

Public Consultation on National Gaelic Language Plan

[National Gaelic Language Plan 2023-28 – Bòrd na Gàidhlig \(gaidhlig.scot\)](#)

Plan can be viewed here: [BnG-consult-NLGP-F.pdf \(gaidhlig.scot\)](#)

Survey taken here:

[Co-chomhairleachadh Poblach Plana Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig 2023-2028 \(smartsurvey.co.uk\)](#)

CnamP previous manifesto commitments letter for reference:

[comann-nam-parant-manifesto-letter-to-parties-11-03-2022.pdf \(wordpress.com\)](#)

<p><b>1. A bheil thu den bheachd gu bheil am measgachadh as fheàrr de àrd-amasan, targaidean, amasan agus raointean obrach agus gnìomhan airson na Gàidhlig san dreachd Plana aig an àm seo, is mur a h-eile, dè bheireadh piseach air seo?</b></p> <p>Do you think the draft Plan contains the optimum mix of ambitions, targets, aims, areas of activity and actions for Gaelic at this time or what would improve this?</p>	<p>Comann nam Pàrant is pleased to see that the ambitions cover a broad range of areas, including the home, the workplace and education settings. However, there is no explicit mention within the ambitions of secondary pupils or early years (such as sgoil-araich) though we appreciate they are mentioned in the targets for 2028.</p> <p>Some of the targets will require full co-operation of Local Authorities and other public bodies and we would encourage Bòrd na Gàidhlig not only to encourage and support such public bodies in meeting targets but to challenge bodies where targets are not being met.</p>
<p><b>2. Tha farsaingeachd àrd-amasan agus thargaidean a' stiùireadh a' Phlana. A bheil thu den bheachd gu bheil na h-àrd-amasan agus targaidean iomchaidh, no a bheil molaidhean agad airson feadhainn eile.</b></p> <p>There are a range of ambitions and targets which set the direction of the Plan. Do you think these are the appropriate ambitions and targets or do you have suggestions for others?</p>	<p>Comann nam Pàrant very much welcomes the target '[to] increase the number of stand-alone GM schools' as well as the explicit note that this will be 'through collaboration and investment between LA and SG capital and Scheme of Specific Grants collaboration'.</p> <p>Comann nam Pàrant supports stand-alone schools over GME units at both primary and secondary levels. We are also pleased to see that within the targets is Local Authorities ensuring year-on-year growth in Gaelic medium education (GME) at early-years, primary and secondary levels, as well as Local Authorities ensuring an expanded and developed GM curriculum offer for Broad General Education and the Senior Phase, with annual improvement planning and standards and quality report. We look forward to working with the City of Edinburgh Council, specifically their Education, Children and Families Committee, in supporting and advocating in this area.</p> <p>Comann nam Pàrant is pleased to see the target of '100 public bodies engaged in developing and implementing their Gaelic language plans'. We look forward to seeing</p>

	<p>how these will be implemented and how Bòrd na Gàidhlig will ensure that public bodies meet the targets set within their own plans.</p> <p>It may also be useful to have a target around pre-school provision, especially given opportunities offered by 1140 hours funded provision. For secondary school, we would also welcome a target for school leavers exiting GME with a certificate in Gaelic language.</p>
<p><b>3. Tha grunn ghnìomhan ann a thaobh gach raon obrach. A bheil thu a' smaoinichadh gum bu chòir amasan sònraichte a bhith ceangailte ris na gnìomhan agus ma tha, bhiodh fàilte air na molaidhean agad air dè bu chòir a bhith ann.</b></p> <p>There are a range of actions relating to each area of activity. Do you think that specific goals should be attached to the actions and if so, your suggestions on what these should be would be welcome?</p>	<p>Overall we are supportive of the range of actions regarding the increase in the usage and learning of Gaelic but would be keen to also see targets around levels of fluency which is crucial to the sustaining of Gaelic.</p> <p><b>Communities</b> Comann nam Pàrant is aware of the vital role that communities (in person or online) play in ensuring Gaelic language thrives. We support the prioritising of community networks and would also suggest that such networks are supported in joining up their activity where information may be disparate. We are pleased that Gaelic Officers will also be supported in developing local programmes for all ages. Comann nam Pàrant's broad remit is the support for families whose children are in GME and we therefore appreciate all efforts to increase the opportunities for the learning, use and normalisation of Gaelic outwith schools settings.</p> <p><b>Home</b> We are pleased to see the aim to increase the use of resources (both digital and physical) for families. We would also like to see the development of further opportunities for families to learn Gaelic (such as free or low-cost courses) in order to further support the use of Gaelic in the home.</p> <p><b>Media, arts, culture and heritage:</b> The Gaelic television service is successful with very young and with older audiences but only reaches 4 in 10 of younger adult users of Gaelic each week. There is an urgent need for Gaelic public service media to connect better with that audience.</p> <p>At present Gaelic media is very much underfunded compared to Welsh media. Lèirsinn 2022-27 <a href="https://mgalba.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Leirsinn-A-Route-Map-for-Gaelic-Media-2022-2027.pdf">https://mgalba.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Leirsinn-A-Route-Map-for-Gaelic-Media-2022-2027.pdf</a> sets out MG ALBA's ambitions for Gaelic media, this will only be realised with significant investment.</p> <p><b>Business and the economy</b> Comann nam Pàrant supports the targets laid out for business and the economy, and we particularly recognise the importance of promoting careers which value Gaelic skills and strengthening career routes where Gaelic is deemed essential or desirable. We would be keen to see plans for how pupils in GME will be made aware of such potential career pathways.</p>

	<p><b>Public authorities</b> We are supportive of the targets laid out in this area. In terms of authorities' Gaelic Language Plans, we would like to see further information on how these plans will be monitored throughout the year.</p> <p><b>Areas for increasing the learning of Gaelic are:</b></p> <p><b>Home:</b> While we are supportive of these aims overall, for those who are not parents there is a reliance on digital learning rather than in-person. In circumstances where there might be face to face tutorials, for example via zoom, this would be welcome but remote learning with no tutor/teacher support can be difficult for learners (especially new learners) to maintain. Interaction with tutors is a valuable part of learning and we would encourage the increase and availability of such options (either in-person or remote).</p> <p><b>School:</b> While we welcome the actions listed under 'Growth of the GME sector from 3-18; in quality of provision and ensuring promotion and support in place for GME and GLE at all levels', we would seek greater assurances for the support and development of GME at secondary level, with an explicit commitment to, and information, on, stand-alone schools. We seek strategic steering at national level to ensure Local Authorities are encouraged to commit to stand-alone schools over GME units or over co-located schools.</p> <p><b>Post-school:</b> Comann nam Pàrant supports the actions laid out. We welcome the recent resource Speak Gaelic and would be keen to find out more about the 'other adult education opportunities' that are mentioned. We very much welcome the action which encourages 'national agencies [to] continue to promote GME Initial Teacher Education, routes into GME/GLE teaching and support for professionals', as an increase in those entering GME teaching is crucial.</p>
<p><b>4. Tha dòigh-obrach fharsaing agus in-ghabhalach a thaobh brosnachadh agus taic dhan Ghàidhlig. A bheil thu a' smaoinichadh gu bheil dòigh-obrach fharsaing ceart airson na Gàidhlig aig an àm seo?</b></p> <p>The Plan takes a broad and inclusive approach to the promotion and support for Gaelic. Do you think a broad approach is the right approach for Gaelic at this time?</p>	<p>Comann nam Pàrant supports a broad approach to the promotion and support of Gaelic, across all areas of life, including the home, school, communities, business and the economy, and beyond. While the support and promotion of Gaelic must extend beyond education settings in order to demonstrate the importance of Gaelic language and culture in Scotland, it must also be recognised that GME plays a crucial role in the future of Gaelic in that high quality, immersive experiences are significant in producing future fluent speakers.</p>
<p><b>5. Tha am Plana airson 's gum bi a' Ghàidhlig nas tarraingiche do dhaoine fa leth agus do theaghlaichean agus gum</b></p>	<p>Confidence will only increase with use. As stated in the plan, there is a diverse range of Gaelic communities. Where such communities are disparate (for example in</p>

**faicear barrachd misneachd ann an cleachdadh na Gàidhlig. Dè eile a dh'fhaodadh cuideachadh le seo nad bheachd?**

The Plan wants to see Gaelic having a stronger appeal to individuals and families and to see an increased confidence in the use of Gaelic. What more do you think could help with this?

cities), then community hubs provide vital support for speakers and learners alike.

In addition, to fully support increased confidence in the use of Gaelic, Comann nam Pàrant urges Bòrd na Gàidhlig to support stand-alone GME schools over co-located schools in order that pupils have the opportunity to use Gaelic outwith the minority setting of a co-located school.

**6. Dè eile nad bheachd a dhèanadh cinnteach gum biodh a' Ghàidhlig soirbheachail ann an Alba san àm ri teachd?**

What else do you think would ensure a promising future for Gaelic in Scotland?