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| **Freagairt Bhòrd na Gàidhlig airson Co-chomhairleachadh aig Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd air Sgìre-sgoile airson Foghlam tron Ghàidhlig ann am Baile Ùr an t-Slèibh** | **Bòrd na Gàidhlig's Response on the Highland Council Consultation on GME Catchment Area for Newtonmore** |
| **1. Ro-ràdh**  Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig a’ cur fàilte air an iomairt gus sgìre-sgoile a chur air bhonn airson Foghlam tron Ghàidhlig (FtG) ann an sgìre Bhaile Ùr an t-Slèibh. Tha am Bòrd ag aithneachadh gu bheil Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd a’ gluasad a dh’ionnsaigh sgìrean-sgoile a stèidheachadh airson FtG air feadh sgìre na Comhairle.  Tha am Plana Cànain Nàiseanta Gàidhlig 2018-23 agus an Stiùireadh Reachdail airson Foghlam Gàidhlig mar bhunait airson na freagairt seo. San Stiùireadh Reachdail, far a bheil barrachd mìneachaidh air na ceumannan seo, ’s e bunait na cùise gum bu chòir adhartas is fàs a thighinn air Foghlam tron Ghàidhlig. | **1. Introduction**  Bòrd na Gàidhlig welcomes the initiative to establish a school catchment area for Gaelic Medium Education (GME) in the Newtonmore area. The Bòrd recognises that Highland Council is moving to the establishment of catchment areas where there is existing GME provision in the Council’s area.  The Statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education and the National Gaelic Language Plan 2018-23 form the basis for the Bòrd’s response to this consultation. The Statutory Guidance, where there is further detail on the steps involved, has as its basis that GME should develop and grow. |
| **2. Fiosrachadh sa Cho-chomhairleachadh**  Tha Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd ag ràdh gu bheil iad airson sgìre-sgoile a stèidheachadh airson nan adhbharan a leanas:  • Tha an Stiùireadh Reachdail a’ moladh gun tèid sin a chur air dòigh;  • Tha mì-chinnt ann a thaobh sgìrean-sgoile airson FtG a tha a’ ciallachadh nach eil pàrantan cinnteach am faigh iad FtG airson an cuid chloinne; agus  • Tha cleachdadh aig a’ Chomhairle gum bi iad a’ lìbhrigeadh còmhdhail taobh a-staigh sgìre a tha reusanta agus gu h-àbhaisteach tha seo a’ ciallachadh nas lugha de 15 mìltean airson ‘turas gu sgoil’. | **2. Consultation Information**  The Highland Council says they want to establish a catchment area for the following reasons:  • The Statutory Guidance recommends that one be developed;  • There is lack of clarity for parents about the entitlement to GME for their children; and  • The Council has used the practice of providing transport within a reasonable travelling distance and generally this has been understood to mean within 15 miles of the school. |
| **3. Moladh na Comhairle**  Tha FtG ri fhaighinn aig Ìre na h-Àrd-sgoile ann an Àrd-sgoil Cheann a’ Ghiùthsaich.  Tha 5 bun-sgoiltean anns a’ Bhuidhinn Sgoile Co-cheangailte. ’S e Bun-sgoil Bhaile Ùr an t-Slèibh an aon tè dhuibh a tha a’ toirt seachad FtG aig ìre na bun-sgoile.  Tha a’ Chomhairle a’ moladh gun tèid sgìre-sgoil airson FtG a stèidheachadh airson bun-sgoil Bhaile Ùr an t-Slèibh a bhios a’ gabhail a-steach nan sgìrean-sgoile uile a th’ aig Foghlam tro Mheadhan na Beurla airson bhun-sgoiltean Bhaile Ùr an t-Slèibh, Almhaidh, na h-Aghaidh Mhòr, Gharbh-Ghaisg agus Cheann a’ Ghiùthsaich.  Tha liosta ann den astar agus àm-siubhail eadar gach sgoil agus Bun-sgoil Bhaile Ùr an t-Slèibh aig 6.1.   * Bun-sgoil na h-Aghaidh Mhòr – Bun-sgoil Bhaile Ùr an t-Slèibh - 15.7 mìle, àm-siubhail 26 mionaidean. * Bun-sgoil Almhaidh – Bun-sgoil Bhaile Ùr an t-Slèibh - 10.2 mìle, àm-siubhail 18 mionaidean. * Bun-sgoil Cheann a’ Ghiùthsaich – Bun-sgoil Bhaile Ùr an t-Slèibh - 2.8 mìle, àm-siubhail 5 mionaidean. * Bun-sgoil Gharbh-Ghaisg – Bun-sgoil Bhaile Ùr an t-Slèibh - 8.1 mìle, àm-siubhail 14 mionaidean.   Aig 8.1, tha a’ chomhairle ag ràdh nach eil iad an dùil gun toir an sgìre-sgoile buaidh air ullachaidhean còmhdhail-sgoile.  *8.2 Chan eilear an dùil gun toir am Moladh buaidh sam bith air ullachaidhean còmhdhail làithreach. Thèid clàraidhean ann am FtG bho thaobh a-muigh an astar coiseachd reachdail san àm ri teachd a mheasadh san aon dòigh ’s a bhithear an-dràsta, le ullachaidhean iomchaidh gan dèanamh.* | **3. Council Recommendation**  GME is available at Secondary Level at Kingussie High School.  There are 5 primary schools within the ASG. Newtonmore Primary is the only one to offer GME at the primary stage.  The Council recommends that the GM catchment be established for Newtonmore Primary School which will overlay the English Medium catchments of Newtonmore, Alvie Aviemore, Gergask and Kingussie Primaries.  The consultation paper lists the time and distance between each school and Newtonmore Primary School at 6.1   * Aviemore Primary – Newtonmore Primary – 15.7 miles, 26 minutes travel time. * Alvie Primary – Newtonmore Primary – 10.2 miles, 18 minutes travel time. * Kingussie Primary – Newtonmore Primary – 2.8 miles, 5 minutes travel time. * Gergask Primary – Newtonmore Primary – 8.1 miles, 14 minutes travel time   At 8.1, the council states that they do not anticipate the proposed catchment area will impact school transport arrangements:  *8.2 The Proposal is not expected to have any effects on current transport arrangements. Future enrolments in GME from outwith the statutory walking distance will be assessed in the same way as at present, with appropriate arrangements being made.* |
| **4. Stiùireadh Reachdail airson Foghlam Gàidhlig**  Tha an Stiùireadh Reachdail airson Foghlam Gàidhlig a’ moladh gun tèid sgìrean-sgoile a stèidheachadh airson sgoiltean far a bheil Foghlam tro Mheadhan na Gàidhlig (FtG) ri fhaighinn (Earrann 2.53 is 2.54).  **Sgìrean-sgoile FtG is Stiùireadh airson Àiteachan a Ghleidheadh do Sgoilearan**  Bu chòir do dh’ùghdarrasan foghlaim sgìrean-sgoile a stèidheachadh airson FtG, agus dh’fhaodadh gum bi iad ag iarraidh beachdachadh air an iarrtas a th’ ann airson FtG nuair a tha iad a’ stèidheachadh stiùireadh airson nan àiteachan a thèid a ghleidheadh do sgoilearan ann am FtG.  **A rèir 2.54:**  Bu chòir do sgìre-sgoile airson sgoil le FtG a bhith na sgìre far a bheil an t-ùghdarras foghlaim den bheachd gu bheil e reusanta do chloinn san sgìre sin, a tha airson a dhol gu FtG, siubhal don sgoil, agus bu chòir san sgìre sin gum bi cothrom ann pàrantan a thàladh gu bhith cur an cuid chloinne gu FtG.  Mar sin, tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig a’ cur fàilte air a’ mholadh gun tèid sgìre-sgoile a stèidheachadh airson Bun-sgoil Bhaile Ùr an t-Slèibh far a bheil solar FtG ann. Tha an t-ùghdarras foghlaim air beachdachadh an dà chuid air astar agus ullachaidhean siubhail airson sgoilearan agus pàrantan. | **4. Statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education**  The Statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education recommends that catchment areas are established for schools where Gaelic-medium education (GME) is provided (Section 2.53 & 2.54).  **GME Catchment Areas and Placing Guidelines**  Education authorities should establish catchment areas for GME provision and may wish to consider demand for GME when setting guidelines for placing pupils in GME provision.  **2.54 states:**  A catchment area of GME provision should be an area in which the education authority thinks it is reasonable for pupils wishing to receive GME provision to travel to school and should have the potential to attract parents to choose GME provision for their children.  Therefore, Bòrd na Gàidhlig welcomes the recommendation that a catchment area will be established for Newtonmore Primary School where there is GME provision. The education authority has considered both reasonable travel distance and arrangements for pupils and parents. |