the principal public body in Scotland responsible for promoting Gaelic development and providing advice to the Scottish Ministers on Gaelic issues.

The aim of the National Gaelic Language Plan 2018-23¹² is "that Gaelic is used more often, by more people and in a wider range of situations". This will be achieved by focusing on:

- Increasing the use of Gaelic.
- Increasing the learning of Gaelic.
- Promoting a positive image of Gaelic.

The Plan goes on to state that "If the increased use of Gaelic is our aim, then the arts have a central place in this aim". As a result, its priorities include:

- Gaelic in the arts, publishing and creative industries.
- Gaelic use in heritage, tourism, food and drink, environment and leisure industries.
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This reflects Scottish Government policy - as set out in A Culture Strategy for Scotland¹³. It states

¹ <https://www.gaidhlig.scot/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/BnG-NGLP-18-23-1.pdf>

¹² <https://www.gaidhlig.scot/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/BnG-NGLP-18-23-1.pdf>

¹³ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/culture-strategy-scotland/documents/>

for Scotland². Tha e ag ràdh gur bheil “cur air adhart cultar na Gàidhlig na phrìomh phàirt” de bhith a’ cur ris an àireimh dhaoine a’ bruidhinn, a’ cleachdadh agus ag ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig.

Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig air a mhaoineachadh le Riaghaltas na h-Alba. Bidh BnG fhèin a’ toirt seachad maoinachadh do raon de bhuidhnean cultarach a bhios ri gnìomhan a chuidicheas BnG gus na h-amasan cultarail aca a choileanadh a tha air an stèidheachadh sa Phlana Nàiseanta Gàidhlig.

Mar eisimpleir:

- **Ceòlas Uibhist** A’ cur air adhart bogadh Gàidhlig ann an Uibhist a Deas a’ toirt a-steach prògram bliadhnail de thachartasan ealain agus clasaichean Gàidhlig cunbhalach.
- **Comhairle nan Leabhraichean.** A’ toirt seachad stiùireadh agus taic foillseachaidh do roinn litreachas na Gàidhlig, le tabhartasan agus taic leasachaidh proifeasanta do ùghdaran agus taic reic is margaidheachd do fhoillsichearan.
- **An Comunn Gàidhealach.** A’ ruith a’ Mhòid Nàiseanta Rìoghail bhliadhnail agus a’ toirt taic do 18 Mòd ionadail air feadh na h-Alba.
 - *Fèisean nan Gàidheal.* A’ toirt taic do ruith còrr is 45 fèisean ionadail air feadh na h-Alba a bhios ri teagasg ciùil agus ealain Ghàidhlig.
 - *Ionad Chalum Cille Ìle.* A’ libhrigeadh ionad Gàidhlig ann an Ìle gus taic a thoirt do chleachdadh agus ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig airson luchd-tadhail don ionad agus tro ionnsachadh air astar.
 - *An Lòchran.* A’ libhrigeadh ionad Gàidhlig ann an Glaschu agus prògram ealain Gàidhlig.
 - *Theatre gu leòr.* A’ toirt taic proifeasanta do roinn dràma na Gàidhlig le cuairtean cunbhalach, cothroman trèanaidh do luchd-ealain agus leasachadh is adhartachadh den roinn.

Inbhe na Gàidhlig

Feumar taic leantainneach do chultar na Gàidhlig – agus na buannachdan eaconamach, sòisealta agus sunnd a thig

that “the promotion of the Gaelic culture is a key element of” increasing the number of people speaking, using and learning the Gaelic language.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig is funded by Scottish Government. BnG itself disburses funding to a range of cultural organisations. They deliver activities to help BnG achieve its cultural objectives which flow from the National Gaelic Language Plan.

For example:

- **Ceòlas Uibhist.** Promotes Gaelic immersion experiences in South Uist including an artistic programme of annual events and regular Gaelic classes.
- **Comhairle nan Leabhraichean.** Provides guidance and publishing support to the Gaelic literature sector, with grants and professional development support for authors and sales and marketing support for publishers.
- **An Comunn Gàidhealach.** Running the annual Royal National Mòd and supporting 18 local Mòds across Scotland.
 - *Fèisean nan Gàidheal.* Supports the running of over 45 local fèisean across Scotland that incorporate Gaelic music and arts tuition.
 - *Ionad Chalum Cille Ìle.* Provides a Gaelic hub in Islay to help support the usage and learning of Gaelic for visitors to the centre and through distance learning.
 - *An Lòchran.* Provides a Gaelic hub in Glasgow and delivers a Gaelic arts programme.
 - *Theatre Gu Leòr.* Providing professional support to the Gaelic drama sector with regular tours, training opportunities for artists and general development and promotion of the sector.

The Status of Gaelic

Continued support for Gaelic culture - and its economic, social and wellbeing benefits - is required

² <https://www.gov.scot/publications/culture-strategy-scotland/documents/>



na chois – gus **poileasaidh Riaghaltas na h-Alba a nochdadh**. Is e sin: “Tha Riaghaltas na h-Alba mothachail gu bheil Gàidhlig na pàirt bhunasach de dhualchas na h-Alba, dearbh-aithne nàiseanta agus beatha chultarail san latha an-diugh, agus tha comas mòr aice mar mhaoin airson luach eaconamach is sòisealta a thogail”.³. Mar phàirt de seo tha Sabhal Mòr Ostaig⁴, san Eilean Sgitheanach, air ainmeachadh mar Ionad Nàiseanta airson Cànan is Cultar Gàidhlig.

Bu chòir inbhe agus àite cultar na Gàidhlig aithneachadh ann am buidseat Riaghaltas na h-Alba. Tha sin gus dèanamh cinnteach gum bi **an t-ath-bheothachadh bhon ghalar làir-sgaoilte cothromach agus co-ionann; agus a’ cumail taic ri iomadachd cultair ann an Alba**. Tha Riaghaltas na h-Alba mothachail air seo, oir tha iad dealasach a bhith “a’ cumail sùil air an ìre gu bheil na h-ealainean Gàidhlig air taic fhaighinn bho sgeamaichean taic èiginn o chionn ghoirid a tha ag amas air buidhnean cultair”⁵.

Cleachdadh na Gàidhlig agus Roinn Cultar na Gàidhlig

Tha Gàidhlig na cànan nàiseanta; air a bruidhinn air feadh na h-Alba. Tha timcheall air 50% de luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig a’ fuireach air a’ Ghàidhealtachd agus anns na h-Eileanan leis a’ chòrr anns a’ chòrr de dh’Alba. **Chan ann a-mhàin ann an Alba a tha fèill air cultar na Gàidhlig – ach air feadh an t-saoghail.**

Tha an cànan gu sònraichte cumanta ann an cuid de dh’eileanan a’ chosta an iar. Sheall Cunntas-sluaigh 2011 gu robh cuid de sgilean Gàidhlig aig 64% de shluagh nan Eileanan Siar. Chan e a-mhàin gu bheil a’ Ghàidhlig cudromach do na h-eileanan sin – tha seasmhachd nan eileanan sin deatamach airson seasmhachd is fàs leantainneach na Gàidhlig

A rèir sin, tha Plana Nàiseanta nan Eilean aig Riaghaltas na h-Alba⁶ “ag aithneachadh cho cudromach ’s a tha a’

to reflect Scottish Government policy. That is: “The Scottish Government recognises that Gaelic is an integral part of Scotland’s heritage, national identity and current cultural life, and has great potential as an asset for adding economic and social value”¹⁴. As part of this Sabhal Mòr Ostaig¹⁵, located in Skye, is designated as a National Centre for Gaelic Language and Culture.

The status and role of Gaelic culture should be recognised in Scottish Government’s budget. That is to ensure **a fair and equal recovery from the pandemic**; and one that continues to **support the diversity of culture in Scotland**. Scottish Government are mindful of this, as they are committed to “monitor the extent to which Gaelic arts have been supported by recent emergency support schemes targeted at culture organisations”¹⁶.

Use of Gaelic and the Gaelic Culture Sector

Gaelic is a national language; spoken across Scotland. About 50% of Gaelic speakers live in the Highlands and Islands with the remainder in the rest of Scotland. **The audience for Gaelic culture is not only Scotland however - it is international.**

The language is particularly prevalent in some of the west coast islands. The 2011 Census showed that 64% of the Eilean Siar population had some Gaelic skills. The Gaelic language is not only important to these islands - but these islands’ sustainability is also essential to the continued sustainability and growth of the Gaelic language.

Accordingly, Scottish Government’s National Islands Plan¹⁷ “recognises the importance of the Gaelic

³ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/consultation-scottish-governments-draft-gaelic-language-plan-2021-2026/>

⁴ <http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/>

⁵ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/consultation-scottish-governments-draft-gaelic-language-plan-2021-2026/>

⁶ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-plan-scotlands-islands/>

¹⁴ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/consultation-scottish-governments-draft-gaelic-language-plan-2021-2026/>

¹⁵ <http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/>

¹⁶ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/consultation-scottish-governments-draft-gaelic-language-plan-2021-2026/>

¹⁷ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-plan-scotlands-islands/>



<p>Ghàidhlig do mhòran choimhearsnachdan eileanach, agus cho cudromach 's a tha coimhearsnachdan Gàidhlig nan eilean do mhairsinn agus seasmhachd na Gàidhlig ann an Alba”.</p> <p>Tha am Plana a’ toirt iomradh air gnìomhachasan cruthachail agus cultarail – a bheir a-steach an fheadhainn a tha a’ cleachdadh Gàidhlig. Tha e ag ràdh “a’ tarraing air grunn seòrsa maoin leithid... cànanan sònraichte... tha an roinn chruthachail a’ cuideachadh le bhith a’ togail cultar beairteach agus eadar-dhealaichte, coimhearsnachdan làidir agus fàs eaconamach”.</p> <p>Is e aon de na h-amasan ro-innleachdail ann am Plana nan Eilean taic a thoirt do na h-ealainean, cultar agus cànan. Tha gnìomhan gus seo a thoirt gu buil a’ toirt a-steach dèanamh cinnteach gu bheil na geallaidhean ann am Plana Nàiseanta nan Eilean air an stiùireadh agus air an aon rèir ris na geallaidhean sa Phlana Nàiseanta Gàidhlig.</p> <p>Tha Riaghaltas na h-Alba cuideachd a’ toirt taic do seo airson na h-Alba air fad. Bheir iad “taic do obair luchd-dèanaimh agus luchd-cleachdaidh anns na gnìomhachasan cruthachail a bhios a’ cleachdadh cànan agus cultar na Gàidhlig mar mheadhan airson faireachdainn a chur an cèill”⁷.</p> <p>Chaidh buaidh a’ ghalair lèir-sgaoilte air eileanan agus àiteachan eile air a’ Ghàidhealtachd agus na h-Eileanan a mhìnachadh ann an grunn aithisgean agus sgrìobhainnean eile⁸.</p> <p>Tha iad sin air aire a thoirt do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cugallachd eaconamach air feadh mòran eileanan agus sgìrean dùthchail. • Co-roinn an ìre mhath àrd de gnìomhachasan ann an roinnean a tha fo bhuaidh na galar lèir-sgaoilte – a tha air a bhith nan luchd-fastaidh 	<p>language to many island communities, and the importance of the Gaelic speaking island communities to the survival and sustainability of Gaelic in Scotland”.</p> <p>The Plan refers to creative and cultural industries - which will include those using Gaelic. It states that “drawing on a range of assets such as...distinct languages...the creative sector helps build a rich and varied culture, strong communities and economic growth”.</p> <p>One of the Islands Plan’s strategic objectives is to support arts, culture and language. Actions to achieve this include ensuring that the commitments in this National Islands Plan are informed by and aligned with the commitments in the National Gaelic Language Plan.</p> <p>Scottish Government also support this for Scotland as a whole. They “will support the work of makers and practitioners in the creative industries that use Gaelic language and culture as a medium of expression”¹⁸.</p> <p>The impacts of the pandemic on islands and other parts of the Highlands and Islands have been set out in several reports and other documents¹⁹.</p> <p>These have pointed to the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General economic fragility of many islands and rural areas. • Relatively high share of businesses in sectors disproportionately affected by the pandemic - which have been significant
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⁷ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/consultation-scottish-governments-draft-gaelic-language-plan-2021-2026/>

⁸ Mar eisimpleir: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-islands-plan-through-covid-lens-survey-results/documents/>; <https://www.hie.co.uk/media/9646/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-the-highlands-and-islands.pdf>; https://archive2021.parliament.scot/S5_Rural/REC_S5_20_IB_41.pdf; https://archive2021.parliament.scot/S5_Rural/RECC_COMHAIRLE_NAN_EILEAN_SIAR.pdf

¹⁸ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/consultation-scottish-governments-draft-gaelic-language-plan-2021-2026/>

¹⁹ For example: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-islands-plan-through-covid-lens-survey-results/documents/>; <https://www.hie.co.uk/media/9646/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-the-highlands-and-islands.pdf>; https://archive2021.parliament.scot/S5_Rural/REC_S5_20_IB_41.pdf; https://archive2021.parliament.scot/S5_Rural/RECC_COMHAIRLE_NAN_EILEAN_SIAR.pdf



cudromach. Nam measg tha gnìomhachasan anns na h-ealainean agus dibhearsan.

- Ìrean gu math àrd de dh'fhèin-chosnadh, far a bheil taic an Riaghaltais air a bhith nas ìsle na airson chompanaidhean agus an luchd-obrach aca.
- Barrachd eisimeileachd air cosnadh ann am meanbh-iomairtean agus iomairtean beaga. Tha nas lugha de ghoireasan ionmhais is eile aca gus dèiligeadh ris a' chrìonadh ann an iarrtas.

Bidh na factaran sin air leantainn gu buaidhean nas miosa bhon ghalar làir-sgaoilte anns na h-eileanan agus na sgìrean dùthchail. Tha coltas ann gun toir iad nas fhaide gus ath-bheothachadh na pàirtean eile de dh'Alba.

A' cur ri Cleachdadh na Gàidhlig mar Mhaoin Eaconamach

Bu chòir prìomhachas a thoirt do bhith a' dèanamh barrachd feum den Ghàidhlig mar mhaoin eaconamach. Thomhais an aithisg, *Ar Stòras Gàidhlig*⁹, luach eaconamach is sòisealta na Gàidhlig do Alba. Bha an aithisg dòchasach. Lorg e gu bheil gnothaichean anns na gnìomhachasan cruthachail, turasachd, dualchas, agus roinnean bìdh is dibhe a' faighinn buannachd bho bhith a' cleachdadh na Gàidhlig, agus gu bheil comas aig seo luach eaconamach mòr a lìbhrigeadh. Sheall e gum faodadh luach na Gàidhlig a bhith suas ri £149 millean.

Tha comas mòr ann buaidh eaconamach roinn cultar na Gàidhlig a mheudachadh barrachd. Is e roinn a th' ann:

- Anns am faod pàirt shònraichte a bhith aig cànan is cultar na Gàidhlig.
- A dh'fhuiling buille gu sònraichte cruaidh leis a' ghalair làir-sgaoilte – agus gu sònraichte anns na h-eileanan agus na sgìrean dùthchail.

Tha comas mòr na Gàidhlig taobh a-staigh turasachd air aithneachadh ann an Ro-innleachd Turasachd Gàidhlig VisitScotland airson Alba¹⁰. Tha e ag ràdh gu

employers. These include businesses in the arts and entertainment.

- Relatively high levels of self-employment, where Government support has been lower than for companies and their employees.
- Greater dependence on employment in micro/small enterprises. They have fewer financial and other resources to cope with a downturn in demand.

These factors will have led to more significant pandemic impacts in the islands and rural areas. They are likely to take longer to recover than other parts of Scotland.

Increasing The Use of Gaelic as An Economic Asset

Priority should be given to making greater use of Gaelic as an economic asset. The report, *Ar Stòras Gàidhlig*²⁰, measured the economic value Gaelic brings to Scotland. The report was positive. It found that businesses in the creative industries, tourism, heritage, and food and drink sectors benefit from their use of Gaelic, and that this has the potential to bring significant economic value. It showed that the potential value of Gaelic as an asset could be up to £149 million.

There is significant potential to further increase the economic contribution of the Gaelic culture sector. It is a sector:

- In which Gaelic language and culture can play a particularly important part.
- Which has been especially hard hit by the pandemic - and notably in the islands and rural areas.

The significant potential of Gaelic culture within tourism is recognised in VisitScotland's Gaelic Tourism Strategy for Scotland²¹. It states that "The

⁹ <https://www.hie.co.uk/media/5585/hieplusreportplus2014plusfinalplusonline.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://www.visitscotland.org/binaries/content/assets/dot-org/pdf/gaelic-tourism-strategy.pdf>

²⁰ <https://www.hie.co.uk/media/5585/hieplusreportplus2014plusfinalplusonline.pdf>

²¹ <https://www.visitscotland.org/binaries/content/assets/dot-org/pdf/gaelic-tourism-strategy.pdf>



bheil “Gàidhlig agus an cultar co-cheangailte rithe a’ libhrigeadh cothrom làidir airson gnìomhachas turasachd na h-Alba”. ’S e amas na ro-innleachd a bhith “a’ cumail taic ri fàs eaconamaidh turasachd na h-Alba tro bhith a’ toirt cothrom do bharrachd luchd-tadhail faighinn a-mach mu dheidhinn agus a’ faighinn eòlas air a’ Ghàidhlig agus a cultar air leth”.

Tha an comas eaconamach a’ sruthadh bho “shaoghal beòthail an latha an-diugh aig cultar na Gàidhlig, a’ gabhail a-steach ceòl, fèisean, mar eisimpleir Celtic Connections agus Fèisean nan Gàidheal, Mòdan ionadail agus nàiseanta, litreachas, is dràma,” cho math ri tro na meadhanan, biadh is deoch, agus spòrs¹¹.

Prìomhachasan

Bu chòir do Riaghaltas na h-Alba cumail orra a’ toirt taic do chultar na Gàidhlig gus na poileasaidhean stèidhichte aca a nochdadh. Bidh Bòrd na Gàidhlig ag ullachadh Plana Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig a rèir na loidhne-tìm a chaidh aontachadh agus tha an dreachd an uair sin air a chur gu Ministearan airson aonta foirmeil Riaghaltas na h-Alba. Tha Plana Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig a’ libhrigeadh co-theacsa ro-innleachdail airson gach leasachadh co-cheangailte ri Cànan is Cultar na Gàidhlig.

Chan eil cùis sam bith ga dhèanamh airson lùghdachadh sam bith ann am maoinachadh do roinn cultar na Gàidhlig air sgàth:

- Gu bheil poileasaidh Riaghaltas na h-Alba ag aithneachadh cho cudromach ’s a tha taic do chultar na Gàidhlig. Bidh e a’ maoinachadh raon de bhuidhnean gus amasan a libhrigeadh a thaobh seo.
- Gu bheil poileasaidh Riaghaltas na h-Alba ag aithneachadh cho cudromach ’s a tha cultar na Gàidhlig ann an eileanan far as cumanta an cànan; àiteachan a tha fìor chudromach do sheasmhachd cleachdadh na Gàidhlig san àm ri teachd.
- Na h-inbhe a chaidh a thoirt don chànan, cuiridh taic do chultar na Gàidhlig ri ath-bheothachadh

Gaelic language and its associated culture represents a compelling opportunity for the Scottish tourism industry”. The strategy aims “To support the growth of the Scottish tourism economy through engaging more visitors in discovering and experiencing the unique Gaelic language and its associated culture.”

The economic potential flows from “a dynamic, contemporary Gaelic cultural scene spanning music, festivals such as Celtic Connections and fèisean, regional and national Mòds, literature, drama”, as well as through media, food and drink, and sport”²².

Priorities

Scottish Government should continue to support Gaelic culture to reflect its established policies. Bòrd na Gàidhlig prepares the National Plan for Gaelic according to the agreed timeline and the draft is then submitted to Ministers for formal Scottish Government approval. The National Plan for Gaelic provides the strategic context for all developments relating to the Gaelic Language and Culture.

There is no case for any reduction in funding to the Gaelic culture sector given:

- Scottish Government policy recognises the importance of, and the need to support, Gaelic culture. It funds a range of organisations to deliver objectives in this regard.
- Scottish Government policy recognises the significant role of Gaelic culture in islands where the language is most prevalent and which are pivotal to its continued use.

¹¹ <https://www.feisean.org/en/> <https://www.ancomunn.co.uk/>

²² <https://www.feisean.org/en/> <https://www.ancomunn.co.uk/>



cothromach agus co-ionann, agus iomadachd cultair.

- Nas urrainn do chultar na Gàidhlig a thoirt do ath-bheothachadh eaconamach ann an eileanan agus sgìrean dùthchail far a bheil an roinn gu sònraichte cudromach agus a tha air a bhith am measg an fheadhainn a dh'fhuiling a' bhuille as cruaidhe bhon ghalar làir-sgaoilte.
- A' chomais barrachd feum a dhèanamh de chultar na Gàidhlig mar mhaoin eaconamach a' gabhail a-steach tro na ceanglaichean aige ri turasachd na h-Alba.
- Cugallachd cuid de phàirtean de roinn cultar na Gàidhlig air sgàth cho beag de bhuidhnean, luchd-ealain, daoine ag obair air an ceann fhèin, msaa a th' ann.

Beachdachadh air an dòigh as fheàrr air taic ionmhasail a thoirt do dhaoine fèin-fhastichte agus a tha ag obair air an ceann fhèin gus dèanamh cinnteach nach fhàg iad an roinn ann an àireamhan mòra. B' iad na daoine seo a bu duilghe a ruighinn aig àm a' ghlaisidh agus bha e na bu duilghe dhaibh taic fhaighinn.

Rinn grunn bhuidhnean ealain oidhirp gus taic a thoirt do dhaoine ag obair air an ceann fhèin tro choimiseanadh, msaa, aig àm a' ghlaisidh. Seo co-theacsa far am b' urrainnear a ràdh gu robh an suidheachadh ionmhais aca cugallach mar-thà, mus tàinig an galar làir-sgaoilte. Ach, cha bhì seo seasmach mar a thèid an t-ath-bheothachadh air adhart.

Is dòcha gum biodh e feumail nam beachdaicheadh obair na Comataidh air:

- Ciamar a ghabhadh seo a cheangal ri deuchainnean air teachd-a-steach bunaiteach uile-choitcheann ann an Alba.
- Cleachdadh ann an dùthchannan eile m.e. Èirinn, an Fhraing. Bhiodh sin a' toirt a-steach dòighean nas simplidh gus cur a-steach airson taic gus nach biodh daoine ain-deònach a shireadh.

A' toirt taic do ionadan agus goireasan eile gus atharrachaidhean a dhèanamh (m.e. gaothrachadh) agus cleachdaidhean a thoirt a-steach a bheir misneachd do **luchd-èisteachd, luchd-cleachdaidh eile (m.e. luchd-**

- The status accorded to the language, support for Gaelic culture will contribute to a fair and equal recovery and the diversity of culture.
- The contribution that Gaelic culture can make to economic recovery in islands and rural areas where the sector is particularly significant and which have been among the hardest hit by the pandemic.
- The potential to make greater use of Gaelic culture as an economic asset including through its links with Scotland's tourism product.
- The relative fragility of some parts of the Gaelic culture sector due to their small number of organisations, artists, freelancers, etc.

Consideration of how the self-employed and freelancers can best be supported financially to ensure they do not exit the sector in significant numbers. These people proved the hardest to reach during lockdown and were less able to access support than others.

A number of arts organisations strived to support freelancers through commissions, etc., during lockdown. This is in a context where, arguably, their financial position was already precarious pre-pandemic. However, this will not be sustainable as the recovery proceeds.

The Committee's work might usefully include consideration of:

- How this might link to Universal Basic Income trials in Scotland.
- Practice in other countries e.g. Ireland, France. That would include simplified means of applying for support to avoid deterring uptake.

Supporting venues and other facilities to make modifications (e.g. air ventilation) and introduce protocols that will **give confidence to audiences,**



ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig) agus luchd-obrach saor-thoileach a bhith a' tilleadh.

A' toirt taic do bhuidhnean gus togail air an àrdachadh ann an gnìomhan air-loidhne aig àm a' ghalair làr-sgaoilte. Dhearbh seo “gum faod air-loidhne a bhith soirbheachail”. Tha grunn den fheadhainn a tha a' cleachdadh na Gàidhlig air àrdachadh mòr fhaicinn anns na h-àireamhan a tha a' coimhead cuirmean beò; agus a' gabhail pàirt ann an clasaichean cànan Gàidhlig, fèisean agus farpaisean ciùil. Tha sin a' toirt a-steach àrdachadh mòr anns na h-àireamhan bho thall thairis.

Cha ghabh gnìomhan air-loidhne gu tur an t-àite a th' aig gnìomhan ann an làthair dhaoine. Ach, tha cothrom ann togail orra gus ruigsinneachd cultar na Gàidhlig agus a' chànan a mheudachadh agus cothroman malairt a sgrùdadh. Tha seo fìor cuideachd airson dualchas cultarach do-bheantainneach – anns a' chùis seo tasglannan didseatach cudromach Gàidhlig.

Beachdaich am bu chòir buidhnean cultarail Gàidhlig eile a bhith air an seòrsachadh le Alba Chruthachail mar bhuidhnean nàiseanta agus air am maoinneachadh a rèir sin.

Feumar coimhead air na prìomhachasan gu h-àrd ann an co-theacsa. Is e sin, tha mòran bhuidhnean an-dràsta dìreach a' tòiseachadh air fosgladh a-rithist. Airson obrachaidhean nas lugha gu sònraichte tha cunnart ann gum bi cuid a' strì mar a thèid an t-ath-bheothachadh air adhart. Mar eisimpleir, mar thoradh air:

- Deireadh fòrlaidh (*furlough*).
- An ùine a bheir e gus cuirmean is cleasachd ùr a chur air chois.
- Call cuirmean Nollaig 2021, a bhiodh air a bhith nam prìomh stòr teachd-a-steach.

Mar sin, tha feum air sùbailteachd ann a bhith a' toirt taic don roinn air sgàth nàdar/faid mì-chinnteach an ath-bheothachaidh. Bu chòir do bhuidhnean leithid Alba Chruthachail conaltradh leantainneach a chuir air dòigh leis an roinn gus fiosrachadh fìor-ùine a chruinneachadh mu adhartas an ath-bheothachaidh.

Feumar cuideachd a bhith mothachail air na buaidhean a bhios aig co-dhùnaidhean maoinneachaidh. Mar eisimpleir, tha buaidh dhìreach aig maoinneachadh do ionadan air luchd-ealain agus companaidhean a bhios a' dol air chuairt.

other users (e.g. Gaelic learners) and volunteer staff to return.

Supporting organisations to build on their increase in online activities during the pandemic.

This proved that “online can work”. A number of those using Gaelic have seen a significant increase in the numbers watching live performances; and participating in Gaelic language classes, fèisean and musical competitions. That includes a significant increase in numbers from overseas.

Online will never fully replace in person attendance. However, there is scope to build on it to increase the reach of Gaelic culture and the language and explore potential monetisation opportunities. This is also the case for intangible cultural heritage - in this case significant Gaelic digital archives.

Consider whether further Gaelic cultural organisations should be classified by Creative Scotland as national organisations and funded accordingly.

The above priorities need to be viewed in context. That is, many organisations are currently just beginning to re-open. For smaller operations in particular there is a risk that some will struggle as the recovery proceeds. For example, as a result of the:

- End of furlough.
- The time taken to put on new productions.
- The loss of Christmas 2021 shows, which would have been major sources of income.

Thus, there is a need for flexibility in supporting the sector going forward due to the uncertain nature/duration of the recovery. Bodies such as Creative Scotland should have structured ongoing dialogue with the sector to collect real time information on the progress of the recovery.

There is also a need to appreciate the knock-on effects of funding decisions. For example, funding for venues has direct implications for the touring artists and companies.



2. A bheil thu ag aontachadh ri UNESCO gu bheil “ìre de ath-òrdachadh do-sheachanta” mar a bhios an roinn a’ faighinn air ais bho COVID? Ma tha, dè an dòigh-obrach a bu chòir do Riaghaltas na h-Alba a chleachdadh?

A rèir ar freagairt do Cheist 1:

- Bu chòir do Riaghaltas na h-Alba cumail orra a’ toirt taic do chultar na Gàidhlig gus na poileasaidhean làithreach aca a nochdadh.
- Chan eil cùis sam bith ga dhèanamh airson lùghdachadh sam bith ann am maoinachadh do roinn cultar na Gàidhlig.

3. Faodaidh èiginn dòighean smaoineachaidh ùra a bhrosnachadh – am bu chòir do Riaghaltas na h-Alba ath-bheachdachadh a dhèanamh air mar a tha e a’ toirt taic do roinn a’ chultair?

Tha sinn a’ tuigsinn gu bheil Alba Chruthachail gu bhith a’ nochdadh am planaichean airson structar a’ mhaoineachaidh aca san àm ri teachd. Tha dàil air a bhith air seo bho thòisich an galar lèir-sgaoilte.

Dh’fhaodadh argamaid a dhèanamh gur e an galar lèir-sgaoilte agus an t-ath-bheothachadh a leanas an dearbh àm a chòir do Riaghaltas na h-Alba ath-sgrùdadh a dhèanamh air taic. Dh’fhaodadh sin gabhail a-steach faighneachd a bheil feum air dòigh-obrach nas ro-innleachdail a thaobh cultar na Gàidhlig taobh a-staigh poileasaidh cultarail nàiseanta. Ach, bhiodh ath-bheachdachadh a’ tachairt nuair a bhiodh an roinn fhathast a’ faighinn seachad air a’ ghalar lèir-sgaoilte agus a tha an “àbhaist ùr” fhathast ri nochdadh.

Tha sinn a’ moladh gum measadh Riaghaltas na h-Alba comas agus miann na roinne airson a bhith a’ cur ri ath-bheachdachadh mus tig iad gu co-dhùnadh.

4. Gu sònraichte, a bheil cothroman ann dòigh-obrach nas ro-innleachdail a leasachadh tro, mar eisimpleir, an ro-innleachd ionmhais meadhan-ùine, sgrùdadh caiteachais ioma-bliadhna agus am Frèam-obrach Coileanadh Nàiseanta?

Mar as trice chuireadh an roinn fàilte air ath-sgrùdadh caiteachais ioma-bliadhna ma bha e gu bhith a’ leantainn gu àrdachadh no co-dhiù seasmhachd dhuaisean maoinachaidh ioma-bliadhna. Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig an-dràsta a’ toirt seachad duaisean trì-bliadhna do na com-pàirtichean libhrigidh aca.

2. Do you agree with UNESCO that “a degree of restructuring is inevitable” as the sector recovers from COVID? If so, what approach should the Scottish Government adopt?

As per our response to Q1:

- Scottish Government should continue to support the Gaelic culture sector to reflect its existing policies.
- There is no case for any reduction in funding to the Gaelic culture sector.

3. A crisis can also trigger new ways of thinking – should the Scottish Government rethink how it supports the culture sector?

We understand that Creative Scotland are due to reveal their plans for the future structure of their funding. This has been delayed since the start of the pandemic.

It could be argued that the pandemic and the following recovery are the right time for Scottish Government to review its support. That might include whether a more strategic approach to Gaelic culture is required within national cultural policy. However, a rethink exercise would take place when the sector is still recovering from the pandemic and the “new normal” has yet to emerge.

We suggest that Scottish Government establishes the capacity and appetite of the sector to contribute to a rethink at this time before making a decision.

4. Specifically, are there opportunities to develop a more strategic approach through, for example, the medium-term financial strategy, a multi-year spending review and the National Performance Framework?

A multi-year spending review would generally be welcomed by the sector if it was to lead to an increase or at least stabilisation of multi-year funding awards. Bòrd na Gàidhlig currently provides three-year awards to its delivery partners.



Tha na buidhnean fhèin a' faicinn nam buannachdan a leanas bho dhruisean ioma-bliadhna:

- Barrachd cinnt ann am planadh ionmhais is gnìomhachd.
- Nas fhasa luchd-obrach agus saor-thoilich fhastadh na airson pròiseact bliadhna.
- Nas lugha ùine ga chaitheamh a' deasachadh thagraidhean maoinachaidh na airson duaisean bliadhnail.
- Barrachd cinnt do sholaraichean agus daoine ag obair air an ceann fhèin a tha iad a' cleachdadh.

Gu dearbh, bhiodh cuid de bhuidhnean airson duaisean maoinachaidh fhaicinn airson còrr air trì bliadhna.

The organisations themselves see the following benefits from multi-year awards:

- Increased certainty in financial and activity planning.
- Easier to recruit staff and volunteers than for a one-year project.
- Less time spent in preparing funding applications than for annual awards.
- Increased certainty for suppliers and freelancers that are used.

In fact, some organisations would wish to see funding awards for more than a three-year period.

