

**THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL**  
**EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE**

14 January 2010

Agenda Item	
Report No	

**Outcome of Consultation on Gaelic Medium Provision at  
Glen Urquhart Primary School**

**Report by Director of Education, Culture and Sport**

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee on the outcome of the statutory consultation undertaken in connection with a proposal to establish Gaelic Medium provision at Glen Urquhart Primary School, Drumnadrochit.

This report contributes towards the following outcome in **Strengthening the Highlands:-**

- Continue to develop Gaelic Medium Education in pre-school and primary schools as well as expanding Gaelic Medium Education in the secondary sector.

**1. Background**

1.1 The Education, Culture and Sport (ECS) Committee, at its meeting on 12 November 2009, agreed that statutory consultation be undertaken on the proposal to establish Gaelic Medium provision at Glen Urquhart Primary School, Drumnadrochit. In addition the ECS Committee agreed that "in response to a viable local demand for Gaelic Medium education, and in line with Council policy, an outline business case be produced for additional accommodation at Glenurquhart Primary School, as outlined in the report, for consideration thereafter within the corporate capital review process, following and in line with the outcome of a statutory consultation on the proposal to establish Gaelic Medium provision in Glenurquhart Primary School, Drumnadrochit."

**2. Consultation Process**

2.1 The Council's agreed procedure with regard to statutory changes to education provision was followed. The consultation paper, agreed by the ECS Committee on 12 November 2009, was made available to:

- Parents of pupils affected, including parents of pre-school pupils attending the Glen Urquhart Childcare Group, the Drumnadrochit Toddler Group and the Upper Glen Urquhart Toddler Group
- Members of Parliament and Members of Scottish Parliament.
- Parent Council/Forum.

- Community Council.
- Local Members
- Chair and Vice Chair, ECS Committee
- Chair, Gaelic Committee

2.2 By way of press advertisement the availability of the consultation paper was brought to the attention of other interested individuals and members of the public. A copy of the consultation paper is appended (**Appendix 1**).

2.3 A meeting of parents and interested parties was held at Glen Urquhart Primary School on 9 December 2009 and a minute of the meeting is appended (**Appendix 2**).

2.4 Eight written submissions were received during the consultation period (**Appendices 3 to 10 inclusive**).

### **3. Outcome of the Consultation Process**

3.1 All submissions received were supportive of establishing Gaelic Medium education at Glen Urquhart Primary School. In addition a number of the submissions received requested that Gaelic Medium education be provided from August 2010.

3.2 The written submission from the Glen Urquhart Childcare Group (GUCC) objects to section 2c of the consultation proposal, namely the creation of a separate pre-school facility within the additional accommodation provided for the Gaelic Medium provision at the Primary School. Their view is that the impact of a satellite pre-school facility outwith the GUCC facility, would result in a reduced roll and potential redundancies for their staff. Their preferred option is that children are enabled to have some exposure to the Gaelic language as part of their pre-school education within the existing GUCC facility.

3.3 Parents and interested parties at the consultation meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2009 supported the establishment of Gaelic Medium education at Glen Urquhart Primary School. However there was some discussion on the issue of where the related pre-school provision would be provided. Concerns were expressed about the future viability of the GUCC if a separate Gaelic pre-school unit was established at the Primary School. It was suggested that the option of providing Gaelic enrichment at the GUCC may be a compromise and that this option be explored, provided that it did not compromise the Gaelic education of the pre-school pupils concerned.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that :-

- In line with Council policy, an outline business case for the provision of additional classroom accommodation for Gaelic medium education at Glen Urquhart Primary school should be produced. Thereafter this outline business case should be considered within the corporate Capital review framework.
- Action in relation to future Gaelic Medium provision at Glen Urquhart Primary School be taken in accordance with the outcome of Members' consideration of the outline business case as part of the review of the Council's Capital Programme.
- Further work in relation to Pre School Gaelic Medium provision is progressed in conjunction with all stake-holders including the Glen Urquhart Childcare Centre.

Signature:

Designation: Director of Education, Culture and Sport Service

Author: Veronica McKay, Education Officer

Date: 23, December 2009

### **Background Papers:**

**Appendix 1** – Consultation papers approved by the ECS Committee on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

**Appendix 2** – The minute of the consultative meeting held at Glen Urquhart Primary School on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2009.

**Appendices 3 to 10** – Written submissions received.

**THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL  
EDUCATION, CULTURE & SPORT SERVICE**

**PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH GAELIC MEDIUM PROVISION AT  
GLENURQUHART PRIMARY SCHOOL, DRUMNADROCHIT**

**THIS IS A CONSULTATIVE PAPER PREPARED IN TERMS OF THE EDUCATION  
AUTHORITY'S AGREED PROCEDURE TO MEET THE RELEVANT STATUTORY  
REQUIREMENTS**

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL  
EDUCATION, CULTURE & SPORT SERVICE

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH GAELIC MEDIUM PROVISION AT GLENURQUHART  
PRIMARY SCHOOL, DRUMNADROCHIT

THIS IS A CONSULTATIVE PAPER PREPARED IN TERMS OF THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY'S AGREED PROCEDURE TO MEET THE RELEVANT STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS.

**1.0 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 A number of parents in Drumnadrochit have requested Gaelic Medium provision for their children. Their request is supported by evidence that, should Gaelic Medium provision be made, the number of participating pupils would be viable both in terms of Council policy and experience with other Gaelic Medium facilities in Highland.
- 1.2 The Education, Culture and Sport Committee meeting on 21 May 2009 agreed that consultation be undertaken with regard to Gaelic Medium provision at Glenurquhart Primary School.

**2.0 RELEVANT ISSUES**

(a) **Projected Gaelic Medium pupil numbers**

The projected number of pupils enrolled for Gaelic Medium provision based on commitments made by parents is as undernoted:

School Session	Projected Enrolments	Gaelic Department Roll
2010/11	4	4
2011/12	2	6
2012/13	4	10
2013/14	1	11

(b) **Projected roll – Glenurquhart Primary School**

Session	Projected Roll
2010/11	129
2011/12	129
2012/13	124
2013/14	116

### (c) Accommodation

A recent extension to Glenurquhart Primary School has provided improved teaching accommodation within the school but current school roll projections for English medium are such that no capacity for Gaelic medium education exists. Given this a further extension or provision of a demountable to the school would be required to provide for Gaelic medium accommodation.

The accommodation required is one classroom, one nursery room, ancillary accommodation and external play area for nursery children at an approximate cost of £500,000 for either extension or demountable unit, a procurement timescale for additional accommodation is still to be established.

### (d) Staffing

Although in the past there have been significant difficulties in recruiting qualified primary Gaelic Medium teachers, the situation has now eased with more teachers becoming qualified.

The additional staffing in the first full year of Gaelic Medium provision would be a full-time teacher and a part-time classroom assistant (3 hours). The total staffing cost would be a maximum of £42,189.

Specific grant at 75% from the Scottish Government will reduce this cost to £10,547. Specific grant is designed to fund new provision for a period of up to five years.

### (e) School Transport

School transport requirements are difficult to predict. The Council's policy is to make provision for school transport on the same basis as English medium pupils and to provide school transport to pupils within reasonable travelling distance of a school with a Gaelic Medium department, which is normally interpreted as being approximately fifteen miles.

## 3.0 CONCLUSION

- 3.1 The Education, Culture and Sport Committee wishes to consult on the proposal to establish Gaelic Medium provision at Glenurquhart Primary School in the light of the above factors and having regard to all relevant representations.
- 3.2 Following the consultation procedure, a report and submissions received will be presented to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee of the Highland Council.

## APPENDIX 2

### **Minute of a meeting held to discuss a proposal to establish Gaelic Medium Education within Glen Urquhart Primary School, Drumnadrochit. The meeting was held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 9 December 2009 at Glenurquhart Primary School**

**Present:** Councillor Drew Millar, Vice-Chairman, Education, Culture and Sport Committee  
Councillor Hamish Fraser, Chairman, Gaelic Committee  
Councillor Drew Hendry, Local Member  
Councillor Margaret Davidson, Local Member  
Councillor Hamish Wood, Local Member

**In Attendance:** Ron MacKenzie, Head of Support Services, ECS  
Veronica McKay, Education Officer

The meeting was attended by thirty people including parents, representatives from Glen Urquhart Childcare Centre, Gaelic groups, and the Head Teacher of Glen Urquhart Primary School.

#### **Discussion**

1. Councillor Millar welcomed those present, introduced the Chairman of the Gaelic Committee, the Head of Service, and the Education Officer. He explained that the meeting had been called by Highland Council to discuss the proposal for Gaelic Medium Education provision in Drumnadrochit. He advised that the proposal was in line with the Highland Council's policy on Gaelic and that a note of the meeting would be taken and this would form part of the report to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee in January 2010, any comments are welcomed and further representation can be submitted in writing to Hector Robertson, Area Education, Culture and Sport Manager, Area ECS Office, 13 Ardross Street, Inverness, IV3 5NS, the final date for submissions is 21 December 2009, these will be made public and all items on the website will be anonymous. The final decision on the provision of Gaelic Medium Education in Glen Urquhart will be made by the full Highland Council Committee.

2. The Education Officer presented the consultation paper that had been issued prior to the meeting and stated that the Head of Service would deal with the property issues in his presentation. She also stated that there had been difficulty in recruiting Gaelic teaching staff in the past but there has been an improvement in this situation in recent years. The school transport implications are difficult to predict but she assured that any necessary transport will be provided as detailed in the consultation paper.

3. The Head of Support Services presented the two accommodation options – a permanent extension to the school, comprising two classrooms and toilet facilities, estimated at a cost of £600,000 or a two classroom demountable, at an estimated cost of £370,000. He also stated that this was a statutory process and that the outcome of this statutory consultation will go before the Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 14 January 2010. If it was agreed to proceed then an outline business case would then be produced and presented to the full Highland Council Committee in February or

March regarding the build options and the capital commitment required. If a demountable was the agreed way forward then it could be in place for August 2010 but if the permanent extension was the preferred option it could be in place within a calendar year.

4. Tanya Gordon, parent, asked whether it would be possible to enrol for Gaelic medium education at the normal enrolment time in January. The Education Officer responded that the proposal would not have gone through the necessary processes by enrolment time, but it would be possible to state an interest in Gaelic medium education should it become available. The Head of Support Services added that, if agreed, provision would only be possible subject to staff and accommodation being in place. Councillor Millar added that the members' decision would be aided if the demand was known.

5. Shona Gault, parent, asked how integrated the provision would be, would pupils have total Gaelic Medium immersion or would they still spend time with their other friends in the school? The Education Officer stated that it would be total immersion in Gaelic Medium but the children would be part of the whole school community and there would be opportunities for them to integrate with English medium pupils.

6. Shona Gault, parent, asked if there is any provision for older children, for example, primary 6/7 and will there be Gaelic Medium education available in Glen Urquhart High School. The Education Officer stated that it is good practice to look at opportunities to continue provision, which may be through adult classes for example. Gavin MacLean, Head Teacher, Glen Urquhart High School, added that there are only two pupils studying Gaelic in the High School, there had been a gap in provision as there was no teacher available but now a retired teacher is taking classes. There was one first year pupil who had expressed an interest in Gaelic but it had not been possible to make provision for them. The Education Officer added that Gaelic medium provision is dependant on staff being available.

7. Councillor Millar stated that Lochaber primary schools are running a pilot whereby every child gets an introduction to Gaelic and it is hoped this will be rolled out in the future. Suzanne Irvine, parent, asked what the timescale for this was but no definitive answer was available.

8. Kerry Westall, interested party, asked why the provision is for two classrooms, one classroom and one nursery. She asked why there is one nursery and asked if it was intended for that to be Gaelic medium only nursery, and would it not be better to have Gaelic Medium at the existing nursery. The Education Officer stated that enrichment of Gaelic through the English medium childcare facility had been considered as an option, but it had been decided that immersion was the preferred option. It is however intended that Glen Urquhart Childcare will be the provider of the Gaelic medium provision in the new accommodation proposed.

9. Ms Westall went on to ask why there was not enough space in the existing accommodation. Amanda Graham, Manager of Glen Urquhart Childcare Centre responded stating that if it was to be immersion then that would require a separate room - however the take up of immersion is not as high as the demand for enrichment, there is also the possibility of moving to three hour nursery sessions. The main

concern for the Childcare Centre is that the provision of two separate nurseries is not viable and there is real concern that they would have to lose English medium staff as the numbers would reduce as more took up the Gaelic medium option. The Childcare facility therefore supports the provision of Gaelic Medium enrichment instead.

10. Clelland McCallum, Chairman of Gaelic Development Group, stated they would support the view of the childcare facility representatives if they were assured that enrichment could provide enough Gaelic language for pupils moving on to primary one.

11. Mr A Bell, interested party, asked what is the better accommodation option in this period of recession, the demountable or the extension. The Head of Support Services responded that the demountable was obviously the better option on price and flexibility for the future.

12. Kerry Westall, interested party, asked for clarification on the funding. If the staffing costs are funded by Specific Grant for 75% this leaves £10,000 to fund, would this affect the existing budget of the Primary School? The Head of Support Services stated that there would be additional funding made available if the Gaelic facility went ahead and therefore the existing Primary school funding would be unaffected.

13. Clelland McCallum requested the contact details for submitting comments/issues. Councillor Millar stated that submissions should be forwarded to Hector Robertson, Area ECS Manager, Area ECS Office, 13 Ardross Street, Inverness, IV3 5NS, or emailed to [hector.robertson@highland.gov.uk](mailto:hector.robertson@highland.gov.uk)

14. Kerry Westall, interested party, again sought clarification on funding, stating that the consultation paper specifies that there is grant funding for 5 years, but what happens after that? The Head of Support Services stated that funding would be provided by Highland Council. Ms Westall asked him if that would automatically happen and he confirmed that it would.

15. Councillor Millar thanked everyone for attending and encouraged those attending to submit written submissions as it was helpful to have as much input as possible to ensure a balanced view is presented.

16. Councillor Davidson thanked Councillor Millar for chairing the meeting and summarised that she felt the view of the meeting was that the establishment of Gaelic Medium education was supported but that the continuity and viability of the existing Childcare facility was also an important factor.

The meeting closed at 7.35 pm

14 DEC 2009

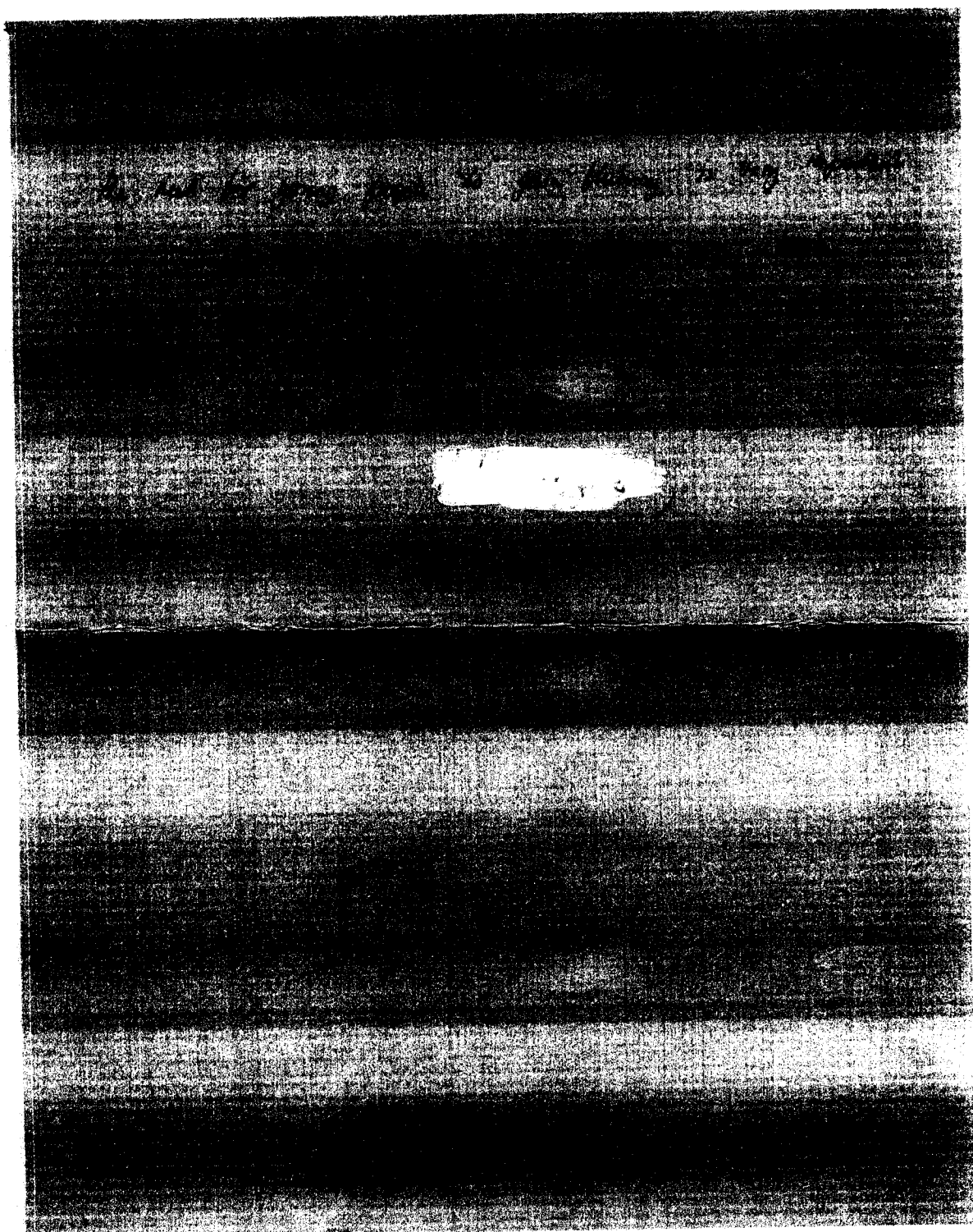
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Hector Robertson,  
Area Education Manager, TMC,  
Andrew Street,  
Inverness.

10.12.09

Dear Mr. Robertson, last night I was one of many local people attending the consultation meeting in Glen Urquhart Primary School about the proposed Gaelic Medium education. As a retired

that I fully support the proposal.  
My children were brought up based on Gaelic where they attended Small Isles Primary and Oban High. I doubt I have been delighted for them to have had such an option to become bilingual as my grandson now has. My daughter took advantage of the opportunity Gaelic teacher in Small Isles to learn some Gaelic songs, and went to sing at the Vancouver Mid both with the Inverness choir and as an individual. Both she (and my son) continued both Gaelic at Oban High School, and although now based on Orkney, continues to sing.



# Glen Urquhart Childcare Centre

December 10, 2009

Hector Robertson  
Area Education, Culture, Sport manager  
Ares ECS  
13 Ardross Street  
Inverness  
IV3 5NS

Dear Mr. Robertson

## Proposal to establish Gaelic Medium provision in the Glen Urquhart Area

The Board of Directors of the Glen Urquhart Childcare Centre is lodging an objection to Section 2c of the Proposal to establish Gaelic Medium provision in the Glen Urquhart Area.

The Glen Urquhart Childcare Centre is a charitable organisation providing essential childcare and employment for people in Glen Urquhart. The impact of a satellite nursery outwith the Glen Urquhart Childcare Centre accommodation, as proposed in section 2c, would result in a reduced roll and ultimately redundancies for our staff. Therefore, Section 2c of the proposal is something that the Board cannot support.

After a number of detailed discussions with Gàidhlig anns a'Ghleann and representatives from Highland Council, it is clear that a better solution for pre-school Gaelic provision would be for the Glen Urquhart Childcare Centre, with the assistance of Highland Council, to provide Gaelic enrichment as an option for all children wishing to participate.

Hopefully this matter can be resolved amicably for all parties involved without being detrimental to the Glen Urquhart Childcare Centre. The Board fully supports the proposal to enable children from Glen Urquhart to have some exposure to the Gaelic language as part of their pre-school education.

Yours sincerely



GUCC Board of Directors

AREA ECS OFF  
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The Glen Urquhart Childcare Centre is owned and run by the community for the youngsters of Glenurquhart. It is a company limited by guarantee - Registered in Scotland No. 164491 - and recognised as a Scottish Charity - Inland Revenue Charity No. SCO24692

Registered Office: The Glen Urquhart Childcare Centre, Drumnadrochit, IV63 6XA. Telephone 01456450679

Hector Robertson  
Area Manager  
Education, Culture and Sport  
Area ECS Office  
The Highland Council  
13 Ardross Street  
Inverness  
IV3 5NX

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Date: 22 December, 2009

Dear Mr Robertson

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed provision of Gaelic Medium Education for Nursery education and Primary education age ranges in Drumnadrochit.

I currently take my oldest child to Bun Sgoil Gàidhlig Inbhir Nis to be educated, a journey that is arduous and time consuming to our family life but I feel strongly that our children should be educated and be fluent in Gaelic. I am pleased to see that The Highland Council not only seek to open up Primary school Gaelic medium provision but Nursery Gaelic medium provision as well.

It is vital that children hear, sing and use common phrases in Gaelic in years one and two of nursery as it is a key developmental stage for acquiring any language. It is through singing and playing during total immersion in Gaelic that children can acquire rather than 'learn' another language.

A Gaelic medium unit would allow my children to be educated in their own community and be fully integrated with the rest of their friends and peers a concern which greatly concerns my partner and me. I'd like to thank The Highland Council for their efforts to provide Gaelic Medium Education for Nursery and Primary education provision and fully support The Highland Councils intent.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]  
Parent

18<sup>th</sup> December 2009

Hector Robertson  
Area Education, Culture and Sport Manager  
Area ECS Office  
13 Ardross Street  
Inverness  
IV3 5NX

Dear Mr Robertson,

Response to Proposal to provide Gaelic Medium Education in the Glen Urquhart Area

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed provision of Gaelic Medium Education (GME) for Children in Pre-school education and Primary education age ranges in the Glen Urquhart area.

We welcome and strongly support The Highland Councils move to establish GME in our area. Gaelic has been a strong component of this community and is still spoken and used on a daily basis in Glen Urquhart. The provision of GME has been something that we feel has been lacking for a number of years. This can be demonstrated by some dedicated parents who have sought Gaelic provision for their children in Inverness over the years, a journey too prohibitive for the majority of parents in our community.

A GME unit will provide a solid platform for our group to provide the social, cultural and economic benefits that can be derived from a strong Gaelic culture. We believe that it will also make this a more attractive area for families wishing to settle in the Highlands and specifically this area.

More importantly however, it will fulfil a demand for GME from parents who have children at the school, who will be sending them to school soon and those prospective parents who will wish to send their children in the future.

We would hope to see the Glen Urquhart Childcare Centre (GUCC) provide GME nursery provision as they demonstrate exceptionally high standards with their current Pre-school Education. We understand the concerns that they have regarding the impact that the current proposal set out in section 2c of the consultation document would have on their core staffing levels. If the GUCC would rather provide Gaelic Enrichment within the current centre we are flexible enough in our aspirations to support this. We would ask that the GUCC be provided with whatever support is required to provide the necessary Gaelic language acquisition skills required by children prior to entering the GME Primary unit.

We are pleased that The Highland Council is considering an extension to the existing Primary school to accommodate GME and this would be our preferred option. However we are very concerned about the time scale required to implement this. We feel that the priority is that the GME unit is up and running by August 2010 to accommodate the children we have ready to enter GME P1 at that time.

May we also ask that The Highland Council consider the provision of Gaelic in some form for the children already studying at Glen Urquhart Primary School, as a number of parents have expressed a

wish for some form of Gaelic education, but their children would be too old to attend the proposed GME unit.

I would like to thank The Highland Council for the proposed GME provision in our area, it will allow our community to draw the most from the economic benefits associated with the Gaelic culture in the future. It will also help cement the long history of Gaelic culture which our community has been built on but most importantly fulfil a longstanding demand for GME in Glen Urquhart.

Yours sincerely

Clelland McCallum

Chair  
Gàidhlig anns a' Ghleann  
Glen Urquhart Gaelic Development Group

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Fri 18/12/2009 14:14  
**To:** Hector Robertson  
**Subject:** proposal to establish gaelic medium in Drumnadrochit

Dear Mr Robertson,

I was pleased to attend the meeting on the 9th December 2009 regarding establishing Gaelic medium education (GME) in the area.

Unfortunately, my children are too old to be considered for the GME. However, at the meeting a similar question was raised about introducing Gaelic to the older primary school children when the unit is established. I would appreciate if Glenurquhart Primary School could join the Lochaber trail of dual language with the older children.

The facilities at Glenurquhart Primary School no longer meet the needs of the current school roll. I imagine that more students will join the roll under GME, which will place more pressure on the games hall and kitchen at the school. I would appreciate if you would consider, as a long term solution, to convert the current games hall into classrooms for GME and build a new 'fit for purpose' games hall, to serve all the children.

I would rather see the provision of nursery services provided in Gaelic by the Glenurquhart Childcare Centre.

Many thanks and kind regards,  
[REDACTED]

Hector Robertson  
Area Education Manager  
Education, Culture & Sport  
Area ECS Office  
13 Ardross Street  
Inverness  
IV3 5NS

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Robertson

We would very much like to express, in writing, our enthusiastic backing for the proposed Gaelic Medium Education unit in Glenurquhart.

As the parents of two girls under school age we would be very keen for our children to attend such a facility. I, was brought up speaking Gaelic, indeed I could not speak anything else until going to school. My own experience of being a native Gaelic speaker is exclusively positive. Although not using it in my day-to-day working life, it has opened many doors and facilitated many friendships for me. My wife is also attending learner classes in the language being facilitated in Drumnadrochit as well as being actively involved in the set up of the Gaelic toddler group in the village.

As you can tell from the above our children will be given every encouragement to incorporate Gaelic culture into their lives. I understand that we hold a privileged position in this regard, however I would like to use the following examples of how Gaelic Medium Education, for people from non-Gaelic speaking backgrounds, can be of benefit. My father is now working for the BBC Alba channel. His work is based in Glasgow and his colleagues are a mix of people who are native, learned Gaelic speakers and non-Gaelic speakers. Some of his colleagues who work behind the scenes have no background in Gaelic, but they have sent their children to Gaelic Medium Education in Glasgow. They again have only intimated positive stories to my father of how their children's confidence has been enhanced. They also speak of the enjoyment that their kids have gained from learning a new language. Surely if this can be a success in Glasgow, it should be available in the Glenurquhart area where the language was commonly spoken only a generation ago and where all place names originate from the language.

Another example is of my friend, [REDACTED] who sat beside me during our schooling in Stornoway. At that point he didn't have any Gaelic. After his university education he decided to attend Sabhal Mor Ostaig in Skye. He is now an award-winning author, in both English and Gaelic. I realise that these are anecdotal examples, but as already stated, I have no negative experiences to relate.

Although the foundation of GME would be very pleasing, from a very selfish point of view, we would like to promote this happening for the next school in-take in August 2010. Our eldest daughter, [REDACTED] is due to start school this summer and we would very much like her to attend GME in the village from the outset. We are slightly uncomfortable with the idea of her changing classes, teachers etc.

Many thanks for your consideration in this matter. If we can be of any help, please use the above contact details.

Yours sincerely,

**[REDACTED]**

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Mon 21/12/2009 17:50  
**To:** Hector Robertson  
**Subject:** Response to Public Enquiry for provision of Gaelic Medium Education (GME) in Drumnadrochit

Dear Mr. Robertson.

As parents of a 4 year old due to start school in August 2010, we are delighted that the provision of Gaelic Medium Education (GME) is being proposed for Glen Urquhart Primary School. We would enthusiastically support such a unit and look forward to our son being a pupil within the unit. We feel that the opportunity to be bi-lingual at a young age can only be hugely beneficial to our son's future.

Our only concern is the amount of time between now and this coming August when we would hope for the unit to be open for our son starting school. Therefore we would ask that all effort is made to ensure that the unit is established in time for the start of the school year in August 2010.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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APPENDIX 10

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Mon 21/12/2009 21:35  
**To:** Hector Robertson  
**Subject:** Consultation on Gaelic Medium Education in Glenurquhart

**Hector Robertson**  
**Area Education, Culture and Sport Manager**  
**Area ECS Office**  
**13 Ardross Street**  
**Inverness**  
**IV3 5NS**

As a parent wishing to educate my child in gaelic medium i am delighted that Highland Council are considering gaelic medium education at Glenurquhart Primary. However i would still like to see the nursery education being provided by Glenurquhart child care centre through gaelic enrichment. I would like you to register my support for gaelic education in the Glenurquhart area.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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