

Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd
The Highland Council

Buidheann Buileachaidh na Gàidhlig – 14 Samhain 2013
Gaelic Implementation Group – 14 November 2013

Agenda Item	10
Report No	GIG 24/13

Royal National Mods in Highland

Report by the Director of Education, Culture & Sport

Summary

This Report updates Members on the Royal National Mods in Highland in 2014 and 2017 including the progress and development to date regarding the Royal National Mod which will take place in the City of Inverness in October 2014.

The Report contributes to the delivery of:

- National Performance Outcomes 2, 4, 11 and 13.
- The National Gaelic Language Plan Outcomes – **Education: Post-school Education; Communities and Arts & Media.**
- The Programme of The Highland Council 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’.
- The Highland Council Gaelic Language Plan Themes on **Home and Communities; Arts, Media & Heritage** and **Economic Development.**

1. Background

1.1 The Royal National Mod took place in Paisley commencing with the opening ceremony on Friday 11th October and closing on Friday 18th. At the news conference on 18 October, the Council, (through the Provost of Inverness and the Chair of the Gaelic Implementation Group) and An Comunn Gàidhealach formally welcomed the Mod to Inverness next year in 2014 and announced that the 2017 Royal National Mod will take place in Lochaber.

2. 2013 Paisley Mod Events

2.1 2013 marked the 5th year of the Council in conjunction with FUJITSU sponsoring the **Under 13 year old Folk Groups Competition.** Caileagan Beaga an Rubha from Point, Isle of Lewis won top prize in the folk group competition.

2.2 The other groups taking part in the competition were: Na Smeòraich (Bowmore Primary School) ; Misneach (Sgoil Lionail); Na h-Uiseagan Beaga (Sgoil Ghaidhlig Ghlaschu); Ceòl Mìorbhaileach an Rubha (Point, Isle of Lewis); Còmhlán-ciùil BSGI – A’ Chlann Nighean (Bun-sgoil Ghaidhlig Inbhir Nis); Cairaidhean Ciùil, Port Ellen Primary; Comhlan COOL (Bun Sgoil Taobh na Pairce); Na Seilleanan-meala (Sgoil Ghaidhlig Ghlaschu); Clann Stafainn

(Staffin Primary School); Na h-Uiseagan (Bowmore Primary School); Na Daoine Farumach (Bun Sgoil Taobh na Pairce); Na Trilleachain (Sgoil Ghaidhlig Ghlaschu); Sgoil Shiabost; for further information see the link attached.

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/yourcouncil/news/newsreleases/2013/October/2013-10-14-04.htm>

- 2.3 The competition took place on Monday 14th October, the winning group who represent their school received £500 of ICT equipment. The Chair of GIG Councillor Hamish Fraser presented the winning group with a special certificate and a voucher.
- 2.4 The 2014 Mod in Inverness is one of many events taking place in the Highlands in 2014 as part of the Year of Homecoming Scotland and the Highland Homecoming, and it will provide a real showcase for the vast wealth of talent that exists in the Gaelic-speaking community and especially among the young people.
- 2.5 As mentioned above, the 2017 Royal National Mod will take place in Lochaber. The Leader of the Lochaber Area Committee, Councillor Thomas MacLennan, said: "This is great news for Lochaber, a stronghold of the Gaelic language and culture. Those attending the Mod can be assured of a warm and friendly welcome in 2017 and I am sure it will be a great success."
- 2.6 Press releases and further details are on home page of the Councils website, <http://www.highland.gov.uk/yourcouncil/news/newsreleases/2013/October/2013-10-18-01.htm>

3. Next Steps

- 3.1 The next meeting of the Inverness Mod Liaison Group is scheduled for mid-November. This meeting will focus on the support which the Council can provide to both the Local Organising Committee of the 2014 Mod and to An Comunn Gàidhealach nationally.

4. Implications

- 4.1 There are no Resource, Legal, Equalities, Climate Change and Risk implications associated with this Report at present.

5.	Recommendation
5.1	Members are invited to comment on the progress regarding the Inverness 2014 Mod and to welcome the return of the 2017 Mod to Lochaber.

Designation: Director of Education, Culture and Sport

Date: 1 November 2013

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