

**Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd  
The Highland Council**

**Buidheann Buileachaidh na Gàidhlig – 12 Samhain 2015  
Gaelic Implementation Group – 12 November 2015**

Agenda Item	<b>9</b>
Report No	<b>GIG 14-15</b>

**Bòrd na Gàidhlig's Gaelic Language Act Implementation Fund (GLAIF)  
Projects Completed in 2014-15**

**Report by the Director of Care and Learning**

### **Summary**

This Report provides Members with final information on the completed GLAIF Projects in the financial year 2014-15.

The Report contributes to the delivery of:

- Scottish Government National Performance Outcomes.
- Scotland's National Gaelic Language Plan across its Development Areas.
- The Programme of The Highland Council.
- The Highland Council Gaelic Language Plan 2012-16.

## **1. Background**

1.1 GLAIF funding which is managed and distributed by Bòrd na Gàidhlig, was instituted to support initiatives which develop the capacity of Public Authorities to deliver existing, and/or potential Gaelic Language Plans, and also supports the aims of the National Gaelic Language Plan 2012-17 'to secure an increase in the number of people learning, speaking and using Gaelic in Scotland'.

1.2 In April 2014 the Gaelic Team submitted 5 applications to the GLAIF Fund, 3 of the applications were successful, and the following is a final update on the Projects.

## **2. Project 1: 'Bridging the Gap' – An Drochaid**

2.1 Due to the '**Bridging**', BSGI is now established in Inverness in a city-wide context. It is recognised as a central community hub with links to Pre-school, Secondary, Adult Learning, Gaelic community groups, the wider local community and Gaelic organisations.

2.2 This concerted work over the past few years, with the BnaG crucial support, has led to continuing growth in the school roll, in turn leading to a need for even more school expansion in the 2014-15 school session - in addition to the extension which opened in 2011.

2.3 The Council re-focussed existing Community Learning and Development resources in order to work on continuous lifelong learning and community support across Highland. The '**Bridging**' year funded this realignment.

- 2.4 The focus in Inverness has been intense over recent years and in order to continue increasing numbers into Gaelic Medium Education throughout Highland area, concentrated effort is required to provide support in other localities.
- 2.5 This '**Bridging**' project has, through a wide spread of activities and events, helped to create, in a wider geographical area; similar opportunities to those already available in Inverness. There is an increased campaign on raising awareness of GME in areas identified in Gaelic Language Plan such as Dingwall, Tain, the North Coast Area of Sutherland and in Thurso. This is in addition to strengthening links between BSGI and other Gaelic Medium Departments further afield.
- 2.6 The '**Bridging**' includes linking with all ages from 0-3, sgoil-àraich, primary, transition into secondary, young people and life-long learning opportunities within the community. This has been highly successful and we hope to see this continue, going forward.

### **3. Project 2: Adult Learning**

- 3.1 This project is ongoing and the Gaelic Team is consistently delivering a programme of Gaelic adult progressive language learning classes across Highland; building on the existing provision and developing new adult learning opportunities. Classes are ongoing in Portree, Auchtertyre, Farr, Ullapool, Dingwall, Tain, Inverness, Nairn, Fort William and Strontian in order to continue the existing conversational and language support groups that the Gaelic Team currently have established.
- 3.2 The Gaelic Team facilitate the growth and development of the above mentioned classes. The Gaelic team organised an intensive residential adult leaning tutor training course over 3 days in Inverness, the training event was aimed at encouraging the recruitment of new Gaelic speaking entrants to tutoring as well as being for the benefit of existing tutors seeking further development of their tutoring skills. This continues to be successful.

### **4. Project 3: Early Years Provision**

- 4.1 This application was for the final year of the birth to three pilot project in partnership with Bòrd na Gàidhlig. This enabled the Highland Council's Early Years priorities to be aligned with the Bòrd's intention to conduct a detailed review of the structures, training and resources to support the Birth to Three years of age sector.
- 4.2 Early Years Provision is critical for Gaelic development in Highland and it was important that Highland is included in the review and can feed in the substantial experience gained in the last 3 years. In addition, strong links have been established with the Care & Learning Alliance (CALA), who have delivered the project in partnership with us.

The project continues to further develop and strengthen the Birth to Three sector in Highland to ensure that we continue to improve this critical feeder into the formal 3-18 Gaelic Medium Education sector. The Early Years Provision continues to be a success across the Highland Council area.

## 5. Implications

5.1 There are no additional implications associated with this Report.

<b>6.</b>  6.1	<b>Recommendations</b>  Members are invited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Comment on the GLAIF Projects</li><li>• Note the success of the projects; and the crucial financial support received from Bòrd na Gàidhlig; which ensured that the projects are developed to support the implementation of the Council's Gaelic Language Plan.</li></ul>
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Designation: Director of Care and Learning

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