

**Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd  
The Highland Council**

Agenda Item	<b>7</b>
Report No	<b>GIG 9/13</b>

**Buidheann Buileachaidh na Gàidhlig - 23 den Chèitean 2013  
Gaelic Implementation Group – 23 May 2013**

**Gaelic Language Plan 2012 -16 Implementation  
Cross Service Gaelic Liaison Group  
Report by Director of Education, Culture and Sport**

**Summary**

This brief report informs Members of further progress in implementing the Gaelic Language Plan 2012-16 across Council Services.

The Report contributes to the delivery of:

- National Performance Indicator Outcomes 7 – “We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society” and 16 – “Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people’s needs.”
- The Highland Council Gaelic Language Plan 2012-16
- The Highland Council Corporate Plan and its cross cutting commitment to ‘the principle of equal respect for the Gaelic and English languages, whilst also recognising the diversity of indigenous language and dialects within the Highland area’.

**1. Background**

- 1.1 On 6 November 2012, the Gaelic Implementation Group (GIG) agreed that Officials set up a cross Service Gaelic Liaison Group (GLG), to help implement and monitor the Gaelic Language Plan (GLP).
- 1.2 Members asked to be kept apprised of developments; and for continued progress between Council Services to be reported to the GIG.

**2. Progress Update**

- 2.1 The Gaelic Liaison Group comprises:

**Mr Kenneth Murray** Gaelic Development Manager  
**Mrs Morag Ann Macleod Mitchell** Gaelic Development Officer  
**Mr Gordon Fyfe** Chief Executive’s Office  
**Mr Richard Guest**, Technical, Environmental and Community Services  
**Mr Malcolm MacLeod/ Colin Simpson**, Planning and Development  
**Mr Alasdair Bruce**, Finance  
**Ms Fiona Palin**, Adult and Children’s Services  
**Mr Douglas Wilby**, High Life Highland

- 2.2 The GLG met again on 22 April 2013 and discussed and clarified issues

relating to the implementation of the Enabling Actions in GLP 12-16. In addition, those present took forward the completion of relevant actions relating to the GLP within the Corporate and Service Plans. Completion of the Gaelic Plan monitoring within the Council's Performance and Risk Management System (PRMS) was also progressed.

- 2.3 Details of reporting to the Gaelic Implementation Group and the cycle of Themes for each GIG meeting were made available.
- 2.4 Useful progress was also made in linking work being undertaken between High Life Highland and Bòrd na Gàidhlig in the 0-3 early years sector. Further activity was targeted in terms of Gaelic in the Film Commission area of work and in connection with the Council's agreement with Visitscotland.

### **3. Future Meetings and Reporting**

- 3.1 The GLG will meet 3 times a year, and ad hoc contact would be maintained electronically. Progress on implementing GLP actions will be reported regularly to the GIG.

### **4. Implications**

- 4.1 There are currently no Resource, Legal, Equalities, Climate Change or Risk implications.

#### **Recommendation**

Members are asked to note the further cross Service engagement in implementing the GLP and agree to receive progress reports on future service activity in implementing the GLP.

Designation: Director of Education, Culture and Sport.

Date: 10 May 2013

Author: Kenneth A Murray