

<p>DREACH RAON-ÙGHDARRAIS AIRSON NA BUIDHNE MEASaidH IS SGRÙDADH TEISTEANAS NEO- EISIMILEACH</p> <p>Freagairt Le Bòrd na Gàidhlig 06 Giblean 2022</p>	<p>DRAFT REMIT FOR THE QUALIFICATIONS AND ASSESSMENT INDEPENDENT REVIEW GROUP</p> <p>Response By Bòrd na Gàidhlig 06 April 2022</p>
<p>Tha sinn gu mòr a’ cur fàilte air an adhartas a thathar a’ dèanamh le slighe ùr airson Buidheann Theisteanasan is Measaidh nàiseanta agus tha sinn gu sònraichte toilichte a bhith mothachail air an fhreagairt a leanas bho Rùnaire a’ Chaibineit airson Foghlam agus Sgilean, Shirley-Anne Somerville, a’ cur an cèill dòigh-obrach Riaghaltas na h-Alba:</p> <p><i>“It will be vital when considering reform that we work with all those with an interest, to, as far as possible, build a consensus on this issue”</i></p> <p>Tha sinn a’ coimhead air adhart ri bhith ag obair gu dlùth leis a’ Bhuidhinn Ath-sgrùdaidh Neo-eisimeileach gus togail air na prìomh phrionnsabalan airson ath-leasachadh a tha air am mìneachadh ann an Aithisg an Ollaimh Ken Muir <i>Putting Learners at the Centre</i>.</p> <p>Tha sinn a’ toirt fa-near gun do chomharraich an t-Ollamh Muir ann an Caibideil 5, Case for Change, Key Principles, gun robh Alt 29 ann an UNCRC na eileamaid ro-chudromach ann a bhith a’ dealbhadh seata de phrionnsapalan airson ath-leasachadh. Tha sinn ag aontachadh gu h-iomlan ris a’ mholadh gu bheil Alt 29 (c) le fòcas air dearbh-aithne chultarach agus cànan am measg nam prìomh phrionnsapalan stiùiridh airson nan iomairtean ath-leasachaidh a tha a’ dol air adhart a-nis.</p> <p>Ann an Caibideil 9 de <i>Putting Learners at the Centre, Towards a National Agency for Scottish Education</i>, tha an t-Ollamh Muir a’ moladh cuideachd gum bi a’ bhuidheann ùr “nas dlùithe ri amasan is cinn-uidhe Plana Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig”. Tha am moladh a’ buntainn ris a’ Bhuidhinn ùir nàiseanta airson foghlam ann an Alba a thathar a’ moladh leis gun obraich an seata ùr de</p>	<p>We welcome very much the progress being made in charting a new path for a national Qualifications and Assessment Agency and we are particularly pleased to note the following response from the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, Shirley-Anne Somerville, indicating the approach of the Scottish Government:</p> <p><i>“It will be vital when considering reform that we work with all those with an interest, to, as far as possible, build a consensus on this issue”</i></p> <p>We look forward to working closely with the Independent Review Group to build on the key principles for reform which are outlined in Professor Ken Muir’s Report <i>Putting Learners at the Centre</i>.</p> <p>We note that Professor Muir highlighted in Chapter 5, Case for Change, Key Principles, that UNCRC Article 29 was an essential element in devising a set of principles for reform. We are in full agreement with the recommendation that Article 29 (c) with its focus on cultural identity and language is amongst the key guiding principles for all the reform initiatives now underway.</p> <p>In Chapter 9 of <i>Putting Learners at the Centre, Towards a National Agency for Scottish Education</i>, Professor Muir furthermore recommends that a new agency is “attuned more closely to the aims and objectives of the National Plan for Gaelic”. The recommendation relates to the proposed new national Agency for</p>

bhuidhnean ann an dlùth chom-pàirteachas ri chèile gus piseach a thoirt air foghlam, gum bi e cudromach raointean-ùghdarrais nam buidhnean nàiseanta ùra uile againn a shioncronachadh leis na h-amasan agus cinn-uidhe ann am Plana Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig.

Tha an dà amas seo mar cho-theacsa dhan fhreagairt againn dhan Dreach Raon-ùghdarrais air a bheillear a' beachdachadh.

Tha na beachdan mionaideach againn gu h-ìosal:

1. Ceist Sgòp 3: "A Set of Design Principles with Recommendations"

Tha sinn a' moladh gu làidir gum bi an dà chuid co-theacsa Foghlam tro Mheadhan na Gàidhlig (FtG) agus co-theacsa Foghlam tro mheadhan na Beurla (FtB) air an aithneachadh gu soilleir agus air an ainmeachadh fa leth an dà chuid anns na prionnsapalan agus anns na molaidhean. Bu chòir do na Prionnsabalan Dealbhaidh a bhith a' nochdadh na firinn gu bheil foghlam ann an Alba air a thoirt seachad, aon chuid tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig no tro mheadhan na Beurla.

2. Bu chòir do bharrachd a bhith a' riochdachadh oileanaich, pàrantan agus luchd-cùraim bho gach cuid siostaman FtG agus FtB mar a chaidh a chomharrachadh sa mholadh mu dheireadh againn. A bharrachd air sin, bu chòir do luchd-rannsachaidh eòlas a' buntainn ri roinn FtG a thoirt a-steach agus chan e dìreach toraidhean a thaobh FtB. Tha sinn a' moladh gum bi aithne shoilleir ann an Earrann 5 gum feumar a bhith a' sireadh beachdan bho bhuidhnean le ùidh an dà chuid ann an solar FtG agus FtB.

3. Tha sinn a' moladh gun tèid cuireadh a thoirt do Bhòrd na Gàidhlig pàirt a ghabhail anns a' Bhuidhinn Sgrùdaidh Neo-eisimeileach gus roinn FtG a riochdachadh. Mar sin bhiodh Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' cruthachadh pròiseas airson

Scottish Education but given that the new suite of agencies will work in close partnership with each other to drive forward improvement, it will be important to synchronise the remits of all our new national agencies with the aims and objectives of the National Plan for Gaelic.

Both these aspirations contextualise our response to the Draft Remit under consideration.

Our detailed comments are noted below:

1. Scope Issue 3: "A Set of Design Principles with Recommendations"

We recommend strongly that both the Gaelic-medium Education (GME) context and the English-medium (EME) context is recognised clearly and separately named in both the principles and recommendations. The Design Principles should reflect the reality that education is provided in Scotland, either through the medium of Gaelic or through the medium of English.

2. Membership should include representation of students, parents and carers from both the GME and EME systems as indicated in our previous recommendation. In addition, researchers should include expertise pertaining to the GME sector and not just EME findings. We recommend that in Section 5 there is an explicit recognition of the need to draw on interested groups relating to both GME and EME provision.

3. We recommend that Bòrd na Gàidhlig is invited to take part in the Independent Review Group representing the GME sector. Bòrd na Gàidhlig would therefore develop



conaltradh coimhearsnachd airson FtG agus stèidhicheadh e Buidheann-obrach FtG a bhiodh an uair sin a' fiosrachadh pròiseasan nàiseanta.

4. Gnìomhachdan Earrann 7: Tha sinn a' moladh fon earrainn co-cheangailte ri beachdachadh air "fios air ais bho raon farsaing de luchd-ùidh iomchaidh", gum bi fios air ais bhon roinn FtG air an liosta de thùsan fios air ais.
5. A bharrachd air seo mholamaid gum bi an earrann mu "mholaidhean practaigeach aig a bheil ìre fharsaing de thaic a' gabhail a-steach iomradh sònraichte air a bhith a' gabhail a-steach molaidhean airson roinn FtG.

Ann am *Putting Learners at the Centre*, Caibideil 5: A Qualification and Assessment Body, tha an t-Ollamh Muir a' moladh ann am Moladh 5, gum biodh structar riaghlaidh buidheann ùr Teisteanasan Alba a' gabhail a-steach barrachd riochdachaidh bho agus cunntachalachd gu *"all learners, teachers, practitioners and the stakeholders with whom it engages"*

Cuidichidh ar molaidhean a thaobh roinn FtG a bhith mar phàirt den structar airson raon-ùghdarras na Buidhne Ath-leasachaidh Neo-eisimeilich gus am miann seo a thoirt air adhart, a' dèanamh cinnteach gu bheil buaidh dhìreach aig a' mholadh air planadh airson buidhnean ùra.

Ma tha barrachd fiosrachaidh a dhìth oirbh mu ghin de na cùisean a dh'ainmich sinn an seo, nach cuir sibh fios gu Stiùiriche an Fhoghlaim Ghàidhlig againn, Jim Whannel, a bhios toilichte fios a bharrachd a thoirt seachad.

a process for GME community engagement and set up a GME Working Group which would then feed into national processes.

4. Section 7 Activities: We recommend that under the section relating to considering "feedback from a wide range of relevant stakeholders", feedback from the GME sector is included in the list of sources of feedback.
5. In addition we recommend that the section relating to "practical recommendations that have a broad consensus of support" includes a specific reference to including recommendations for the GME sector.

In *Putting Learners at the Centre*, Chapter 5: A Qualifications and Assessment Body, Professor Muir proposes in Recommendation 5, that the governance structure of a new Qualifications Scotland body would include more representation from and accountability to *"all learners, teachers, practitioners and the stakeholders with whom it engages"*

Our proposals regarding the inclusion of the GME sector within the structure of the remit for the Independent Review Group will help to take forward this aspiration, ensuring that the recommendation impacts directly on the planning for new agencies.

Should you require further information on any of the issues we have identified, please contact our Director of Gaelic Education, Jim Whannel, who will be happy to provide further input.



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