

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL
Gaelic Committee - 12th March 2009

Agenda Item	4.
Report No	G/07/09

**Gaelic Language Act Implementation Fund
2008/9 Projects Update**

Report by Director of Education, Culture and Sport Service

Summary

The Highland Council has received funding support from Bòrd na Gàidhlig in the current financial year under the Gaelic Language Act Implementation Fund.

A formal end of year report will be required for these projects at the end of the financial year, but it was a condition of funding that a 'progress note' be provided to Bòrd na Gàidhlig on the projects.

A copy of this report is attached and Members are asked to note the position and overall progress being made across a range of projects.

1. Background

- 1.1 Members will be aware that the Highland Council has received funding support from Bòrd na Gàidhlig in the current financial year under the Gaelic Language Act Implementation Fund.
- 1.2 This funding, some £228,000 in the current financial year is being spent on 12 projects focussed on delivering progress towards actions and targets identified in the Council's Gaelic Language Plan.

2. Project update

- 2.1 The funding approved by Bòrd na Gàidhlig for GLAIF projects in 2008/9 was to be provided in two tranches. The first has been made, the second will be paid before the end of the financial year.
- 2.2 In order to release the second tranche of funding The Highland Council had to provide an informal progress note on the GLAIF projects, updating Bòrd na Gàidhlig on how individual projects were moving forward. This had to be submitted by the end of January 2009.
- 2.3 A fuller, more formal update will be required before the end of the financial year.
- 2.4 A copy of the informal progress paper is attached to this report at Appendix 1. All projects are moving forward although they may be slightly behind their original timetable. Where this is the case any delays are due to staff capacity, both within THC, but also within one of the organisations who partnered with The Highland

Council to make GLAIF project bids. Delays in recruitment have also been experienced for some posts integral to two of the GLAIF projects.

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 Members are invited to note the contents of this report and the attached Appendix; to note and comment on the progress being made towards the GLAIF projects in 2008-9.

Signature:

Designation: Director, Education, Culture and Sport Service

Date: 26 February 2009

Author: Donald MacNeill, Gaelic Development Manager

Ref: HF/DM

Background Papers:

Appendix 1: Highland Council GLAIF projects: progress note for Bòrd na Gàidhlig, January 2009

'Project status' symbol guide:

- ✓ = Good progress being made, spend on target
- ✓ = Progress being made overall, spend expected to pick up
- = Delays, but project can still progress
- ✗ = Project not progressing

Highland Council: Project Title and Description	(£) 2008-9 Award (and %)	Project status	Further information
Aonad Eadar-Theangachaidh: Establish Council-based translation unit	18,000 (80%)	✓/○	Senior Translator appointed and due to commence employment in March 09. Later than expected. Junior Translator post not yet approved for recruitment by Council. Now likely to be considered for approval in April '09, with any recruitment proceeding thereafter. Overall 08/09 spend to be significantly lower than projected, but more costs will roll forward into 2010/11
Aim is Àite: Intergenerational oral place-name tradition project	4,000 (15%)	✓	Notification received from Heritage Lottery Fund of confirmed match funding in Dec '08. Equipment about to be purchased and project commencing in February. No expenditure to date, but expected in Feb.
Baile Failte: 10FTE at Highland Folk Museum brought to fluency & trained in interpretation	0	N/A until 2010/11	
Progressive Language Classes: Ulpan; Conversation; parent class with Gaelic crèche – Badenoch, Ross & Skye	22,700 (40%)	✓	Good progress being made. Inverness: Term 1 4 x Ulpan Classes – 48 students Term 2 5 x Ulpan classes - 55 students (Classes now being run in partnership with Inverness college to allow students to use ILAs.) Ross and Cromarty: One Class running. Skye: TBC Badenoch – new parent and child group at Aviemore. Not yet started but staff now recruited and hall ready to use from beginning of March
Community Development Post: Pilot post for Gaelic-medium	15,000 (80%)	○	Post not yet approved for recruitment by Council. No spend expected in 08/09. Now likely to be considered for approval in April '09, with any recruitment proceeding thereafter. There will be no spend in 08/09,

community activities for GME primary pupils in Inverness & parents, & further Ulpan tutors.			but more costs will roll forward into 2010/11.
Using WEB 2.0 to support Gaelic learners: Pilot of blogging, social networking etc with staff from LAs	33,100 (77%)	✓	Progress is slower than anticipated, due to technical issues and staff changes at Cànan our project partner.
An Sgàilean Ùr: Build on and extend multi-media Gaelic skills schools' film project	17,700 (52%)	✓	As per funding applications & partnership agreements, Sealladh are working with: BUN SGOIL SHLEITE ÀRD SGOIL PHORT RIGH ÀRD SGOIL A PHLUIC & BUN SGOIL GHÀIDHLIG INBHIRNIS. Payment to Sealladh of £7,500 made in December 08 further payments to be made and on schedule: 31.01.09 - £7500, 28.02.09 - £2700. Scheduled to complete first four films by April 09
Trèanadh Spòrs: Train Gaelic medium outdoor activity coaches to professional level including trial courses for young people	20,000 (48%)	○	Research is taking place, working with Glen Mor Lodge and Comunn na Gaidhlig. However staff capacity issues have slowed implementation. Full spend unlikely in 08/09.
Spòrs Mòr: Pilot two-day national Gaelic sports event, P5-7	10,000 (60%)	✓/○	Co-ordinating delays however initial meetings have taken place. The target date for the event is May 12th and 13th 2009 in Stirling.
Obair dràma le Sgoiltean: Drama in schools extended to GLPS + workshops for GME	20,000 (42%)	✓	GM Pantomime was attended by all GM Schools in Highland apart from 2. Play designed to support the teaching of Gaelic as a second language in primary schools. 40 schools in were visited. Gaelic drama tuition projects in the following areas Skye and Lochalsh, Ross-Shire and Sutherland, Lochaber, and Inverness Area. This is with support from Eden Court, teachers and pupils have the opportunity to produce a play. Each school will receive 5 visits over an approx 2 month period.
Sgrìobhadh san sgìre: Schools projects, community distribution of books, community events & training	40,000 (80%)	✓	Part time Project Co-ordinator has been appointed a detail work plan has been approved. Logo and letterhead are being designed, flier being developed.
Staff Awareness & Training:	14,000 (80%)	✓	Gaelic Awareness training now underway with 5 sessions due to occur

Develop accredited public sector Gaelic enhancement course & bring in Awareness Course			within 08/09 financial year. Public sector Gaelic course still to be commissioned, seeking co-operation with BnG on this development. Staff language training principles approved by Council – course admin to get underway. Full spend not expected in 08/09.
Fèis Spòrs: Week long residential sports coaching & instruction festival for lower secondary GME pupils	13,600 (80%)	✓	Event to take place in Portree 13 th -17 th July. Main venue will be the Leisure Facilities at Portree High School with accommodation in the school hostel. Priority to be for Secondary I and II Gaelic Medium pupils in Highland – spaces then allocated to other authorities. Max 25 places. Information leaflet in production for circulation to likely attendees and approaches have been made to potential tutors/coaches. Inter Authority Group interested in seeing the project as a pilot which if successful should be developed to other areas. Next stage is to recruit a part time co-ordinator to link with participants and tutors throughout the planning of the programme – initially for a few hours per week but increasing as the event nears.