

SFCPR/01/2010

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For immediate use

Scottish Funding Council publishes its first Gaelic Language Plan

The Scottish Further and Higher Education Funding Council (SFC) has today published its Gaelic Language Plan, outlining its contribution to the future of Gaelic language in Scotland.

The Plan has been prepared within the framework of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 which requires all public bodies in Scotland to prepare a Gaelic Language Plan.

SFC is committed to the support and development of the Gaelic language and has the potential to make a significant contribution to Gaelic learning and research in Scotland's colleges and universities. The Council's Plan outlines how it will contribute to the promotion of Gaelic language in Scotland through its work with colleges and universities and use Gaelic in its corporate identity and administration.

The Council has already made a major commitment to Gaelic in recent years through investment in areas such as Gaelic language provision and teacher training. More recently, SFC has invested in research to support the revitalisation of the Gaelic language and culture through *Soillse* which is a collaborative pool of four higher education institutions, and an electronic historical dictionary of Scottish Gaelic.

Mark Batho, Chief Executive of SFC said: "Gaelic language and culture is part of our history and we recognise that there are significant long-term challenges facing the future of the Gaelic language. There is now a real opportunity for the Council to increase the availability and uptake of Gaelic learning opportunities and make a positive difference to Scotland's national identity and cultural life".

Ends

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Notes to editors:

1 SFC held a public consultation on its draft Gaelic Language Plan between 23 February and 8 May 2009. SFC

submitted its draft Plan to Bòrd na Gàidhlig by 31 May 2009 and its targets reflect this timescale. The Plan was approved by Bòrd na Gàidhlig on 15 December 2009 and covers the period 2009-14.

2 The Gaelic Language Plan is available on SFC's website in [English](#) and [Gaelic](#).

3 The Scottish Further and Higher Education Funding Council (SFC) is responsible for allocating £1.7 billion of public funds each year to colleges and universities in support of Scottish Government priorities. SFC was established by the Scottish Parliament in 2005 and is a non-departmental public body of the Scottish Government.

4 The Council's funding contributes towards the costs of learning and teaching, skills development, research, innovation and other costs such as staff, buildings and equipment in Scotland's 20 universities and higher education institutions (HEIs) and 43 further education (FE) colleges. The Council also provides resources to enable colleges to offer bursaries to students on non-advanced courses.

5 The Council's mission is to invest in the development of a coherent college and university system which, through enhanced learning, research and knowledge exchange, leads to improved economic, educational, social, civic, and cultural outcomes for the people of Scotland.

For further information please visit our web site at www.sfc.ac.uk

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Là foillseachaidh: Dihaoine 26 Gearran 2010

Cleachd sa bhad

Comhairle Maoinachaidh na h-Alba a' foillseachadh a ciad Phlana Gàidhlig

Tha Comhairle Maoinachaidh Foghlam Adhartach is Àrd Ìre na h-Alba (SFC) air a' Phlana Ghàidhlig aice fhoillseachadh an-diugh, a' mìneachadh na chuireas i ris a' Ghàidhlig ann an Alba san àm ri teachd.

Chaidh am Plana ullachadh taobh a-staigh frèam-obrach Achd na Gàidhlig (Alba) 2005 a tha ag iarraidh air gach buidheann poblach ann an Alba Plana Gàidhlig ullachadh.

Tha an SFC dealasach ann a bhith a' cumail taic agus a bhith a' leasachadh na Gàidhlig agus tha comas aice cur gu mòr ri ionnsachadh agus rannsachadh na Gàidhlig ann an colaistean is oilthighean na h-Alba. Tha Plana na Comhairle a' mìneachadh mar a chuirear ri adhartachadh na Gàidhlig ann an Alba tro a h-obair an co-bhoinn ri colaistean is oilthighean na h-Alba agus ann a bhith a' cleachdadh na Gàidhlig na fèin-aithne chorporra is ann an obair rianachd.

Tha a' Chomhairle a cheana air a dealas dhan Ghàidhlig a nochdadh sna beagan bhliadhnaichean a chaidh seachad le bhith a' maoinachadh raointean leithid solar ionnsachadh cànan Gàidhlig agus trèanadh thidsearan. Bho chionn ghoirid, tha an SFC air rannsachadh a mhaoineachadh gus taic a thoirt do dh'ath-bheothachadh cànan is cultar na Gàidhlig tro Soillse, com-pàirteachadh de cheithir institiutan àrd-fhoghlaim, agus faclair eachdraidheil eileagtronaigeach Gàidhlig.

Thuir Mark Batho, Àrd-oifigear an SFC: "Tha a' Ghàidhlig agus a cultar mar phàirt de ar n-eachdraidh agus tha sinn ag aithneachadh gu bheil dùbhlain shònraichte fad-ùine fa chomhair na Gàidhlig. Tha fìor chothrom ann an-dràsta don Chomhairle meudachadh nan cothroman agus nan àireamhan a tha a' gabhail pàirt ann an ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig agus atharrachadh chinnteach a dhèanamh air dearbh-aithne agus beatha chultarail na h-Alba."

Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh, cuiribh fios gu Elizabeth Horsburgh, Oifigear Conaltraidh, Fòn 0131 313 6560, post-d: ehorsburgh@sfc.ac.uk

Fiosrachadh do Luchd-deasachaidh:

1 Chùm an SFC conaltradh phoblach air a dreachd Phlana Gàidhlig eadar 23 Gearran agus 8 Cèitean 2009. Chaidh an dreachd Phlana air beulaibh Bhòrd na Gàidhlig ro 31 Cèitean 2009 agus tha na h-amasan a' freagairt a' chlàr-ama seo. Chaidh am Plana aontachadh le Bòrd na Gàidhlig air 15 Dùbhlachd 2009 agus tha e a' gabhail a-steach an ama 2009-14.

2 Gheibhear am Plana Gàidhlig air làrach-lìn an SFC ann am [Beurla](#) agus an [Gàidhlig](#).

3 Tha Comhairle Maoineachaidh Foghlam Adhartach is Àrd Ìre na h-Alba (SFC) an urra ri £1.7 bilean de dh'airgead poblach a sgaoileadh gach bliadhna air colaistean is oilthighean gus taic a thoirt do phrìomhachasan Riaghaltas na h-Alba. Chaidh an SFC a chruthachadh le Pàrlamaid na h-Alba ann an 2005 agus is e buidheann neo-roinneil maoinichte le Riaghaltas na h-Alba a th' ann.

4 Tha maoineachadh na Comhairle a' coinneachadh chosgaisean ionnsachaidh agus teagaisg, leasachadh sgilean, rannsachadh, ùr-ghnàthachadh agus cosgaisean eile leithid luchd-obrach, toglaichean agus innealan sna 20 oilthighean agus ionadan àrd-fhoghlaim (HEIan) agus 43 colaistean foghlam adhartach (FE) na h-Alba. Tha a' Chomhairle a' cuideachadh ann a bhith a' tabhann stòrais gus leigeil do cholaistean bursaraidhean a thabhann do dh'oileanaich air cùrsaichean neo-adhartach.

5 'S e misean na Comhairle tasgadh a dhèanamh ann a bhith a' leasachadh siostam cholaistean is oilthighean cho-leantainneach, a bheir cothrom air toraidhean eacanomaigeach, foghlam, sòisealta, catharra agus cultarail do mhuinntir na h-Alba tro shàr ionnsachadh, rannsachadh agus iomlaid eòlais.

Airson tuilleadh fiosrachaidh, faicibh an làrach-lìn againn www.sfc.ac.uk