

Agenda Item	<b>8</b>
Report No	<b>GIG 8/16</b>

**Buidheann Buileachaidh na Gàidhlig – 26 den Chèitean 2016  
Gaelic Implementation Group – 26 May 2016**

**Gaelic Language Plan 2012-16  
Theme 2 - “What we will do for Gaelic in Education” - Implementation Report**

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

### **Summary**

This Report provides Members with an update on the implementation of Gaelic Language Plan 2012-16 Theme 2 “What we will do for Gaelic in Education”; and information on a wide range of local and national level work.

The Report contributes to the delivery of:

- Scottish Government National Performance Outcomes 3, 4, 5 and 16.
- The National Gaelic Language Plan Outcomes: Home & Early Years and Education: Schools & Teachers
- The Programme of The Highland Council and its cross cutting commitment to “work with all our partners and across all communities to develop Gaelic as a regional asset, sharing our experience, skills and resources to continue implementing and building on the Gaelic Language Plan; and
- The Highland Council Gaelic Language Plan 2012-16, extended to 18 September 2017.

## **1. IMPLEMENTING GLP THEME 2: WHAT WE WILL DO FOR GAELIC IN EDUCATION**

**1.1** Theme 2 has five Strategic Commitments.

**Strategic Commitment 1 - We will contribute to national strategic partnership initiatives, and policy formulation for Gaelic Education.**

**Strategic Commitment 2 - We will ensure that Gaelic Education is factored into strategic Highland Council Education reviews and assessments**

**Strategic Commitment 3 - We will create partnerships to establish a professionally organised, well-resourced and sustainable 0-3 Gaelic Early Years sector.**

**Strategic Commitment 4 - We will develop 3-18 Gaelic Education and increase the number of Gaelic Learners in schools.**

**Strategic Commitment 5 - We will work with partners to review the learning materials and learning resources provided to support Gaelic Education.**

- 1.2 In accordance with Highland Council's Statutory Gaelic Language Plan, the Gaelic Development Manager has been the first line contact in the Council for all Gaelic Policy and Strategic issues internally and externally.
- 1.3 However, following **deletion of the Gaelic Development Manager post at the Full Council meeting on 25 February 2016**, the post's responsibilities will be re-allocated by the Director of Care and Learning and the Head of Education, within the Directorate. Outlined below is an overview of implementation work across the Strategic Commitments for Gaelic Education.

## 2. Implementation Actions

### 2.1 Strategic Commitment 1 - We will contribute to national strategic partnership initiatives, and policy formulation for Gaelic Education.

#### 2.2 The Council's influencing of national work includes the following:

- The Education (Scotland) Bill passed into law after its Third Reading in the Scottish Parliament on 2 February 2016; and receiving Royal Assent on 8 March 2016. The **Education (Scotland) Act 2016** therefore, contains significant elements in relation to Gaelic Education; specifically:
  - that Local Authorities will have a process in place to respond to parental requests for Gaelic Medium Primary Education;
  - that Local Authorities will have a duty to promote Gaelic Education; and
  - that Bòrd na Gàidhlig must prepare Statutory National Guidance on GME.
- **Bòrd na Gàidhlig instituted a Core Group; which has prepared new Statutory National Guidance on Gaelic Education.** This Group includes the Bòrd itself, Scottish Government, Local Authorities (including Highland Council and Glasgow City Council), Education Scotland and CoSLA. The final Draft Guidance, with ancillary documents, will be subject to a **formal 12 week Consultation period commencing in August 2016.** A **Local Authority/Parental Toolkit** is also being developed to help officials and parents navigate through the process of requesting the provision of Gaelic Medium Primary Education.
- The Director of Care & Learning (or the Head of Education); plus the Gaelic Development Manager represent the Council on Bòrd na Gàidhlig's (BnG) **National Gaelic Education Strategy Steering Group (NGESSG).** The next meeting is scheduled for 17 June 2016. The NGESSG continues to progress policy and partnership action in the birth to 3, Pre-school, Primary and Secondary School sectors.
- The NGESSG has recently been looking at the potential developments relating to **digital/remote learning and teaching**; in partnership with Local Authorities and Education Scotland. This will link in with engagement that we have embarked on with Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (CnES) on digital/remote learning and teaching possibilities in Secondary Schools – **"E-sgoil"**. An initial meeting between Highland and CnES took place in Stornoway on 22 April 2016. This initiative is wider ranging than Gaelic education; and it seeks to address several problem areas, including staffing and Gaelic provision, that Local Authorities face in delivering Secondary level education.

- Our colleagues in **the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)** have highlighted the low numbers presenting for Gaelic across the board at Senior Secondary levels. In addition, concern has been expressed regarding the level of Gaelic language usage/writing in completing examination papers, across Scotland. This is, potentially, a fundamental issue which needs to be resolved at national level; but which must involve Local Authorities; in 2016-17.
- **Education Scotland and Bòrd na Gàidhlig will be hosting a National Conference on Gaelic Education in the Drumossie Hotel in Inverness on 2 June 2016.** The purpose of this Conference is to give strategic direction to the development of Gaelic Education, with a particular focus on transitions into secondary Gaelic Learner and Medium Education. The conference is intended to assist schools and local authorities in increasing the availability of Gaelic Education within the secondary curriculum. For this, there will be a focus on effective transitions; and collaboration with the Primary School Stages. Delegates will have an opportunity to discuss and identify solutions which will help form a strategy for improvement. Delegates are invited to select workshops which may include a focus on a virtual school for Gaelic, the curriculum, teacher recruitment and retention, and the Gaelic provisions in the Education (Scotland) Act 2016.
- MRG (Management Review Group) was the consortium of Local Authorities in receipt of Gaelic Specific Grant funding. MRG, **currently Chaired by the Highland Council's Gaelic Development Manager**, has now agreed to change its title to the **Gaelic Local Authorities Network (GLAN)**. "Glan" in Gaelic means "clean" and, in some local usage, can also be used as a superlative. MRG/GLAN is also preparing the **Local Authority/Parental Toolkit** mentioned above; which is being developed to help officials and parents navigate through the process of requesting the provision of Gaelic Medium Primary Education.
- At a meeting in Glasgow on 28 April 2016, **Bòrd na Gàidhlig agreed to a proposal from GLAN to institute a National Workforce Planning Group** to take a National, Cross-Authority view on Gaelic Education staffing needs across the board from - for example, including Probationers, early years and classroom support staff; ASN requirements, through to leadership, policy and strategy positions. **Bòrd na Gàidhlig** will present their views on how to take this forward at the NGESSG meeting on 17 June 2016; and the GLAN meeting on 22 September.
- The Council has five Teachers undertaking the **Gaelic Immersion for Teachers (GiFT) course** which commenced in August 2015. **The Council has approved four applicants for GiFT 2016-17;** and will also be reviewing the experiences of the 2015-16 cohort, before the end of June. In addition, we are looking to deliver the 2016-17 Outreach GiFT Course from the new Inverness Royal Academy; which has a GM Department and is next door to Bun-Sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis.
- The Council supported teachers to attend Courses from Social Enterprise Academy/Bòrd na Gàidhlig/Education Scotland courses towards an **Award in leadership in Gaelic for Teachers and Educational Professionals course.** The feedback from attendees on this course, held on Skye, was very positive and clearly demonstrated the need for this type of Gaelic related CLPL.

- The Gaelic Development Manager also represents the Council on the Board of Directors of **Stòrlann Nàiseanta na h-Alba** (the Gaelic education resources agency); as Vice Chair of the Board. Stòrlann is currently producing a **new Education Resources prioritisation and production system**, to ensure that classroom practitioners provide the steer for the organisation's programmes and outputs.
- **Go!Gaelic** - <http://go-gaelic.scot/> - is an online, digital and interactive learning and teaching tool to support Gaelic Language Learning or GLL (formerly GLPS). The Go!Gaelic Training Course is designed for teachers who have little or no knowledge of Gaelic; and consists of 18 units covering a variety of topics and functional language. This is a distinct programme providing training, support and resources to equip teachers with the necessary Gaelic language skills and teaching methodology to deliver Gaelic within the Government's 1+2 framework. Highland is planning to train 3 or 4 practitioners as trainers; with a view to delivering a significant tranche of training in session 2016-17 across the Authority.
- The Gaelic Development Manager also represents the Council on **other national Policy and Strategy Committees and Working Groups as applicable**.

### 2.3 Strategic Commitment 2 - We will ensure that Gaelic Education is factored into strategic Highland Council Education reviews and assessments.

- The Head of Education, the Gaelic Development Manager and the Workforce Planning Manager have been working together to **fill the vacant post of Gaelic Education Officer**. We are confident that progress will be made quickly and are hopeful that Members will be provided with a solution at the August GIG meeting. It is envisaged that the post will be part of the Quality Improvement Team and will support our network of Gaelic Teachers and Probationers and will co-ordinate the production of a **Highland Gaelic Education Strategy as part of Gaelic Language Plan 3, from 2017 onwards**.
- The Director of Care & Learning, the Head of Education and the Gaelic Development Manager work to further **develop internal liaison on Gaelic Education matters**. The Gaelic Development Manager works alongside the Head of Education and the Area Care & Learning Managers to ensure that the needs of GME are assessed and taken account of as part of ongoing strategic overview of education provision in Highland.
- The composition and the Terms of Reference of the **Gaelic Education Improvement Group (GEIG)**, chaired by the Head of Education, will be reviewed in summer 2016. The intention is that when the Statutory National Guidance on Gaelic Education has been published, the GEIG or its successor group, will commence work on a **Highland Gaelic Education Strategy as part of Gaelic Language Plan 3, from 2017 onwards**. This will follow on from the Statutory Guidance published by Bòrd na Gàidhlig under the Education (Scotland) Act.
- Work continues in relation to **GLOW Secondary School Resource Development Support**. A Secondary School Development Officer works one day per week with the Gaelic Development Manager to collate all the Gaelic

Medium and Gaelic Learners Secondary School Resources across Highland. These are being stored in one database/area, which will be accessible to all Highland teachers. It is the intention to make this resources database available to Gaelic Teachers across Scotland and this exercise will be completed by the end of school session 2015-16.

- The Council is addressing the **significant accommodation pressures at Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis**. This priority is part of overarching strategy discussions on the medium to longer term delivery requirements for Gaelic and English Medium education in Inverness City and the surrounding area.
- Following on from a **survey of the entire teacher cohort in Highland** in March 2014; a **Gaelic Skills Survey will be undertaken in 2016**. Within this Survey, there will be a specific section for School based staff in order to identify training and development needs and also identify staff who might wish to consider switching to Gaelic teaching.
- The inclusion of **Gaelic within the Strategic Meetings of the Care & Learning Service's Senior Management** will assist with the implementation of GLP 2012-16.
- Gaelic education is now embraced as a pivotal element of the Council's policy development of the **Government's 1+2 Languages Agenda**. This work was in response to the Government's key commitment to *"introduce a norm for language learning based on the European Union 1+2 model - that is to create the conditions in which every child will learn two languages in addition to their own mother tongue. This will be rolled out over two Parliaments and will create a new model of language acquisition in Scotland"*. There was a link between local and national engagement and the new Gaelic Education Officer will be part of the Council's 1+2 Forum. The work carried out within the Council and by MRG/Scottish Government colleagues ensures a robust linkage to the Council's direction of travel on Gaelic Learner Education in the coming years.

#### **2.4 Strategic Commitment 3 - We will create partnerships to establish a professionally organised, well-resourced and sustainable 0-3 Gaelic Early Years sector.**

- Following the success of the 3-year Pilot Project, the Council is working on a **new 3-year Strategic Project with Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the Care and Learning Alliance (CALA) in the Pre-Birth to Three Sector**. Further details on this will be provided when a framework has been agreed between all parties. The Care and Learning Alliance provided GIG with a presentation on progress and achievements in February 2016; and a further meeting between the Council, Bòrd na Gàidhlig and CALA is scheduled for 23 May 2016.

#### **2.5 Strategic Commitment 4 - We will develop 3-18 Gaelic Education and increase the number of Gaelic Learners in schools.**

- As mentioned earlier, due to accommodation pressures, we have commenced scoping the future options for **Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis**. These discussions are part of a city-wide review of education provision which includes Gaelic Medium provision in Inverness. **The Scottish Government has already provided £4M towards the relocation of BSGI**; and we

continue to look for a suitable new site. This includes potential on the UHI Beechwood Campus, which could ideally and strategically, site a 3-18 Gaelic School alongside with Further and Higher Education provision; along with Community provision, Teacher Training opportunities encompassing digital learning and teaching; and International Research interests.

- We are also looking at **unifying and consolidating Gaelic Pre-School Provision in Dingwall** - looking at the options in pursuance of Highland Council's Statutory Gaelic Language Plan and Gaelic Education Sustainability model. We have bid to ScotGov for some capital funding for potential interim measures for Gaelic pre-school provision and are confident we can progress matters in 2016.
- The Council secured partnership funding of some £4.75M from the Scottish Government for **two new standalone Gaelic Primary Schools in Fort William and Portree**.
- **Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Loch Abar was officially opened** on 4 March 2016. The pre-school numbers have increased significantly, with local links being further developed by the HT, his staff, the Gaelic Team and the community.
- Work on the standalone **Gaelic Primary School in Portree** continues and we expect delivery on target for opening in August 2017. This will see Highland, with ScotGov Partnership, opening 2 new Gaelic Primary Schools within 2 years of each other.
- Gaelic Education on the **Tain 3-18 Campus** is being looked at afresh. Whilst being included in the 3-18 Campus plans; fresh thinking suggests that a **stand-alone Gaelic Primary School in Tain** might be a better option; with pupils then joining GM Secondary in the new High School. The impact of these options is being investigated by officers.
- The Council faces challenges around the **Gaelic provision in Tongue Primary School**. Due to unforeseen circumstances including low numbers, the Council is looking closely at Gaelic provision in the area. Officers and Local Members have commenced discussion on the possible **options to revive and renew Gaelic Medium in the Tongue/Bettyhill** area. Meetings have taken place locally and we are exploring the next steps for GM in the area; taking account of the provisions of the **Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010**.
- The Council has factored in **expanded Gaelic provision in the new Inverness Royal Academy**; which will involve the creation of a better resourced and supported Gaelic Department. The Gaelic Development Manager and the Head Teacher have discussed further developing the Gaelic curriculum within the new Academy; including an expansion of Gaelic Medium subject choice and integration and support for Gaelic Immersion for Teachers (GIIT) "students".
- The **Gaelic Careers Event (Siuthad! or Go On!)** partnership between the Council, Skills Development Scotland, Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Highlands & Islands Enterprise continues for 2016. We successfully delivered two Careers events – one in Inverness and one at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, on Skye.
- **The Council has identified significant challenges in relation to provision in both Drumnadrochit and Nairn** and is liaising with teachers and parents as to how best we can resolve these issues together; going forward.

## **2.6 Strategic Commitment 5 - We will work with partners to review the learning materials and learning resources provided to support Gaelic Education.**

- The developments in relation to Go!Gaelic.
- Dyslexia Scotland launch of one of its publications in Gaelic; ‘Dè th’ann an Diosleacsia?’. This gives an overview of dyslexia, including a definition, as well as the strengths and barriers associated with dyslexia. Dyslexia Scotland has developed a number of tools to help teachers including a free online Addressing Dyslexia Toolkit which includes information about pupils in Gaelic Medium Education.
- The Gaelic Development Manager represents the Council, as Vice Chair, on the Board of Directors of Stòrlann Nàiseanta na h-Alba – the national Gaelic Education Resources body. With colleagues on the Board, the Council continues to pursue a wide range of educational challenges including the formulation of a national GLPS framework, Secondary sector resource creation and translation; the overall prioritisation and production of Gaelic education resources and the relationship between Stòrlann, Education Scotland and SQA, going forward.
- Ongoing liaison takes place between the Council, Stòrlann and the Scottish Government including on how best to consult with practitioners on, and subsequently prioritise, the creation of education resources across the 0-18 continuum.

## **3. The National Picture - Academic Year 2014-15**

In a national context, Bòrd na Gàidhlig statistics for 2014-15 showed The Highland Council supporting Government targets as outlined below. These national statistics will be updated for 2015-16 when the national overview has been published by Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

- 42% of children in Scotland’s Gaelic Pre-school Voluntary Groups (2012-13);
- 31% of Scotland’s Gaelic Medium Nursery Children;
- 31% of Scotland’s Gaelic Medium Primary School pupils;
- 31% of Scotland’s Gaelic Medium Secondary pupils studying Gàidhlig as fluent speakers; and
- 49% of Scotland’s Gaelic Medium Secondary pupils studying Gaelic as learners

## **4. Highland Council Gaelic Education Statistics - Academic Year 2015-16**

The statistics show that Highland Council area delivers:

- 18 Gaelic medium Council Nurseries and 4 partner centres providing pre-school Gaelic Education for 256 three and four year old children;
- 22 Primary Schools providing Gaelic Medium Education for 881 pupils;
- 12 Secondary Schools offering Gàidhlig (Gaelic fluent speaker) classes, or subject teaching through the medium of Gaelic medium, to 328 pupils; and

- 14 Secondary Schools offering Gaelic Learners classes for 1474 pupils

## 5. The National Picture - Academic Year 2014-15

To show Highland provision in a national context, we await confirmation of some national data and will provide Members with updated %age provision figures once available.

The year on year pupil totals in Gaelic Education provision in Highland from 2007 is outlined in the table below:

School Session	Nursery/Commissioned Playgroups	Primary School Pupils	Secondary School Pupils Fluent Gaelic	Secondary School Pupils Subjects through Gaelic	Secondary School Pupils Gaelic Learners
2007-08	263	718	359	165	1373
2008-09	247	728	345	152	1485
2009-10	270	734	352	165	1421
2010-11	225	744	360	149	1469
2011-12	213	761	373	173	1286
2012-13	292	784	364	211	1487
2013-14	275	808	369	180	1472
2014-15	283	861	367	224	1465
2015-16	256	881	328	255	1474

- 5.1** The Council is keen to ensure that we make relevant comparisons in relation to progress in increasing the numbers entering, or undertaking, Gaelic education. We therefore include, in our internal Performance Monitoring, data show the %age of pupils in Gaelic Education as a proportion of overall Highland school rolls. This provides a more complete overview of uptake and performance.

Academic Year 2015-16 - Online Map of the Council's Gaelic Education Provision

- 5.2** The Council's website contains an [online map](#) which shows Highland parents - and parents who may be considering moving to the Highlands – the locations in which the Council provides Nursery, Primary and Secondary Gaelic Education. The map shows the following information:
- All Gaelic Nursery School provision (Council and partner centres) and the number of children attending;
  - All Gaelic Primary School provision, the number of pupils, and the associated Secondary School;
  - All Gaelic Secondary provision, including the number of pupils studying subjects through the medium of Gaelic, those studying Gàidhlig as fluent speakers, and those studying Gaelic as Learners;

- A contact email for those who wish to know about Gaelic classes or Gaelic activities in communities.

## **6. Implications**

**6.1** There are no additional implications associated with this Report at present.

<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p><b>Members are asked to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment on progress in implementing the Education Theme in the GLP.</li> <li>• Agree to congratulate all our Gaelic Education partners inside and outside the Council, in growing our Gaelic future;</li> <li>• Note the action being taken to resolve challenges due to accommodation pressures and that scoping has commenced for future options for Bun-sgoil Ghàidhlig Inbhir Nis (these discussions are part of a city-wide review of education provision which includes Gaelic Medium provision in Inverness).</li> <li>• Agree further work around GM provision in the Bettyhill/Tongue/Dingwall/Nairn and Drumnadrochit areas;</li> <li>• Agree to continue to press for Local Authority participation in the Gaelic Probationer Allocation Process</li> <li>• Agree to the updating and publication of all the Gaelic Education statistical data; and the Online Gaelic Education Map.</li> </ul>
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**Designation:** Director of Care and Learning

**Date:** 15 May 2016

**Authors:** Kenny Murray, Morag Anna MacLeod Mitchell, Dolina Grant, Shona Paterson, Margaret Mulholland, Jo MacDonald and Margaret McConnell.

## Theme 2 - What we will do for Gaelic in Education

### Strategic Commitment 1

We will contribute to national strategic partnership initiatives, and policy formulation for Gaelic Education.

### Partners

Scottish Government, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Education Scotland, Local Authorities, Universities.

### Key Performance Results

- A national strategy to provide the teaching and other staff required to achieve the Government targets for growth in Gaelic Education.
- A national strategy for the supply of specialist Additional Support Needs staff for Gaelic Education.
- National policies and guidance in relation to Gaelic will be influenced and enhanced by Highland Council input.
- The benefits of bilingualism through Gaelic Education will be highlighted in Gaelic Medium Education information/publicity material.
- Improved linguistic competence leading to improved teaching and learning experiences.
- Pilot the joint production of generic Gaelic Education marketing material by Local Authorities.

### Enabling Actions

- (i) Through membership of the National Gaelic Education Strategy Steering Group and other forums, contribute to, and engage with, initiatives which inform and influence national policy and guidance.
- (ii) Engage with Education Scotland and others to agree actions from its Report of June 2011 “**Gaelic Education: Building on the successes, addressing the Barriers**”.
- (iii) Ensure engagement and involvement with Academic sources, Research bodies, Conferences, Studies and Reports which may inform and influence national policy and guidance.
- (iv) Ensure that the outcomes of the Council’s 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gaelic Medium Education Consultation Events are fed into deliberations on Gaelic Education at national level where appropriate.
- (v) Work with Bòrd na Gàidhlig on a national Gaelic Education Workforce Planning Strategy.
- (vi) Develop and enhance linguistic competency through teacher Continuing Professional Development.
- (vii) Work with Bòrd na Gàidhlig on a national Gaelic Education Additional Support Needs Strategy.
- (viii) Engage with other Local Authorities to examine where joint working and shared services might benefit the sustainability and expansion of Gaelic Education.

## **Theme 2 - What we will do for Gaelic in Education**

### **Strategic Commitment 2**

We will ensure that Gaelic Education is factored into strategic Highland Council Education reviews and assessments.

### **Partners**

NHS Highland

### **Key Performance Results**

- Gaelic Education requirements will be assessed as part of the Strategic School Estates Review (SSER) including the Inverness/A96 Corridor.
- Strategic Education reviews or other education assessments will take account of the potential implications for Gaelic Education.
- The potential impact on Gaelic of the 'Integrating Care in the Highlands' initiative with NHS Highland will be assessed and addressed.

### **Enabling Actions**

- (i) Gaelic Education will be taken into account within the Council's SSER.
- (ii) Engage with 'Integrating Care in the Highlands' Project Team and carry out a Gaelic Impact Assessment.
- (iii) Ensure that the outcomes of the Council's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gaelic Medium Education Consultation Events are fed into deliberations on Gaelic Education where appropriate.
- (iv) Ensure that Gaelic Education requirements form part of the Council's assessment of Additional Support Needs.
- (v) Review and refresh the approach to recruiting a Gaelic Education officer.

## **Theme 2 - What we will do for Gaelic in Education**

### **Strategic Commitment 3**

We will create partnerships to establish a professionally organised, well resourced and sustainable 0-3 Gaelic Early Years sector.

#### **Partners**

Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Care and Learning Alliance (CALA)

#### **Key Performance Results**

- In association with Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the Care and Learning Alliance, establish baseline data for 0-3 Gaelic Early Years provision across Highland in 2012. Following this exercise, set a target for increasing the numbers over the lifetime of the Plan; with a consequential increase in the number of children feeding through to 3-5 Council and Partner Centre Gaelic Nurseries.
- Over the lifetime of the Plan, establish new provision in Kinlochbervie, Lochcarron, Kyle, Tongue, Tain, Inverness, Newtonmore, Mallaig and Ballachulish. Strengthen and expand all other 0-3 groups across Highland.
- A Report outlining the actions required to plan ongoing resources and staffing support.

#### **Enabling Actions**

- (i) Establish a 3 year pilot partnership programme with Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the Care and Learning Alliance to secure 5 Full Time Equivalent Early Years Support Workers to establish sustainable provision within the 0-3 sector feeding directly through to Gaelic Medium Pre-school, Primary and Secondary schools.
- (ii) Agree a funding support formula with Bòrd na Gàidhlig, for sustaining and expanding this crucial sector.
- (iii) In concert with the Council Early Years Team, engage with Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the Care and Learning Alliance to carry out an assessment of the Gaelic related training, staffing and resources/materials required to sustain growth in the sector.

## **Theme 2 - What we will do for Gaelic in Education**

### **Strategic Commitment 4**

We will develop 3-18 Gaelic Education and increase the number of Gaelic Learners in schools.

#### **Partners**

Scottish Government, Bòrd na Gàidhlig

#### **Key Performance Results**

- Two new standalone Gaelic Primary schools in Fort William and Portree and additional nursery development in Lochcarron.
- Over the lifetime of the Plan, increase the number of children accessing Gaelic Medium Primary Education to support the attainment of Scottish Government targets. More detailed pupil target and funding support subject to consultation with Bòrd na Gàidhlig.
- Over the lifetime of the Plan, increase the number of English Medium pupils receiving Gaelic Learners in Primary Schools (GLPS) – target subject to consultation with Bòrd na Gàidhlig.
- Over the lifetime of the Plan, increase the number of Secondary pupils studying:
  - a) Gaelic as Learners;
  - b) Gàidhlig (as Fluent Speakers); and
  - c) Subjects through the medium of Gaelic.Secondary Sector targets subject to consultation with Bòrd na Gàidhlig.
- An online map showing all Council Gaelic Education provision, potential capacity and local Gaelic community activity.

#### **Enabling Actions**

- (i) Establish a partnership approach with the Scottish Government to deliver new standalone Gaelic Primary schools in Fort William and Portree.
- (ii) Agree a funding support formula with Bòrd na Gàidhlig, for new developments and additional provision.
- (iii) Council-wide Mapping exercise to identify the areas within, or between, Associated School Groups, where current Gaelic Education provision (0-18) could be configured and/or strengthened to support and establish long term sustainable Gaelic Education provision.
- (iv) Identify Gaelic community development activities within Associated School Groups, to complement and link with formal Gaelic Education provision.
- (v) Identify and support 3-5 Pre-school provision, in specific locations, to support the transition to Gaelic Medium Primary and Secondary schools.
- (vi) Work locally, at the earliest opportunity, to establish demand for full wraparound care provision in anticipation of the planned standalone Gaelic Primary schools in Fort William and Portree. Should sustainable demand be identified elsewhere such as Inverness or Dingwall, these will also be explored.
- (vii) Target Gaelic Medium Primary provision in Thurso, Ullapool, Portree, Dingwall, Tain, Nairn, Inverness and Fort William.

- (viii) Target Gaelic Learners in Primary Schools (GLPS) expansion in North and North West along with the Greater Fort William area.
- (ix) Target Gaelic Secondary Education expansion in Inverness, Lochaber and in Dingwall/Tain.
- (x) Initiate research into the action required to increase pupil numbers around the key transition stages from nursery to Primary school; from Primary to Secondary school and within Secondary stages.
- (xi) Develop links between Gaelic Medium Primary and Gaelic Medium Secondary schools, where Gaelic teaching provision for S1 and S2 might usefully be supported by Primary teachers.
- (xii) Create parental promotion and marketing material highlighting the benefits of Gaelic Education and bilingualism.
- (xiii) Provide guidance and support for relevant Council staff, including in schools, to encourage parents to choose the Gaelic Education route to bilingualism.
- (xiv) Work with Bòrd na Gàidhlig on a national Gaelic Education Workforce Planning Strategy.
- (xv) Work with Bòrd na Gàidhlig on a national Gaelic Education Additional Support Needs Strategy.

## **Theme 2 - What we will do for Gaelic in Education**

### **Strategic Commitment 5**

We will work with partners to review the learning materials and learning resources provided to support Gaelic Education.

### **Partners**

Scottish Government, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Local Authorities, Stòrlann, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig

### **Key Performance Results**

- An overview of Gaelic Education online learning materials resources that will inform a strategic national assessment of the development of future online requirements for teachers, pupils and other learners.
- A review of the outcomes and resource priorities required from Stòrlann.

### **Enabling Actions**

- (i) Undertake an audit of the Gaelic Education online learning material and resources currently available in Highland, including usage and uptake.
- (ii) Engage with other Local Authorities, Stòrlann and Sabhal Mòr Ostaig to assess the current range of Gaelic education materials and resources, their delivery and outline future development.

