



Comhairle Earra Ghàidheal  
agus Bhòid  
Plana Gàidhlig  
2018 - 2022

Argyll and Bute Council  
Gaelic Language Plan  
2018 Ì 2022

This plan has been prepared under Section 3 of the  
Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>GAELIC LANGUAGE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005 AND THE ISSUING OF A NOTICE .....</b>	<b>7</b>
	3.1 <i>The Act .....</i>	7
	<i>Consultation on a draft Gaelic Language Plan:.....</i>	7
	<i>Summary of Gaelic in Scotland .....</i>	7
<b>4.0</b>	<b>GAELIC IN ARGYLL AND BUTE .....</b>	<b>8</b>
	4.2 <i>Use and Interest in Gaelic .....</i>	8
	4.3 <i>Census Data 2011 .....</i>	8
	4.4 <i>Gaelic in Employment .....</i>	9
	4.5 <i>Gaelic in our Schools .....</i>	10
<b>5.0</b>	<b>INTERNAL GAELIC CAPACITY AUDIT .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>GAELIC LANGUAGE POLICY .....</b>	<b>12</b>
	6.1 <i>Scope .....</i>	12
	6.2 <i>Policy Statement.....</i>	12
	6.3 <i>Mainstreaming Gaelic.....</i>	12
<b>7.0</b>	<b>THE NATIONAL GAELIC LANGUAGE PLAN.....</b>	<b>13</b>
	<b>HOME AND EARLY YEARS.....</b>	<b>14</b>
	<b>EDUCATION.....</b>	<b>15</b>
	<i>Rationale:.....</i>	15
	<b>COMMUNITY.....</b>	<b>15</b>
	<i>Rationale:.....</i>	15
	<b>THE WORKPLACE .....</b>	<b>16</b>
	<i>Rationale:.....</i>	16
	<b>MEDIA &amp; ARTS; HERITAGE &amp; TOURISM.....</b>	<b>16</b>
	<i>Rationale:.....</i>	16
	<b>CORPUS.....</b>	<b>16</b>
	<i>Rationale:.....</i>	16
<b>8.0</b>	<b>SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NATIONAL PRIORITIES .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>9.0</b>	<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>REVIEW AND MONITORING .....</b>	<b>18</b>
	10.1 <i>The Gaelic Language Plan in the Corporate Structure .....</i>	18
	<i>Position with operational responsibility over the Plan .....</i>	18
<b>11</b>	<b>DELIVERY OF THE PLAN.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>PROMOTION OF THE PLAN.....</b>	<b>19</b>

13 ACTION PLAN .....21

## 1 Introduction

1.1 Our Council is forward looking and ambitious, continuously improving our relationship with our partners, customers and employees to ensure that we deliver the right services, by the best people, in the best way.

1.2 Choose Argyll and Bute live, learn, work and do business and this is underpinned by our new Gaelic Language Plan priorities, which are shared with the Scottish Government:

## 2 Argyll and Bute Council

- 2.1 Argyll and Bute Council is one of 32 unitary local authorities in Scotland. It is responsible for a range of services including education, waste management, transportation, planning and building control, economic development, roads, strategic housing, environmental health and many others.
- 2.2 population, it ranks 27th. The population estimate from the 2011 census was 88166<sup>1</sup>. Argyll and Bute covers nearly 10% of the total area of Scotland but has less than 2% of the population. Over 80% of our population lives within 1km of the coast.
- 2.3 From Appin in the North, to Campbeltown in the South, Argyll and Bute stretches for over 100 miles and from Tiree in the West to Helensburgh in the East it stretches a further 80 islanders<sup>2</sup>
- 2.4 In order to discharge its duties as a local authority, Argyll and Bute Council operates 3 departments: Community Services, Customer Services, Development and Infrastructure  
The Council is also a core partner in the Integrated Joint Board for Health and Social Care in Argyll and Bute. The Council employs over 4700 staff who are based in over 300 different locations across the area.
- 2.5 There are 4 administrative areas within the Council: Mid Argyll, Kintyre and Islands, Oban, Lorn and the Isles, Bute and Cowal, Helensburgh and Lomond.
- 2.6
- a) Full Council of 36 elected members covering 11 multi member wards
  - b) Area Committees for the 4 administrative areas within Argyll and Bute
  - c) Strategic Committees for Community Services, Economy, Development and Infrastructure, Policy and Resources, Planning, Protective Services and Licensing.
- 2.7 The Council also works closely with Community Planning partners to deliver the Argyll and Bute Outcome Improvement Plan.



enhance the status of Gaelic;  
promote the acquisition and learning of Gaelic;  
encourage the increased use of Gaelic.

## 4.0 Gaelic in Argyll and Bute

4.1 Historically, Argyll is the heartland of Scots Gaelic. The Gaelic language has been spoken in Argyll since around the 5<sup>th</sup> century and was the common language in the kingdom of Dal Riata from the time an Irish Gaelic colony established themselves as the first Scots and the kings were anointed at Dunadd Hill. Throughout our history the language has been a key element in developing many aspects of Scottish culture.

### 4.2 Use and Interest in Gaelic

There are communities in Argyll and Bute where Gaelic is still very much a part of everyday life. On islands such as Tiree and Islay, the Gaelic language is spoken widely in the community and retains local dialects and vocabulary. Interest in learning Gaelic and



## 4.4 Gaelic in Employment

### 4.4.1 Argyll and Bute Council

Support for schools Works with the Gaelic teaching staff and pupils in the Gaelic Medium sector and where Gaelic is Language 2 and taught to English Medium pupils from P1.

Lynn Court Cèilidh Fortnightly Cèilidh provided to the senior citizens within the care home which proves to be very popular.

There are also a number of Fè

4.5.5 A new Gaelic class at Bunessan Primary School is currently being developed as a result of consultation in response to the Education (Scotland) Act 2016 Gaelic provisions.

## 5.0 Internal Gaelic Capacity Audit

## 6 Gaelic Language Policy

### 6.1 Scope

- a) This plan applies to all employees and elected members of Argyll and Bute Council. The overall intention is to create a working environment where the Gaelic language and culture is visible and promoted both inside the council and externally throughout our communities. The Plan builds on the work that the Council has undertaken in the past in implementing our previous Gaelic Language Plans, promoting Gaelic Education and recognises the benefits of bilingual learning.

### 6.2 Policy Statement

- b) Argyll and Bute C  
which are available to our service users.
- c) We will also ensure that the principle, introduced by the National Gaelic Language Plan that the Gaelic and English languages will be accorded equal respect, is adhered to across all of our services.
- d) We are committed to the promotion of Gaelic education, language, cultural and economic activities through continued awareness raising and language learning opportunities for children, employees and our communities.
- e) We aim to increase the number of Gaelic learners in Argyll and Bute and to promote the visibility of Gaelic in Argyll and Bute.
- f) We will work with parents and carers of children in Gaelic schools to meet the requirements of the National Plan.
- g) We will ensure that the formation, renewal and monitoring of policies will be in line with the Gaelic Language Plan.

### 6.3 Mainstreaming Gaelic

Argyll and Bute Council recognises that the various priority areas identified in the National Gaelic Language Plan will be primarily implemented through our Gaelic Language Plan but that



**Workplace**

Expansion of the use of Gaelic in places of work and an increase in employment opportunities where Gaelic skills are required in order to

## Education

### Rationale:

Argyll and Bute Council recognises that creating a sustainable future for Gaelic requires not only increasing the number of people able to speak the language, but increasing actual usage. We recognise the importance of enabling more people to use Gaelic as their preferred and normal mode of communication in an increasingly wide range of daily activities.

- Carrying out initiatives to promote, establish and expand both GME and GLE at primary and secondary levels

- Ensuring adequate attention is given to the recruitment, retention, education, support and development of GME and GLE teachers

- Providing a range of opportunities for young people in both GME and GLE to engage in activities that enhance their Gaelic skills through greater use

- Ensuring that all steps are taken to secure the quality of both GME and GLE through National Guidance and other means.

- Supporting access to, and participation in, a range of Gaelic learning opportunities for adults
- Accessing resources to support adults learning Gaelic

## Community

### Rationale:

Argyll and Bute Council] recognises that the status of a language is affected by its presence in the daily environment and the extent to which it is used, valued and perceived to be valued by those institutions which play an important role in our daily lives.

- Encouraging support for initiatives that promote the use of Gaelic among all kinds of communities of speakers

- Encouraging support for increased situations in which Gaelic can be used informally by young people and adult learners.

## The Workplace

Rationale:



## 8.0 Scottish Government National Priorities

Bòrd na Gàidhlig is committed to achieving the Strategic Objectives as established by The Scottish Government, and has identified the ways in which the National Gaelic Language Plan aims to address the National Outcomes.

Development Area	#	National Outcome Statement
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## 9.0 Local Government Priorities

Argyll and Bute Council works closely in partnership with the Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership to deliver on the overall Argyll and Bute Outcome Improvement Plan (ABOIP) objective:

There are 6 joint outcomes, which are also core to

- The economy is diverse and thriving

- We have infrastructure that supports sustainable growth

- Education, skills and training maximises opportunities for all

- Children and young people have the best possible start

- People live active, healthier and independent lives

- People live in safer and stronger communities

The Gaelic Language Plan directly aligns to delivery on these outcomes.







1.5	Include Gaelic in the CHArts (Culture Heritage and the Arts) initiative	Include the role of Gaelic culture in the final CHArts documents	Gaelic included	By 2020	Head of EDST
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1.11	Assist in the development of the economic impact of the Royal National Mod	Delivery of 1 economic impact study in association with the Mod.	Study complete	Q4 2018/19	Head of EDST
1.12	Promote Argyll and Bute as a place to undertake Film and TV work that involves Gaelic language and culture	Create a Gaelic section on our dedicated film and tv web site.	Gaelic section created	Q1 2018/19	Head of EDST
1.13	Consider support for Royal National Mod in Argyll in the future.	Carry out a review of events funding in 2018/19 and consider Mod support as an aspect of this.	Review complete	2018/19	Head of EDST
1.14	Investigate the development of a bilingual Council logo	Subject to budget being made available, investigate design options.	Logo options considered by Members	By 2022	Head of IHR
1.15	Work in partnership with Highlands and Islands Enterprise as in the development of Ar Storas Gaidhlig.	Partnership working embedded	Partner meetings take place	Throughout the life of the plan	Head of EDST
<b>We will continue to:</b>					
1.16	Involve Bord na Gaidhlig in Argyll and Bute Community Planning Partnership		Community Planning Manager		

1.17









**2.11** Investigate the option for



	<b>We will:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Success Measure</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Lead</b>
<b>3.1</b>	Increase the range of activities/groups accessing Gaelic Centre in Oban to include inter-generational working	One session per month where Gaelic speaking community members interact with GM primary pupils to develop skills in Gaelic, knitting, sewing, reading etc.	8 sessions per annum throughout the duration of the plan	By August 2018	Head of Education
<b>3.2</b>	Expand the Parental Advocacy Scheme in partnership with Comann nam Pàrant to include a Comann nam Pàrant Parental Officer for every area where Gaelic Medium is provided.	Every area have a			

throughout the  
year

