

<p>Ro-innleachd nan Coimhearsnachdan airson Coilltean agus Fearann Nàiseanta na h-Alba - Dreachd airson Co-chomhairle Freagairt Bhòrd na Gàidhlig 09 Lùnastal 2022</p>	<p>Communities Strategy for Scotland's National Forest and Land - Draft for Consultation Bòrd na Gàidhlig Response 09 August 2022</p>
<p><b>5. A bheil sibh a' toirt taic do Adhbhar Ro-innleachd nan Coimhearsnachdan (duilleag 4):</b></p> <p>Gus na tha Coilltean is Fearann Nàiseanta na h-Alba a' cur ri togail choimhearsnachdan beothail, leantaileach, nas beartiche agus nas seasmhaiche a thoirt gu buil, ag aithneachadh còirichean agus uallaichean uile a bhith ag obair còmhla gus ar coilltean agus ar fearann a riaghladh gu leantaileach.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Tha <input type="radio"/> Chan eil <input checked="" type="radio"/> 'S dòcha</p> <p><b>6. Beachdan sam bith eile:</b></p> <p>'S e briseadh dùil mòr a th' ann nach deach iomradh a thoirt air a' Ghàidhlig ann an dreachd sgrìobhainn Ro-innleachd nan Coimhearsnachdan - no nas motha ann an dreachd Ro-innleachd Luchd-tadhail FLS. Is tha sin ann an co-theacsa far a bheil Plana Gàidhlig aig Coilltearachd agus Fearann na h-Alba agus iad ag obair air fear ùr an-dràsta. Bu chòir gum biodh iomradh anns an Ro-innleachd nan Coimhearsnachdan mu dheireadh air cleachdadh na Gàidhlig aig FLS mar phàirt den lìbhrigeadh Ro-innleachd nan Coimhearsnachdan.</p> <p>Bu chòir don eadar-obrachadh aig FLS còmhla ri coimhearsnachdan cur ri àrd-amas a' Phlana Cànan Nàiseanta Ghàidhlig làithreach. Is e seo, gun tèid a' Ghàidhlig a chleachdadh nas trice, le barrachd dhaoine ann am barrachd shuidheachaidhean. Thèid sin a choileanadh tro:</p> <p>Cur am meud cleachdadh na Gàidhlig. Cur am meud ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig. Cur air adhart deagh ìomhaigh den Ghàidhlig.</p>	<p><b>5. Do you support the Purpose of the Communities Strategy (page 4):</b></p> <p>To fully realise the contribution of Scotland's National Forests and Land to building vibrant, sustainable, wealthier and resilient communities, recognising the rights and responsibilities of all to work together to sustainably manage our forests and land.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Maybe</p> <p><b>6. Additional Comments</b></p> <p>It is very disappointing that there is no reference to Gaelic in the draft Communities Strategy document - nor in FLS's draft Visitor Strategy. That is in a context where Forestry and Land Scotland have a Gaelic Language Plan and are currently working on a new one. There should be references in the final Communities Strategy to FLS's use of Gaelic as part of their delivering the Communities Strategy.</p> <p>FLS' interactions with communities should contribute to the overall aim of the current National Gaelic Language Plan. That is, Gaelic is used more often, by more people and in a wider range of situations. That will be achieved through:</p> <p>Increasing the use of Gaelic. Increasing the learning of Gaelic. Promoting a positive image of Gaelic.</p>

<p>Tha an taic againn don Adhbhar an urra ri àite ceart airson na Gàidhlig mar phàirt de bhith a’ toirt taic do “choimhearsnachdan beothail, leantaileach, nas beartiche agus nas seasmhaiche, ag aithneachadh chòraichean agus dleastanasan nan uile”.</p> <p>Bhiodh sinn a’ gabhail spèis co-ionnan airson na Gàidhlig taobh a-staigh “còraichean”. Bhiodh seo a’ comharrachadh gu bheil stèidh chànanach aig còraichean daonna, an àite stèidh chultarach a-mhàin.</p> <p>Tha seo ann an co-theacs far a bheil àrdachadh air fhaicinn, anns na deich bliadhna a chaidh seachad, anns a’ chuibhreann de dh’ìnbhich ann an Alba le beagan eòlais air a’ Ghàidhlig<sup>1</sup>. Mar eisimpleir, tha a’ chuibhreann a tha ag ràdh gun tuig iad co-dhiù beagan Gàidhlig air a dhol suas bho 25% gu 41%. A bharrachd air seo, tha 79% den bheachd gu bheil Gàidhlig cudromach do dhualchas chultarach na h-Alba.</p> <p><b>7. A bheil sibh a’ toirt taic don amas agus prìomhachasan airson na bhios FLS a’ dèanamh ann am Prionnsabal 1 – A’ toirt taic don ghluasad gu Alba nas cothromaiche is nas uaine (Duilleag 9)?</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Tha</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Chan eil</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> 'S dòcha</p> <p><b>8. Beachdan sam bith eile</b></p> <p>Tha sinn a’ mìneachadh choimhearsnachdan Gàidhlig chan ann a-mhàin mar fheadhainn sònraichte a thaobh an suidheachadh aca, ach cuideachd am buidheann de luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig gu h-iomlan - i.e. mar choimhearsnachd ùidh.</p> <p>Chan urrainnear amasan is prìomhachasan Prionnsabal 1 a choileanadh gu h-iomlan ach ma tha “Nearraich dàimhean còmhla ri coimhearsnachdan” a’ gabhail a-steach barrachd feum den Ghàidhlig airson conaltradh a dhèanamh còmhla ri coimhearsnachdan Gàidhlig. Meudaichidh sin cosnachadh còmhla riutha, a’ toirt taic do dhàimh nas làidire san àm ri teachd. Bhiodh seo a’ toirt taic do amas Plana Cànanain Nàiseanta Gàidhlig le bhith a’ cleachdadh na Gàidhlig ann an suidheachaidhean far nach deach i a chleachdadh roimhe.</p>	<p>Our support for the Purpose is contingent on a proper role for Gaelic as part of supporting “vibrant, sustainable, wealthier and resilient communities, recognising the rights and responsibilities of all”.</p> <p>We would include equal respect for Gaelic within “rights”. This reflects that human rights have a linguistic basis rather than simply a cultural one.</p> <p>This is in a context where the last decade has seen an increase in the proportion of adults in Scotland with some knowledge of the Gaelic language<sup>3</sup>. For example, the proportion who say they can understand at least a little Gaelic has increased from 25% to 41%. Further, 79% think that Gaelic is important to the cultural heritage of Scotland.</p> <p><b>7. Do you support the aim and priorities for what FLS will do set out in Principle 1 – Supporting the transition to a fairer, greener Scotland (Page 9)?</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Maybe</p> <p><b>8. Additional Comments</b></p> <p>We define Gaelic speaking communities not only as geographically distinct ones but also the body of Gaelic speakers as whole - i.e. as a community of interest.</p> <p>Principle 1’s aims and priorities can only be fully achieved if “Strengthen relationships with communities” includes greater use of Gaelic to communicate with Gaelic speaking communities. That will increase engagement with them, supporting a stronger relationship going forward. This would support the aim of the National Gaelic Language Plan by using Gaelic in situations where it has not been used previously.</p>
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<sup>1</sup> Suirbhìdh Beachdan Sòisealta na h-Alba 2021 Beachdan Phoblach air a’ Ghàidhlig ann an Alba aig <https://www.gaidhlig.scot/en/news/SSAS>

<sup>3</sup> Scottish Social Attitudes Survey 2021 Public Attitudes to Gaelic in Scotland at <https://www.gaidhlig.scot/en/news/SSAS/>



A bharrachd air sin, bhiodh oidhirpean gus “Prìomhachas a thoirt do dh’iomairtean is gnìomhachdan a tha air an stiùireadh leis a’ choimhearsnachd” le coimhearsnachdan Gàidhlig a’ brosnachadh cosnachadh a bharrachd agus a’ meudachadh iomadachd nan coimhearsnachdan an sàs anns na gnìomhachdan agus cho-dhùnaidhean FLS. Bidh seo a’ cuideachadh gus deagh ìomhaigh den Ghàidhlig mar a tha i a’ cur ri iomadachd na h-Alba a bhrosnachadh - mar sin a’ toirt taic do Phlana Cànan Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig.

Tha sinn ag aontachadh gum feum “co-chomhairlean a bhith cho ruigsinneach sa ghabhas, ge bith an ann an coimhearsnachdan dùthchail leithid Muile agus Gèarrloch...”. Ach, tha sin a’ leudachadh gu bhith a’ dèanamh conaltradh còmhla ri coimhearsnachdan anns a’ chànan(an) a bhios iad a’ cleachdadh seach a bhith dìreach a’ toirt seachad conaltradh aghaidh-ri-aghaidh leotha. Chan eil sinn eòlach air dè cho fad ’s a chaidh Gàidhlig a chleachdadh ann an co-chomhairlichean FLS air Muile. Ach, tha sinn a’ toirt fa-near gun do sheall Cunntas-sluaigh 2011 gu robh mu 17% de luchd-fuirich an eilein aig a bheil beagan sgilean sa Ghàidhlig - tòrr nas àirde na cuibheasachd na h-Alba (1.7%).

**9. A bheil sibh a’ toirt taic don amas agus prìomhachasan airson na bhios FLS a’ dèanamh ann am Prionnsabal 2 – A’ toirt taic do choimhearsnachdan dùthchail seasmach agus soirbheachail (Duilleag 9)?**

- Tha  
 Chan eil  
 'S dòcha

#### 10. Beachdan sam bith eile

Tha Prionnsabal 2 ag iarraidh gum bi “cultar in-ghabhalach agus fosgailte a tha a’ toirt taic agus a’ comasachadh luchd-obrach gus dèiligeadh gu deimhinneach agus gu cuideachail ri iomairtean air an stiùireadh leis a’ choimhearsnachd” a’ gabhail a-steach iomairtean a tha stèidhichte air - no co-dhiù a’ gabhail a-steach cleachdadh - Gàidhlig.

Tha barrachd fianais ann air an deagh bhuidh a th’ aig a’ Ghàidhlig air eaconamaidh na h-Alba. Tha cothroman ann gus dèanamh cinnteach gum bi barrachd chothroman aig coimhearsnachdan dùthchail soirbheachadh le bhith a’ toirt a’ Ghàidhlig a-steach do ro-innleachdan ionadail ge bith an ann

Further, efforts to “Prioritise community-led initiatives and activities” by Gaelic speaking communities would encourage greater engagement and increase the diversity of communities involved in the activity and decision making of FLS. This will help to promote a positive image of Gaelic as contributing to Scotland’s diversity - thus supporting the National Gaelic Language Plan.

We fully agree that “consultations must be as accessible as possible, whether in rural communities such as Mull and Gairloch...”. However, that extends to communicating with communities in the language(s) they use rather than simply providing face to face interaction with them. We are not aware of how far Gaelic was used in FLS’s consultations in Mull. However, we note that the 2011 Census showed around 17% of the island’s residents with some skills in Gaelic - vastly greater than the Scottish average (1.7%).

**9. Do you support the aim and priorities for what FLS will do set out in Principle 2 – Supporting sustainable and thriving rural communities (Page 9)?**

- Yes  
 No  
 Maybe

#### 10. Additional Comments

Principle 2 requires that “an inclusive and open culture that supports and enables staff to respond positively and constructively to community led initiatives” includes initiatives that are based on - or at least include use of - the Gaelic language.

There is increasing evidence of the positive impact of Gaelic on the Scottish economy. There are opportunities to ensure that rural communities have further opportunities to thrive by the inclusion of Gaelic in local strategies whether for recreation (both



airson cur-seachad (an dà chuid airson muinntir an àite agus luchd-tadhail), goireasan foghlaim agus comas margaidheachd na Gàidhlig.

Lorg *sgrùdadh VisitScotland*, gun brosnachadh sam bith ro-làimh, gu robh barrachd air aon às gach triùir (34%) luchd-tadhail a' faireachdainn gun do chuir Gàidhlig, mar chànan nàiseanta na h-Alba, ris an turas aca agus gum bu mhath leotha tuilleadh fhaighinn a-mach ma deidhinn.

Thathar ag aithneachadh comas mòr na Gàidhlig ann an turasachd ann an Ro-innleachd Turasachd na Gàidhlig do dh'Alba aig VisitScotland<sup>2</sup>.

**11. A bheil sibh a' toirt taic don amas agus prìomhachasan airson na bhios FLS a' dèanamh ann am Prionnsabal 3 – A' toirt Fios Do agus A' Cosnachadh Coimhearsnachdan ann an co-dhùnidhean a dhèanamh (Duilleag 10)?**

- Tha  
 Chan eil  
 'S dòcha

**12. Beachdan sam bith eile**

Tha làn-chumhachdachadh choimhearsnachdan tro bhith a' brosnachadh com-pàirt coimhearsnachd a barrachd an urra ri conaltradh èifeachdach le gach seòrsa coimhearsnachd – a dh'fheumas conaltradh sa Ghàidhlig ri coimhearsnachdan Gàidhlig a ghabhail a-steach.

Bu chòir do Phlanaichean Stiùiridh Fearainn na h-ainmean Gàidhlig tùsail a ghabhail a-steach anns na raointean ris a bheil iad a' buntainn, agus mar sin a' sealltainn an dlùth-cheangail eadar fearann, cànan agus daoine. Bidh seo cuideachd a' meudachadh faireachdainn com-pàirt luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig sa phròiseas co-chomhairleachaidh.

**13. A bheil no nach eil sibh ag aontachadh leis an coltas a bhios air soirbheachais (Duilleag 11)?**

- Thathar ag aontachadh

for locals and visitors), educational resources and the marketing potential of Gaelic.

A *VisitScotland survey* found that, with no prior promotion, more than one in three (34%) visitors felt that Gaelic, as a national language of Scotland, enhanced their visit and they would like to find out more about it.

The significant potential of Gaelic within tourism is recognised in VisitScotland's Gaelic Tourism Strategy for Scotland<sup>4</sup>.

**11. Do you support the aim and priorities set out in Principle 3 – Informing and Engaging Communities in decision making (Page 10)?**

- Yes  
 No  
 Maybe

**12. Additional comments**

Fully empowering communities through encouraging greater community participation depends on effective communication with all types of communities – which must include communicating in Gaelic to Gaelic speaking communities.

Land Management Plans should incorporate the original Gaelic names of the areas which they relate to, thereby demonstrating the close link between land, language and people. This will also increase the sense of participation for Gaelic speakers in the consultation process.

**13. Do you agree or disagree with what success would look like (Page 11)?**

- Agree

<sup>2</sup><https://www.visitscotland.org/binaries/content/assets/dot-org/pdf/gaelic-tourism-strategy.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.visitscotland.org/binaries/content/assets/dot-org/pdf/gaelic-tourism-strategy.pdf>



- Chan eilear ag aontachadh
- Chan eilear ag aontachadh no ag eas-aontachadh

**14. Beachdan sam bith eile:**

A' nochdadh nam beachdan a rinn sinn roimhe, tha feum air cleachdadh na Gàidhlig airson conaltradh a dhèanamh còmhla ri coimhearsnachdan Gàidhlig gus am bi "ceangal nas làidire aig a h-uile coimhearsnachd ri coilltean is fearann na h-Alba agus gu bheil cumhachd aca barrachd feum a dhèanamh de na goireasan ionadail aca" agus gum bi iad "an sàs nas trice ann an co-dhùnaidhean a dhèanamh airson cleachdadh na talmhainn".

- Disagree
- Neither agree or disagree

**14. Additional comments:**

Reflecting our earlier comments use of Gaelic to communicate with Gaelic speaking communities is required in order that **all** "Communities have a stronger connection to Scotland's national forests and land and are empowered to make more use of their local resources" and "are increasingly engaged in land use decisions".

