COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

COMATAIDH NA GÀIDHLIG: GAELIC AND SCOTS DIVISION PRESENTATION – OVERVIEW OF THE TEAM’S WORK AND THE NEXT STEPS FOR THE SCOTTISH LANGUAGES ACT

23 SEPTEMBER 2025

Report By Chief Executive

PURPOSE

1.1 This Report provides information concerning the Presentation by the Scottish Government’s Gaelic and Scots Division.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2.1 The Scottish Government's Gaelic and Scots Division, part of the Education Reform Directorate, is responsible for developing and implementing policy for both Gaelic and Scots. The team works to promote Gaelic language use, increase services available in Gaelic, and extend learning opportunities for both languages across Scotland. It also collaborates with other departments and external stakeholders to ensure that Gaelic and Scots are promoted across Scotland.

2.2 This work included preparation of the Scottish Languages Bill, which was passed unanimously by the Scottish Parliament on 17 June 25, and became an Act on 31 July. The Act gives the Gaelic and Scots languages official status and makes changes to the support for the Gaelic and Scots languages in Scotland. This includes changes in relation to Gaelic and Scots education.

3.1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Comhairle note the content of this Report.

COMATAIDH NA GÀIDHLIG: TAISBEANADH SGIOBA GÀIDHLIG IS ALBAIS – GEÀRR-CHUNNTAS AIR OBAIR AN SGIOBA AGUS NA H-ATH CHEUMANNAN A THAOBH ACHD NAN CÀNAN ALBANNACH

23 SULTAIN 2025

Aithisg leis an Àrd-oifigear

ADHBHAR

1.1 Tha an Aithisg seo a’ toirt seachad fiosrachadh mu Thaisbeanadh Sgioba Gàidhlig is Albais Riaghaltas na h-Alba.

GEÀRR-CHUNNTAS

2.1 Tha uallach aig Sgioba Gàidhlig agus Albais Riaghaltas na h-Alba, a tha mar phàirt de Bhuidheann-stiùiridh Ath-leasachadh Foghlaim, airson leasachadh agus buileachadh poileasaidh Gàidhlig is Albais. Bidh an sgioba ag obair gus cleachdadh na Gàidhlig a dh’adhartachadh, seirbheisean rim faighinn sa Ghàidhlig a mheudachadh, agus cothroman ionnsachaidh airson an dà chànan a leasachadh air feadh Alba. Bidh iad cuideachd a’ co-obrachadh le roinnean eile is luchd-ùidhe bhon taobh a-muigh gus Gàidhlig agus Albais a dh’adhartachadh.

2.2 Bha an obair seo a’ gabhail a-steach ullachadh Bile nan Cànan Albannach, a fhuair aonta gu h-aon-ghuthach ann am Pàrlamaid na h-Alba air 17 Ògmhios 2025, agus mar Achd air 31 Iuchar. Tha an Achd a' toirt inbhe oifigeil do Ghàidhlig agus Albais agus a' dèanamh atharrachaidhean air an taic a chuirear ris a' Ghàidhlig agus Albais ann an Alba. Tha seo a' gabhail a-steach atharrachaidhean mu fhoghlam Gàidhlig agus Albais.

3.1 MOLAIDHEAN

Thathar a’ moladh gun toireadh a’ Chomhairle fa-near na tha am broinn na h-Aithisge seo.

Contact Officer:	Donald Weir, Gaelic Support Officer, Sgioba na Gàidhlig	Cuir fios gu:	Dòmhnall Weir, Oifigear Taic Gàidhlig, Sgioba na Gàidhlig
Appendix:		Fa-sgrìobhadh:	
Background Papers:		Pàipearan Fiosrachaidh	

IMPLICATIONS

The following implications are applicable in terms of the Report.

4.1

Resource Implications	Implications/None	
Financial	% to be met from Comhairle budgets	
Legal	None	
Staffing	None	
Assets and Property	None	
Strategic Implications	**Implications/None**	
Risk	None	
Equalities	None	
Corporate Strategy	Corporate Strategy Priority 1.5: Gaelic Language & Culture	
Environmental Impact	None	
Consultation	None	

BUAIDH

Tha na leanas mar bhuaidhean a thaobh na h-Aithisge.

4.1

Buaidhean Stòras	Buaidh/Neo-ni
Ionmhas	% ris an tèid coinneachadh bho bhuidseatan na Comhairle
Laghail	Neo-ni
Sgiobachd	Neo-ni
So-mhaoin is Tog	Neo-ni
Buaidhean Ro-innleachdail	**Buaidh/Neo-ni**
Cunnart	Neo-ni
Co-ionnanachd	Neo-ni
Ro-innleachd Chorporra	Ro-innleachd Chorporra Prìomhachas 1.5: Gàidhlig agus Cultar
Buaidh air an Àrainneachd	Neo-ni
Co-chomhairleachadh	Neo-ni

SCOTTISH LANGUAGES ACT

5.1 Amongst other provisions, the Act:

- introduces educational standards for Gaelic and Scots
- supports the creation of Areas of Linguistic Significance in Gaelic communities, so that policies can be implemented to support the growth of Gaelic there
- enables parents in every part of Scotland to apply for Gaelic nursery and early years places for their children
- ensures that more qualifications are available in Gaelic

ACHD NAN CÀNAN ALBANNACH

5.1 Am measg eile, tha an Achd:

- a' toirt a-steach inbhean foghlaim airson Gàidhlig agus Albais
- a' cur taic ri cruthachadh Sgìrean Cànain Sònraichte ann an coimhearsnachdan Gàidhlig, gus an urrainnear poileasaidhean a chur an gnìomh a chuireas taic ri fàs na Gàidhlig
- a' toirt cothrom do phàrantan air feadh Alba iarrtas a chur a-steach airson àitichean sgoil-àraich is tràth-bhliadhnaichean Gàidhlig airson an cuid chloinne

- introduces targets on the number of people speaking and learning Gaelic

- a’ dèanamh cinnteach gum bi barrachd theisteanasan rim faighinn ann an Gàidhlig
- a’ toirt a-steach targaidean a thaobh na h-àireimh de dhaoine a bhios a’ bruidhinn is ag ionnsachadh Gàidhlig